

Mission of the City of Courtland

We envision Courtland as a city with managed growth which offers a high quality of life for individuals, families and businesses at an affordable cost.

City Council Minutes

Regular Meeting
September 7, 2023

Members Present: Mayor Al Poehler
Council Member Pam Rodewald
Council Member Justin Kraus
Council Member Ralph Bents
Council Member Paul Bode

Members Absent:

Others Present: Julie Holm Dave Ubel Mark Fiemeyer Karen Fluegge

The regular city council meeting was called to order by Mayor Al Poehler at 7:00 pm on September 7, 2023 in the Council chambers in City Hall.

Rodewald made a motion to approve the agenda. Bents seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Kraus made a motion to approve August 3, 2023 regular Council minutes. Bents seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Rodewald made a motion to approve monthly bills. Bents seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

<u>Check#</u>	<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>\$AMT</u>	<u>Description</u>
EFT	IRS	10-Aug-23	\$852.94	federal payroll taxes
EFT	MN DEPT OF REVENUE	10-Aug-23	\$154.00	mn payroll taxes
EFT	PERA	10-Aug-23	\$535.64	PERA contributions
EFT	MICROSOFT	10-Aug-23	\$8.86	office 365 subscription
EFT	IRS	24-Aug-23	\$862.64	federal payroll taxes
EFT	MN DEPT OF REVENUE	24-Aug-23	\$156.00	mn payroll taxes
EFT	PERA	24-Aug-23	\$541.15	PERA contributions
22356	BADGER METER	03-Aug-23	\$57.54	beacon web program support meter reading 386 units
22357	CLEARWAY COMMUNITY SOLAR LLC	03-Aug-23	\$2,282.66	solar subscription
22358	COURTLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT	03-Aug-23	\$175.00	calendar adv
22359	DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	03-Aug-23	\$167.97	hydrant meter adapter parts
22360	ECOWATER SYSTEMS OF NEW ULM	03-Aug-23	\$16.80	softner salt - fire hall
22361	GOPHER STATE ONE-CALL	03-Aug-23	\$33.75	25 tickets
22362	HAWKINS,INC	03-Aug-23	\$2,246.09	water plant chemical supplies
22363	LOFFLER	03-Aug-23	\$68.60	mfp maintenance 7/24-8/23/23, color copies
22364	LUEPKE OIL & TRUCKING LLC	03-Aug-23	\$354.94	gas/fuel
22365	NICOLLET PLUMBING & HEATING	03-Aug-23	\$128.00	cleaned A/C, check freon at fire hall
22366	Nuvera	03-Aug-23	\$538.84	office,fax,fire hall,lifts,wells,wtr twr,wtr plnt intnet
22367	PROKORE INSPECTIONS, LLC	03-Aug-23	\$1,310.30	remit permits - July 2023
22368	COMCAST, INC	09-Aug-23	\$184.74	comm center, fire hall, city office internet
22369	MILLER SELLNER	09-Aug-23	\$9,971.00	Cub Cadet Mower
22370	Holm, Julie	10-Aug-23	\$1,084.11	Payroll 7/23-8/5/23
22371	Ubel, David	10-Aug-23	\$1,391.08	Payroll 7/23-8/5/23
22372	Voges, Jessie	10-Aug-23	\$553.37	Payroll 7/23-8/5/23
22373	ALLINA HEALTH	17-Aug-23	\$347.30	firefighter physical - hanevik
22374	CARRS TREE SERVICE, INC	17-Aug-23	\$17,000.00	spraying weeds/trees; along sewer line, ROW on shady oak dr, road to wells
22375	CITY OF COURTLAND	17-Aug-23	\$308.58	fire hall, comm center, main shed, city office utilities
22376	CITY OF NEW ULM	17-Aug-23	\$6,988.38	flow to new ulm

22377	COURTLAND MART	17-Aug-23	\$379.17 gas
22378	RENT N SAVE PORTABLE SERVICES	17-Aug-23	\$230.00 porta potty rental parks - July 2023
22379	UNITED NATURAL GAS	17-Aug-23	\$42.62 main shed, firehall,wtr plant,cityoffice natural gas
22380	XCEL ENERGY	17-Aug-23	\$1,504.11 office,firehall,wtrtwr,park,lifts,wtrplnt,mainshed,st lights
22381	Holm, Julie	24-Aug-23	\$918.65 Payroll 8/6-8/19/23
22382	Ubel, David	24-Aug-23	\$1,391.08 Payroll 8/6-8/19/23
22383	Voges, Jessie	24-Aug-23	\$553.37 Payroll 8/6-8/19/23
			\$53,339.28

4MFUND EFT MN PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY 21-Aug-23 \$139,075.00 PFA BOND

Public Utilities:

Dave reports a new furnace and air conditioner were installed in the city hall at a cost of under \$11,000. The prior system had been in the hall since 1993.

Dave Ubel reported that Nuvera will be starting to put in fiber in part of the city next week. Mayor Al Poehler said to be sure that they stay in the utility easement. Ubel also reported that there was a request to have the park shelters cleaned and that has been done.

Ubel has been working with workers who are running a camera through the sewer lines to check on the sewer’s condition. They are finding many issues with the manholes and various items in the sewer lines that can cause problems: such as, grease, pipes, boards, etc. He also said they are finding that many lateral sewer lines are crushed. It is looking like the main sewer line in the city will need to be jetted to clean it. And, if they find a homeowner is not in compliance, the homeowner will be responsible for jet cleaning their sewer line. The workers are using GPS to mark where everything in the sewer: such as, where the curb stop is, where a sewer line dumps into the main sewer, where the cleanout is, and marking dead ends.

Mayor Report:

Council Reports:

Justin Kraus suggested that the council continue to think about having a place for residents to take brush to burn. He said, “If we want people to keep their yards clean, we need a place for brush piles.” It was suggested that they find a site or area where there could be a locked gate and the resident would sign out the key from the City Clerk, and maybe have a camera on site. Ralph Bents suggested that they should publish when the area would be open.

Planning Commission Notes:

Julie Holm reported that the Planning Commission is working on the parking ordinance, and it will probably be coming back to the council soon and then it will be ready to publish.

City Clerk:

Holm attended a meeting with the Nicollet County Attorney regarding cannabis and an ordinance on public use. There haven’t been any complaints in Nicollet County yet, but they are concerned with people smoking near places like day cares and parks. There will be another meeting and the topic of licensing businesses in cities will also be discussed. Holm said that four Certificates of Deposits will be due next month with a total value of about \$600,000 which has earned \$19,718 in interest. The 4M, Minnesota Municipal Money Market Fund, earns about 5.25 percent without being in a CD and has earned about \$20,000 in interest so far this year.

Dave Ubel told the council that there are two or three sidewalks that are heaving and are not ADA compliant so they should be fixed. Pam Rodewald said that the property owners need to fix it. Al Poehler suggested that we take another look into it to see what needs to be done.

Holm presented the contract to the council from Banyon Utility Billing for an additional add-on to the current municipal software system. The contract is at no initial cost save for the annual \$195 support fee, an additional component of the program will allow for ebilling and auto pay by ACH or echeck and residents will be charged \$1.10 per transaction which is less than credit card fees. Credit card payment user fees will be 2.75% which is lower than current Allpaid fee of 2.95%

Council continues discussion from last month in regarding responsibility of diseased trees. Councilmembers Kraus and Rodewald compiled information from other cities on the matter. They found that trees in the city’s right-of-way are the city’s responsibility for removal and property owners would be responsible for trees on their property and any overhang of the right-of-way. There is a grant through the DNR that can be applied for to provide cities with funds to remove and

replace trees. Councilmember Rodewald will look into what is needed for the application. The deadline for initial funding is September 18th.

2024 Preliminary Budget and Levy is due by September 30th, need to schedule budget work session. Councilmembers discuss dates they are available. Work session is set for Tuesday, September 19th for 6:30pm. Clerk Holm will post the date of meeting.

Rodewald made a motion to adjourn. Bents seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Meeting adjourned 7:48pm

A signed written copy of the minutes is on file in the office of the city clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed: _____
Al Poehler, Mayor

Attest: _____
Julie Holm, City Clerk

DRAFT