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

**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, Steven & Victoria Prachar, Rosie Mielke, and Dave Kliniski.

**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 July 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:** None.

**Gerard Bennett, Fire Chief:**  Runs to date: 20 fire, 71 ems, 91 total. Heavy side on calls for the year. Three truck replacements all in the works. Roof repair in the works. Hydrant locks are 2/3 done. Not completed yet are Doe St., Kandiyohi, Lake Side, and Chipmunk. HVAC is finished up except for access hole. Recommend to get some insulation blown up in the ceiling over the city hall. New lettering is needed on outside of building. The “R” fell down, and the others are not looking like they will last much longer either. Fire department will look into getting new lettering ordered. FEMA PPE grant and radio grant still in the works. Public relations: Cooked for Music and Memories. Sponsored July Pine County Mutual Aid lunch and meeting. Coming up are National Night out and Rutabaga Days parade. Recruitment: Had two people contact. Bollards are in the works. Auxiliary is getting started, good interest. Possibly having an Octoberfest around fire prevention week.

**Dave Prachar, Planning Commission Update:** Had first meeting of the second year. Selected officers. Pat Herzog and Harold Blatz were on one year terms. They would like to stay on. Recommend to approve them for a three year term. Results of survey are in the packet. Will start meeting every other month rather than monthly.

V. Whitehouse made a motion to approve Pat Herzog and Harold Blatz, seconded by S. Johnson. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

**John Mikrot, Water and Sewer Operator:** Now that it has dried out, will do the last bit of jetting. In response to some of the survey comments regarding sediment in the water, that sediment is coming from their own pipes in their house. John’s son is a licensed operator, so he will be seen around more and more. Sheldon suggests having him wear a vest or something while working. Question about how often sewer ponds need to be mowed. John said once a month should suffice.

**Kathleen Bennett, Utility Billing Clerk:** 121 bills sent by mail, 34 by email, totaling $14,416.11. Late fees totaled $296.77. Currently have one in the process of shut off. Letter from MN Rural Water about Serveline Leak Protection Program. September 9th Kathi will be on vacation, requesting to work the 12th instead. Approved.

**Tiffany Parr, City Clerk:** Asked about city wide garage sale after having a couple people call about it. That is not handled by the city. In the past it had been done by the Commercial Club, but they are no longer handling it. Would need someone to volunteer to organize it. Tiffany is requesting permission to attend Clerks Academy in September.

C. Ketchmark made a motion to approve Tiffany attend Clerks Academy, seconded by V. Whitehouse. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Received a call about a bunch of stray cats in town. If any other complaints received, see if Leustek would be interested in live trapping them as he has done that in the past. Tiffany will be helping Sturgeon Lake with their in person elections for the primary on Tuesday, August 9th, will be in the office in the afternoon. Candidate filing opens tomorrow for two weeks.

**Sheldon Johnson, Zoning:** Pine County removed the sign the Double W had on County Rd. 43.

**V. Whitehouse, Dam Update:**  The park is open. DNR will try to put up a sign that says to stay off the rocks. Contractors are still coming in to transplant trees and make sure the rocks are stabilized. The light from MN Power should be going up soon. Pine County has decided to do box culverts instead of a new bridge on 61 next spring.

**Old Business**

**Utility Hydrant:** Decided not to get a utility hydrant. Need to have John Mikrot or a member of the fire department present at the time someone is purchasing bulk water.

**Letter for sign donation from Commercial Club:** Insurance coverage would be $90 per year for $15,000 worth of property in the open.

V. Whitehouse made a motion to have B. Switzer sign a letter accepting the sign donation from the Commercial Club, seconded by C. Ketchmark. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

**Cut outs/repairing Walters Road:**  Kettle River Township rejected the repair invoice we sent them for the repairs John Mikrot did on Walters Road. The township agrees to pay for half of the repairs with Rocon as long as they replace the culvert with a warranty and speed limit signs are installed.

V. Whitehouse made a motion to approve the bid from Rocon to repair Walters Road with Kettle River Township paying half, seconded by C. Ketchmark. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

**National Night Out:** NNO is August 2nd. Thanks to Willow River Commercial Club for donating the bikes. Life Link III may be dropping a helicopter around 5:00.

**New Business**

**Door Codes:** Too many people know the door codes. Tiffany changed the code to the office. Suggested that we change the front door code.

**Ragnar Race:** Ragnar Race is coming through August 13th.

**Adjournment**

C. Ketchmark made a motion to adjourn, seconded by S. Johnson. Motion carried with all members voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

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Tiffany Parr, City Clerk

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Brent Switzer, Mayor