

CENTER REPUBLICAN PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Center Planning and Zoning Committee will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 24th, at 6:00 p.m., at the Betty Hagel Memorial Civic Center, 312 Lincoln Ave, Center, North Dakota, on the revision of language of the Hazel Miner Addition ordinance. The public may comment by attending the meeting or in writing to the City of Center Planning & Zoning Board, PO Box 76, Center, ND 58530.

(03-06-2025)(03-13-2025)

OLIVER COUNTY

Ambulance Association

Annual Meeting

Thursday, March 13th • 7p.m.

at the Oliver County Ambulance Building

208 Market St. W, Center

Everyone is welcome!

Center Republican

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CENTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 3rd, 2025
Meeting called to order by Mayor John Lee at 7:03 p.m.
Council members present: Troy Hatzenbihler, Adam Vaughn, Eric Casson, Lisa Gusewelle Ken Albers Student Councilman, Jennifer Gooss City Attorney, and RaShell Simenson City Auditor.
Hatzenbihler moved the motion to add to the agenda the amendment of the revised ordinance 1.0201 with in Article 2 of the city of Center, seconded by Vaughn, all voting aye, motioned carried.
Vaughn moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Gusewelle; all voting aye, motion carried.
Vaughn moved to approve previous meeting minutes seconded by Casson; all voting aye, motion carried.
Treasurer Report
Hatzenbihler moved to approve the claims on hand upon CB Accounting updating to the correct figures, seconded by Gusewelle; all voting aye, motion carried.
Hatzenbihler moved to approve check register from February, seconded by Vaughn; all voting aye, motion carried.
Vaughn moved the motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Gusewelle; all voting aye, motioned carried.
CB Accounting Reported- Sherri Neis, CB Accounting, reported that she has had some setbacks on reconciling, due to funds being reconciled in the incorrect accounts in 2020. She is in the process of going back and correcting those errors. Sherri provided a beginning detailed financial report of the city accounts through CB Accounting software, to show the difference between their software and Black Mountain software.
Publics Works Maintenance Report – Reuther asked the council if they had the chance to look at the bids for the skid steer brush cutter attachment, that would help for mowing around the lagoons, and for the heavy brush around town. Discussion led instead of purchasing the attachment could the city lease or rent one, Reuther would look into it and see if that is a possibility.
Hatzenbihler moved the motion to table the brush cutter mower for the maintenance department till the City gets more information, seconded by Gusewelle, all voting aye, motion carried.
Reuther updated the council on other repairs and maintenance that came up in February around town and the Civic Center. Discussed about the street lights that are out around Main St. and Center Ave. Reuther is in the processes of contacting the company that the DOT brought in to change those lights out last summer and work with them to replace the lights.
Personal Appearance
Sheriff's Department provided their Calls of Services for the month of February, it was also discussed to make sure the dirt road that links Lehmkul and Lignite east of town will have a permanent closure sign on the east and west side.
Moore Engineering, AJ Tuck brought a couple of items to the council to review, the first item he brought up was GIS mapping that was discussed in the February meeting. Moore Engineering can provide the technology at a higher cost with but with more detailed mapping capabilities or the city could go with ND Rural Water at a lower cost, with limited capabilities.
AJ discussed looking into getting a new AMI

Water Meter System that would upgrade our water meters and the way the city collects water readings. Moore can help the city obtain bids or the city can go fourth on their own to get bids.
AJ discussed the next capital project for the city is water storage improvements and downtown area utility replacements. This includes conducting a water system study, rehabilitation of the water tower, and replace the water pipes under Main St between Oliver Ave up to Klein Ave. Discussion led into the water pressure issue the town is having on the southwest side of town, the city will contact ND Rural Water to come and do testing on it. For this project to begin the city would need to apply for a (cost-share) grant from DWR that Auditor Simenson will need to apply for.
Vaughn moved the motion to apply for the DWR Grant, seconded by Gusewelle, AJ wanted to point out the DWR Grant would not cover the rehabilitation of the water tower, that is on the city, just the replacement of the downtown area utility replacements.
all voting aye, motion carried.
Discussion ended with the civic center upgrade that was discussed at the beginning of the year, council agreed to keep it tabled for right now.
Sharon Rud appeared for the Center Community Club- to request road closures for Old Settlers June 13-15.
Gusewelle moved the request for the road closure beginning at 12pm on June 13th to the morning of June 15th and for city to contact the DOT for the road closure, seconded by Casson, all voting aye, motion carried.
Sharon also asked on behalf of the community club if the civic center could spare another room for storage. Unfortunately, the civic center is being used at full capacity for storage.
Gus Rud appeared on behalf of Ruds Oil and Propane requesting reimbursement in the amount of \$7,500 for water and sewer installation on his new building for his business. Gus did point out it has been done in the past for other businesses within the city.
Gusewelle moved the motion the City approve a reimbursement of \$7,500 Ruds Oil and Propane for the cost of a new water meter installation, in accordance with the city's precedent for supporting business with water and sewer infrastructure expenses. To ensure fiscal responsibility, the reimbursement shall be structured as an installment plan, with payments of \$2,500 per year over a period of three years. Payments shall be contingent upon the business maintaining its operation within city limits and remaining in good standing with all municipal obligations, seconded by Vaughn, 3 voting aye, 1 nay, motion carried.
Rud did bring the discussion back to the water pressure issue south west of town. He did purchase a water pump for his own place of residence and it has helped, however, he expressed the city does need to resolve the issue.
Personnel Policy Manual- Gusewelle explained the policy manual is still in process and will need extra time going over it, it will stay tabled at this time.
Hatzenbihler moved the motion to accept Colonial Life for an employee benefit package that is an employee responsible to pay for it, and it is a package they choose with no contribution from the City of Cen-

ter, seconded by Casson, all voting aye, motion carried.
Projector/location of projection screen- Auditor Simenson provided bids for projectors for the council to review since the city purchased a projector screen. However, Gusewelle mentioned she had a projector, she would test the quality and is willing to donate her projector to the city, before making a decision to purchase a new projector. Reuther mentioned he will look to see where he can hang the new projector screen.
Update State Treasure City Sales Tax- Auditor Simenson provided an update on the 2.17 million dollars that was received in January, it is in fact an accounting error by a company. Auditor Simenson provided an email from ND Tax Department stating the city can send two council members to the tax department, sign a form, and they can obtain that information. However, they cannot disclose any information about the company, it would be a breach of confidentiality. It can take up to three years for the error to be corrected. Right now, the money is in a CD collecting interest at 4.5%, which the city can keep the interest that is building.
Hwy 48 St. Repair- Discussed the city is responsible for the repair of the Highway in front of address 107 Center Ave. Reuther will contact Quality Asphalt and schedule a time for them to come into the city and assess the damage.
Base boards/Gym Floor- Discussed that the American Legion would help put the base boards back on around the gym, the question is when would this project take place. The council asked if Auditor Simenson would ask the Legion if they would be willing to wait till August of this year. The school has a floor project being done and the city wants to look at the possibility of having the company come in and give the city a bid to have the gym floor redone.
Interstate St. Storm Drains- Discussed the non-draining issue of the water in the cul-de-sac on Interstate St. Instead of putting in storm drains, AJ Tuck suggested to raise the level of the pavement by a couple of inches which the water would flow into the street gutters away from the cul-de-sac.
Ordinance 1.0201- The council read the first reading of the revised ordinance 1.0201 with in article 2 that pertain to the changing of city council meeting times. The regular city council meeting times will meet at 7 pm in the summer months between Memorial Day and Labor Day, then switch to 6 pm in the winter months between Labor Day and Memorial Day.
Gusewelle motioned to approve the first reading of the 1.0201, seconded by Hatzenbihler, 3 voting ayes, 1 voting nay, motion approved.
Portfolios
Gusewelle- Gusewelle had Ryan Wrobbel, Empower Electric, put together a bid int the amount of \$883 to have a jump box wired in for the east room, bar and small office area on the east side of the civic center that will eliminate the breakers from tripping when amps are being overused.
Next Meeting date: 7 p.m. Monday, April 7th, 2025.
Mayor Lee adjourned meeting at 10:01 p.m.
Mayor, John Lee
RaShell Simenson, City Auditor
(03-13-2025)

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