**Council Members Present:** Mayor Brent Switzer, Sheldon Johnson, Shaine Parr, Dan Walker, and Art Underhill.

**Others Present:**  City Clerk Tiffany Parr, Utility Billing Clerk Kathleen Bennett, Water and Sewer Operator John Mikrot, Fire Chief Gerard Bennett, Willow River School Principal Melissa Johnson, and various members of public.

**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 April regular city council meeting and the Board of Appeals and Equalization meeting, the disbursements and financial reports, and accounts payable was submitted for approval. The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

A. Underhill made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by S. Parr. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

**Petitions, Requests, and/or Complaints:** Melissa Johnson brought some informational brochures about Willow River School. Willow River School has had enrollment right around 450 students for about the last 20 years. About 44% of students receive free or reduced lunches. 79 full time employees and about 30 part time employees. 30% of full time staff have advanced degrees. 6 regular bus routes and 4 van routes. Staffing is a challenge. Affordable or available housing for incoming families or staff is one of the challenges. Safety and security is always a priority. They have a school resource officer for the first time, shared with East Central School District.

**Gerard Bennett, Fire Chief:**  Runs to date: 2 other, 16 fire, 42 ems. Three trucks that are being worked on are coming along. Once the new trucks are ready, will be looking to sell two of the old trucks. Still working on the LED lighting. Applied for FEMA grant for structure gear. Looking into four opportunities for different grants. Pine County Mutual aid and FEMA radio grant still in the works. Public relations: 2023 goal is to promote addressing (House #’s). Can be hard to find houses on calls sometimes. Recruitment: One to talk to, need to run background check to see if he is eligible. EMR class went well. Soon all fire fighters will be cross trained with medical. Bollards: would like to get one in by the school first. Reviews almost done for 2022. Discussed options for the WRFD to remove tree limbs from the winter storm damage. Was decided to bring chipper around town May 13. The Fire Relief Association will fund the use of the chipper so that it will not be paid for with tax dollars.

**John Mikrot, Water and Sewer Operator:** Hydrants have all been flushed. Towers are up to the summer heights. Bathroom in park is repaired. Will be getting another top section for Church Street, the other one got busted up from the plow. The dehumidifier is in. Needs a 20 amp outlet. The main lift station did fine during the flooding. The Wyatts Cove lift station flooded and ran non stop for a while, but never backed up. Will probably need to be cleaned up with all the extra sand in it. Will do jetting this month or next month. John suggests that we televise the town. The town has never been televised. Suggest budgeting to do a third of the town each year for the next three years. Would run about $4,000 for a third of the town.

**Kathleen Bennett, Utility Billing Clerk:** Will do billing on Friday, already reported last month’s numbers. John was back to reading meters. Residents that didn’t read meters will have higher bills due to catching up. Quiet month.

**Tiffany Parr, City Clerk:** Kettle River Township is increasing road maintenance rates. Increasing from $125 to $200 per hour. Annexation costs are finalized.

**Sheldon Johnson, Zoning:** School working on some permits for the school forest.

**Old Business**

**Repairing Walters Road:**  Bid from Kiminski paving for Walters Rd. is $150 less than the bid received from Rocon last year and Kiminski’s bid includes Pine St. and Church St. Mlaskoch Excavating should be billed for the Church St. patch because that is from when they tied in to the water for the shop.

**Repairing Roads in Town:** The Pine St. bid covers Pine St. from County Rd. 43 to the south side of the intersection. There is a spot that we need to patch in Peggy and Al’s driveway. The pipe that runs under their driveway from the culvert on Main St. needs to be repaired and busted up the blacktop on their driveway.

A. Underhill made a motion to accept the Kiminski bid, seconded by S. Parr. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Kiminski has some recycled asphalt road patch they say lasts at least ten time longer than the stuff in the bag that they could sell to us for between $90-$110 per ton. Will see if we can return the patch John had ordered. Also need a load of gravel delivered to the city shop.

A. Underhill made a motion to get the gravel delivered, seconded by D. Walker. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

A. Underhill made a motion to order road patch from Kiminski, seconded by S. Johnson. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

D. Walker made a motion to bill Mlaskoch Excavating for the Church St. patch, seconded by S. Parr. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Piece of shoulder on Co Rd 43 needs to be repaired. Will check with Kiminski on that. Kiminski will also be putting a bid on fixing manholes. Will try to get a hold of CIP guys to get a few things done including cleaning up the boulevards where the work was done on 43, street sweeping, cleaning up cemetery, picking up sandbags from homes, etc.

**Door Codes:** Tiffany and Gerard will coordinate.

**Generator for water tower:** To get a generate to keep the pumps running will be a lot of money. Will look into some other options.

**Tree cleanup:**  Checking if the school wanted the tree for stumps for the school forest. If not, will cut up and pick up with city clean up day.

**Damage to city shop building:** Ron was going to look at it and give us a price. Insurance deductible is $250. Also some discussion on the rented out part of the shop.

**Floodplain ordinance:** DNR recommends rescinding our existing floodplain ordinance and adopting the version they sent. Otherwise, we can simply amend our ordinance to include the newly annexed property. Either way, a public hearing will need to be held as this is an amendment to an ordinance. This will be tabled until next month’s meeting for further discussion.

**New Business**

**Lawn mowing bids:** Council reviewed bids submitted for lawn mowing and selected the lowest total amount which was Cabin Cutters.

A. Underhill made a motion to accept the Cabin Cutters bid, seconded by S. Parr. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

**Flood:** The county is collecting information on flood damage repair to see if damages qualify for state assistance. Some discussion on the time sheet received from Vickie in response to the flooding. It was suggested to pass it on to the county as part of our expenses.

**Adjournment**

S. Parr made a motion to adjourn, seconded by S. Johnson. Motion carried with all members voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 pm.

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Tiffany Parr, City Clerk

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Brent Switzer, Mayor