**CHAMBERLAIN CITY COMMISSION**

**January 19, 2021**

The Chamberlain City Commission held their second regular meeting on January 19, at 6:00 PM.

Present: Mayor Chad Mutziger, Commissioners Ruhlman, Claussen and Thomas, City Engineer Greg Powell, Finance Officer Nicky Gaulke and Police Chief Jason Handel.

Absent: Commissioner Soulek.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adopt Agenda**

Motion by Ruhlman second by Thomas, all ayes and approved the agenda.

**Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were noted.

**Minutes**

Motion by Claussen second by Ruhlman, all ayes and approved the minutes from the last regular meeting.

**Public Comments**

The floor was opened for public comments with none being received.

**Bills**

Motion by Thomas second by Claussen, all ayes, approved to pay the following bills:

Aurora-Brule Rural Water $72.50 Water; A&R Truck Equipment $35.90 Maint; Aqua-Pure Inc $1,115.28 Chemical; Ace Hardware $162.20 Supplies; AT&T $192.82 Phone; Burke Oil Company $1,047.25 Fuel; Byre Brothers, Inc $1,470 Prof Serv; Brule County Lumber, Llc $1,037.37 Supplies; Brosz Engineering $1,500 Dredging; Baker & Taylor Company $606.41 Books; Core & Main $1,885.78 Maint; Central Electric Cooperative $1,233.77 Electric; Chamberlain Wholesale Grocery $794 Supplies; Cook Implement $227.80 Supplies; Chamberlain Rec Dept $60 Prof Serv; Chamberlain Napa $90.04 Supplies; Chamberlain Building Supply $82.30 Supplies; Chamberlain Redi Mix Llc $417 Improv Other; Cozine Electric $198.25 Improv Other; Centurion Technologies $88 Maint; Cengage Learning $357.59 Books; Center Point Large Print $93.48 Books; Central Dakota Times $74.21 Publish; C&B Operations Llc $1,625 Prof Serv; Card Services Center $557.40 Supplies; Dollar General $46.34 Supplies; Dept Of Environ & Nat Resource $2,500 Prof Serv; Degen, Julie $1,200 Signs; Donaldson Ditching Llc $1,178.57 Maint; Goodman Llp $580 Supplies; Hach Company $470.63 Chemical; Hillyard/Sioux Falls $94.20 Supplies; Hickey Heating & A/C $727.82 Maint; Hopkins Plumbing Heating A/C $51.02 Maint; Hutmacher, Taysa $160  Prof Serv; Ingram Book Company $1,215.16 Books; JG Welding & Repair $551.93 Supplies; Kennebec Telephone Company $238.78 Maint; Kimball Midwest $75.69 Supplies; Kelsey, Kurt $168 Prof Serv;  Midwest Tape $14.99 Books; Myers Collison Center $370 Prof Serv; Midstate Communications $1,771.37 Phone; Northwestern Energy $20,145.98 Electric; Oasis Pump N Pak $20.60 Fuel; Planning & Develop Dist 3 $3,782 Prof Serv; Priebe, Carroll $161.60 Supplies; Red Flint Sand & Gravel, Llc $1,611 Supplies; Rons Service $72.09 Maint; Rods Welding Inc $625 Prof Serv; SD 811 $104.16 Prof Serv; Shields Embroidery & Design $296 Supplies; SD Dept Of Transportation $2,304.84 Gas; Sturdevants Auto Parts $231 Supplies; S.E.H $9,136.27 Prof Serv; Scotts Plumbing & Heating $1,552.35 Maint; Sioux Nation Ag Center $322.70 Animal Control; Servall Uniform/Linen Company $91.95 Supplies; Same Day Express, Inc $8 Prof Serv; SD Municipal League $2,187.19 Prof Serv; SD Police Chiefs Association $98.32 Prof Serv; SD Municipal League-SMA $35 Prof Serv; SD Municipal League-GFOA $70 Prof Serv; SD Municipal League- HRA $25 Prof Serv; SD Municipal League-AMA $25 Prof Serv; Vets  Oil Company $61.87 Gas; Variety Plus $163.04 Supplies; Water & Environmental Engineer $117.50 Chemical; Willrodt Ford $208.96 Maint; Zep Manufacturing Company $387.63 Supplies;General Fund: Salaries: $31,189.35, Total: $63,507.11; Football: $5; Basketball: $296; Library: Salaries: $2,793.89, Total: $7,145.69; Water: Salaries: $5,683.69, Total: $19,118.93; WW: Salaries: $6,799.40, Total: $17,957.25; Airport: $8,720.70.

**Loader Bids -721B**

Mayor Mutziger opened the following bids for the surplus 721B Loader: Titan Machinery $29,000 and TG Williams Industry $23,888.98. Motion by Ruhlman second by Claussen, all ayes and approved to accept the high bid from Titan Machinery of $29,000.

**Planning and Development District III**

Motion by Thomas second by Ruhlman, all ayes and approved the 2021 contract with Planning and Development District III in the amount of $3,782. Gaulke reported that it was $3,670 in 2020.

**Fire Department Roster**

Motion by Thomas second by Claussen, all ayes and approved the following roster for the Chamberlain Oacoma fire department: Bill Adams, Bill Burkard, Bill Hansen, Brett Brown, Chris Thompson, Darby Klein, Doug Rasmussen, Eric Storms, Frank Willrodt, Garrett Houska, Gary Dominiack, Jason McQuirk, Jeff Tichy, John Donovan, Jordan Rabern, Kendall Hettick, Kevin Rabern, Kurt Kelsey, Benji Hammel, Mitch Bunnell, Neal Cheeseman, Paul Eisman, Preston Cox, Reed Ludwig, Richard Kirkpatrick, Rob Frederick, Russ Bunker, Scott Simonsen, Steve Schoenhard, Will Mahnke, Tom Carruthers, Troy VanDerWerff, and Wade Hutmacher.

**Raffles – Travis Powell Benefit**

Kelli Potter has asked that they be able to do a 50/50 matching funds raffle for a benefit that they are holding for Travis Powell and his family. The benefit will take place on February 5th with the raffle drawing possibly being held at a later date.

Mayor Mutziger stated that the fire department is also doing a raffle for Eric Storm who received a kidney transplant.

Motion by Ruhlman second by Thomas, all ayes and approved the raffle for the Travis Powell and Eric Storm benefits.

**Natural Gas**

Powell informed the Council that Northwestern Energy is trying to decide if it’s feasible to bring natural gas west from Mitchell to Chamberlain, over to the Wagner and also north of Chamberlain.

The only way that they can proceed is if they have access to funds that are only available to municipalities, counties and nonprofit organizations.

Powell went on to say that Northwestern proposed to proceed as a joint powers agreement with the communities that it would serve. This would then be eligible for low interest financing, grants, etc. that a private business is not eligible for.

The owners of the natural gas system and lines would be the joint powers members and northwestern would be contracted to construct, maintain etc.

When asked what it would cost the joint members, Northwestern was unable to give an amount until they do a study. Powell noted that it would cost the City of Chamberlain $25,000 towards the study if we agree to participate. He added that worse case, we could lose $25,000 on the cost of the study if we choose to walk away after receiving the information.

The City Attorney reviewed the information and said everything looks fine and if we don’t do it now, it would cost 2-3 times more if we try and join later on down the road.

Commissioner Thomas stated that years ago Northwestern wanted to do it, they wanted us to pay the bills. He added that we will also run into causing others to go out of business like propane suppliers.

Mayor Mutziger stated that yes it will affect those businesses sales, but the natural gas will only be in town, not to the rural addresses. They are also not projecting that it will be 100% participation from the residents.

Mayor Mtuziger stated that he also agrees with our attorney that if we want to explore it, we need to do it now from the start. This would give us a seat at the table and we would be the larger of the 8 entities that would be in the joint powers.

Commissioner Thomas asked if we would have any authority on rates, etc. being part of the joint powers?

Powell stated that they will do a feasibility study to see what you would have to charge and see if it’s even competitive with propane. We are also unsure which other towns will choose to join.

Powell presented an ordinance for first reading to join the joint powers for the natural gas project. Commissioner Thomas asked if we have to do the ordinance now and Powell stated that yes, we would have to do the first read tonight to establish the joint powers in order to do the study. He added that if we choose not to participate, we can rescind this ordinance and disband the Joint Powers.

Powell added that 90% or more of the economic opportunities that come out of the SD Governor’s Office of Economic Development request natural gas and we have missed many opportunities.

Motion by Claussen second by Ruhlman, all ayes and approved the first reading of Ordinance No. 641 which creates a Joint Powers Entity for the creation of a natural gas system.

Motion by Ruhlman second by Claussen, all ayes and approved to schedule the second reading of Ordinance No. 641 on February 1st 6:10 PM

**Railroad Plat**

Powell presented a plat to the Council and informed them that the Planning and Zoning Board recommended approval of track plat.

He stated that this plat is part of the ground by the elevator for a triangle that was given to the City of Chamberlain to accommodate our road. Now the road is too close to the track and DOT is requesting. The land given to the City was a 24’x58’ triangle to make the road legal.

Motion by Thomas second by Ruhlman, all ayes and approved the following plat: A Plat of Lots R-11, R-12, and R-13, Railroad First Addition to the City of Chamberlain, a Subdivision of the NW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 15, T 104 N, R 71 W of the 5th P.M., Brule County South Dakota.

**Transfer Fund**

Motion by Thomas second by Claussen, all ayes and approved to transfer $25,000 from general fund to airport fund. It was noted that this was because we have to expense funds before we can get them reimbursed through the grant and that we will transfer the funds back to general fund at a later date.

**Combined Election**

It was noted that the Council approved to combine the 2021 election with the Chamberlain School District and the Town of Pukwana but we were not positive on that date that everyone wanted. Gaulke informed the Council that after speaking with the other two entities, we all agreed on June 8th.

**Engineer Report**

Powell stated that we have hay land and farm land leases up for bid at the cemetery and airport and he has advertised for bids with the bid opening on the 25th of January. Powell added that we will award at our regular meeting February 1st.

Powell stated that he has surveyed the ponds that Jeremy Thomas is working on and they are right at where he should be on depth. Powell added that if Thomas can continue at the rate he is going we will be fine with the deadline. The City was unable to push some of the material with our loader so we are renting Thomas’s dozer at $40/hour to push into the low spots.

Powell will be getting the plans for the dredging and will advertise for bids at our next meeting. He is hoping to start the project by April 1st. It was asked what the projected timeframe will be and Powell stated that if we get a large dredging company with a good size dredge it could 60-90 days. We are working on the details on how to proceed.

Powell said the plan is that we will do a strip from the bridge to the boat ramp first, Swenson will float their slips over by the kids fishing pier while they dredge where the slips currently sit and then move them back.

It was noted that Jeremy will excavate from where he is at all the way to the road and there will be a 3’ tall by 10’ wide dike above the current depth along the road to act as a barrier.

The last time we dredged, they dug a pipe in the road that is still there.

It was also noted that if we get a small dredge like last time it could take a full season to complete the project.

Mayor Mutziger added that we had spoken about a courtesy dock and are planning to install it once the dredging is done by the boat ramp.

**Executive Session –Legal**

Motion by Thomas second by Ruhlman, all ayes and approved to enter executive session at 6:35 PM for a legal matter.

Motion by Thomas second by Ruhlman, all ayes and approved to exit executive session at 7:03 PM.

Motion by Thomas second by Claussen, all ayes and approved to pay the following bills: Chamber of Commerce $3,375 and Lake Francis Case Development $3,950.

**Adjourn**

Motion by Ruhlman second by Claussen, all ayes and approved to adjourn at 7:04 PM.

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Chad Mutziger, Mayor

Attest:

*SEAL*

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Nicky Gaulke, Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.