Leonard City Council

The Leonard City Council met Monday October 7, 2024. Council members present: Mayor Sheila Brown, Gilbert Schumacher, Ben Shepherd, Arlin Vanderwerff, Caroline Kraning and City Auditor Trina Nudell. Several community members were also present.

Meeting was called to order. (Motion made by Ben, seconded by Gilbert)

The Budget Hearing was first on the agenda. The public was given the opportunity to ask questions and/or voice concerns about the 2025 budget. None were voiced, so Trina gave another overview of the budget. Total amount levied is the same as prior year(s). The preliminary budget was submitted to Cass County by the August 12th deadline and the final budget is due on or before October 10th. Levy amounts can’t be increased after the preliminary budget is submitted. Mayor Brown wanted to make sure there was room in the budget to possibly increase the city auditor wages. There are enough cushions built into the budget that the possibility of that wouldn’t be a problem. The council approved the preliminary budget as the final budget. Trina will send an e-mail to Cass County stating that there are no changes to the preliminary budget submitted in August.

September meeting minutes were read and approved. (Ben, Arlin)

Cass County Sheriff’s Report included nine calls for service, four of which were animal calls and one was medical. Two animal calls related to barking dogs, one related to dog waste disposal and another animal call was cows on HWY 46.

Sheila reported that dogs running loose around town are a problem again. A reminder will be put in the next city bill regarding dogs needing to be on leashes. Speeding, speed bumps and stop sign discussions continued. Fall clean up was discussed. Fall clean-up has been every other year and the cost would be about $2,500, so it was decided to wait with fall clean up until next year. Spring clean-up will occur every spring as has been done in the past. Trina was asked to get more information regarding the transportation alternatives funding e-mail that she forwarded to the council on September 18th.

As always, the Finance Report included bank balances, interest earned, ARPA grant drawdown, Operation Prairie Dog disbursement drawdown, bills, paychecks and quarter 3 council pay, which is $50 per month if the council member attends the monthly meeting. Mayor pay is $60 per month if the mayor attends the monthly meeting. January through September financial statements were also distributed.

The following bills were approved to be paid (Arlin, Caroline) Leonard Convenience July-Sept $361.38, One Call Concepts $2.55, Plains & Agronomy $100, Bill 41.25 hours $952.36, Trina $507.93, Sheila $166.23, Ben $92.35, Gilbert $138.53, Caroline $92.35, Arlin $92.35

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Next regular meeting will be Monday November 4, 2024,at 7 pm.

Trina Nudell, City Auditor