

Mayor Kay Gifford called the council meeting to order. Roll call showed councilmembers present were: Johanna Homan, Nancy Kuehl, Bruce Engelke and Tyler Draper. Absent: Patrick Nelson. Others present were: Nancy Hill, Richard Radtke, Elaine French, Steve and Wendy Koch, Chuck Kummerfeld, Sheri Drefke, Steve Rienfeld, Mark Shriver, Rich Van Beek, and Amanda Vanderhoff

A motion was made by Kuehl seconded by Homan to approve the agenda, previous minutes, and clerk's report. Roll call: Ayes – Homan, Kuehl, Engelke and Draper. Absent: Nelson. Motion carried.

Steve Rienfeld was present as a guest to ask council about purchasing the lot located at 103 Main Street. Council asked Steve to bring a bid for the property to the clerk.

Public comments: Steve Koch asked council when the speed sign would be installed on M12. He also expressed concern on the Jake braking on the same road.

Council reviewed the bills and asked a few questions. A motion was made by Engelke seconded by Draper to pay the bills. Roll call: Ayes – Homan, Kuehl, Engelke and Draper. Absent: Nelson. Motion carried.

Economic Development did not hold a meeting in February. Spruce up Sutherland will follow the same timeline and rules as last year. Application will be due by April 22, 2024 and project completion and receipts need to be turned in by October 31, 2024.

Library report was given by Director Nancy Hill. Nancy read through the Director's Report. The library will be hosting an Easter event at the fire station. A motion was made by Homan seconded by Engelke to approve Sue Draper to the library board. Absent: Nelson. Abstain: Draper. All in favor. Motion carried. The library board decided to repair the back door to be ADA complaint. The library board needs to get a quote that follows these guidelines.

Fire and Ambulance report was given by Chief Mark Shriver. There were 3 ambulance calls. They have a new volunteer member Fernando Rodriguez. The department is doing Fireman's Bingo in April, but no date has been set. They have also been training on the ladder truck.

Officer Adam McQueen was absent for the police report. Mayor Gifford relayed he had 22 calls in February,

Communications and topics for discussion

A motion was made by Engelke seconded by Homan to set the date and time for the Property Tax Levy Hearing for April 1, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Roll call: Ayes – Homan, Kuehl, Engelke and Draper. Absent: Nelson. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Engelke seconded by Kuehl to approve moving forward with the sale of Lot 1 of the William's Addition to Foamworx Insulation aka Austin Brown. Roll call: Ayes – Homan, Kuehl, Engelke and Draper. Absent: Nelson. Motion carried. Legal proceedings for this sale will start at the April meeting.

A motion was made by Engelke seconded by Draper to Approve Resolution 2024-10: Resolution to Authorize the City of Sutherland to Revise Contract for Real Estate Owned by the City of Sutherland and Fixing a Date for Hearing Thereof. Roll call: Ayes – Homan, Kuehl, Engelke and Draper. Absent: Nelson. Motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports:

Water – 1,861,493 gallons. The Clerk presented council the ordinance on meter repairs.

Streets – Council asked Rich to start cold patching the potholes. M12 road construction projected to start in July.

Sanitation (sewer) – 3,111,000 gallons to the ponds.

Town Property – A motion was made by Draper seconded by Engelke to approve R1 Excavating and Bird Seed bids to repair the tree stump holes. Roll call: Ayes – Homan, Kuehl, Engelke and Draper. Absent: Nelson. Motion carried.

Park – Clerk will post job opening. A motion was made by Engelke seconded by Draper to approve Kuehl to the park board. All in favor. Motion carried. The board asked Rich to paint the distances on the sidewalks. Mayor Gifford went over their budget for the year and ideas they have for the O’Brien County Community Foundation grant. They will be setting up a park clean-up day.

Weeds and Debris – The committee members will let the clerk know about properties that need letters.

Lights – No report.

Sanitary Service (garbage) – HHM Trailer will be scheduled for Friday, April 26, 2024 from 9:00 am – 11:00 am and Town Clean-up Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2024.

A motion to adjourn was made by Engelke seconded by Homan. All were in favor. Motion carried.

_____ Mayor Kay Gifford

_____ Amanda Vanderhoff City Clerk