The Council met at 6:30 pm for the review of Tiffany Parr. Tiffany was given a $1/hr raise.

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Brent Switzer, Vickie Whitehouse, Sheldon Johnson, Chris Ketchmark, and Art Underhill (via Zoom)

**Others Present:**  Utility Billing Clerk Kathleen Bennett, City Clerk Tiffany Parr, Water and Sewer Operator John Mikrot, Fire Chief Gerard Bennett, Planning Commission David Prachar, Dave Kliniski, Steven Prachar, Rosie Mielke, and Harold Blatz.

**Call to Order:** Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the meeting was called to order with the pledge of allegiance at 7:00 pm by Mayor Switzer.

**Consent Agenda:** The consent agenda which includes the minutes of the February regular city council meeting, the disbursements and financial reports, and accounts payable was submitted for approval. The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

V. Whitehouse made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by C. Ketchmark. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

**Petitions, Requests, and/or Complaints:** A little discussion about the condition of the road with snow and ice.

**Dave Prachar, Planning Commission Update:** Planning commission has been working on a new zoning map; some discussion of the proposed zoning map for the council to review.

**Gerard Bennett, Fire Chief:**  Runs to date: 10 fire, 23 ems, 33 total. New truck number 3 – Dave and Shawn are working on the new trucks. The two little trucks are getting painted. New number 1 pumper has been painted – working to polish it up, will work to swap the gear all at one time for a smooth transition. Roof is leaking over by the furnace. Leak keeps coming back – possibly needs a major repair this summer. Applied for FEMA PPE grant – still in the works. Public relations – community club would like to use the hall for fun with the Easter bunny April 9. April 14 WRHS community service day. Recruitment: ongoing. HVAC: new furnace will be the latter part of April. 2021 performance reviews are completed; one non-qualifier – will ask if there are interested in staying or will ask for letter of resignation. Marquee sign will start in the spring in front of North Pine Riders. Hydrant locks are on the list. Getting truck keys set up with separate fobs. Bulards want to prioritze and get those done; may be able to get free well casing.

**John Mikrot, Water and Sewer Operator:** Had to order monitor for the water plant, got the new monitor just need to install it. School storm water was frozen up; got that cleared up. Talked to Hawkins about getting liquid chlorine installed. Vessco has the motor ready to install. MN Pump gave quote for pump inspections. Would like to have grit/sludge vacuumed out of the lift stations.

C. Ketchmark made a motion to accept the bid from MN Pump and to get the lift stations vacuumed out, seconded by A. Underhill. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

**Kathleen Bennett, Utility Billing Clerk:** 154 bills sent out, 120 by mail, 34 by email, totaling $11,134.44. Currently 2 people on shut off list. John will do shut offs on Thursday. Cindy Duke and Leeann Cowitz are dripping due to low temperatures. Brent’s furnace went out, so he ran water overnight for 12 hours to prevent pipes from freezing. Leeann and Cindy will be dripping until John says they no longer need to.

C. Ketchmark made a motion to allow an adjustment to Brent’s water bill, seconded by S. Johnson. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

No address for Bill Novitski, wondering if we should write off the remaining $26.71. Council decided to leave it on the books for now, Bill is still around town. Kathi would like permission to work a few hours extra each week to go over the Wellhead Protection and also look over the water/sewer ordinance to update. Council agreed that would be acceptable.

**Tiffany Parr, City Clerk:** Finished up audit. ARPA funds can be used towards HVAC. Discussion if it could be used towards roof repairs. We do have roughly $17,000 from transportation bill that can be used towards roads/bridges. Bike MS would like to use Willow River Park for lunch stop on June 11. Discussion of potentially disposing of old election equipment through Pine County. We do not any of our own equipment that needs to be dealt with.

**Sheldon Johnson, Zoning:** S. Johnson had nothing new to report.

**V. Whitehouse, Dam Update:**  V. Whitehouse had nothing new to report. Will start working with MN Power about getting the electricity. We have power at the park. Want to get it extended over to the pavilion. MN Power is saying that constitutes a new service. Some discussion of having cameras ready at the park when the park opens. Also some discussion of the new bridge project on 61.

**Old Business**

**Hydrant Locks:** Covered by G. Bennett during his report.

**Annexation - Costs:** Received payment from Tom Jensen for the annexation costs.

**ARPA Funds:** Discussed during clerk report.

**New Business**

**Resolution Reestablishing Precincts and Polling Places:** With the redistricting that was done, it is required to reestablish precincts and polling places. Ours will remain the same as previously established.

A. Underhill made a motion to sign the resolution, seconded by S. Johnson. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

**Lawn Mowing Bids:** We should start advertising for lawn mowing bids. Also, would be great to have HS students come clean up the cemetery for community service. Run an ad beginning April 1st for 4 weeks in both Askov American and Evergreen.

**Complaints:** Received a letter in response to a letter the city sent out regarding children playing in the street on Doe St. and blocking traffic. C. Ketchmark suggested to just ignore it at this time because we’ve done our part in notifying the homeowner of the issue.

**Adjournment**

C. Ketchmark made a motion to adjourn, seconded by V. Whitehouse. Motion carried with all members voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Tiffany Parr, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Brent Switzer, Mayor