

**CITY OF LEONIDAS
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

May 9, 2023

6:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Milton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The City Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Attendance

Present: Mayor JoAnne Milton, Councilor Cassandra Cave, Councilor Jay DeRoos, Councilor Brian Otto, Councilor Nathaniel Rock, Maintenance Leroy Roos, Clerk McKenzie Clinton

3. Adopt Agenda

Motion by Rock, second by Otto to adopt the agenda. Ayes – All. Motion carried.

4. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes of April 11, 2023 City Council Meetings
- B. Approval of Payroll ending 04/30/2023
- C. Approval of Claims ending 04/30/2023

Motion by Cave, second by DeRoos to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes – All. Motion carried.

5. Reports

A. Clerk's Report

Clerk Clinton reported that she had completed the federal and state quarterly tax reports and that payments had been made on both of them. She is currently working on going through all the files in the office and garage and organizing them. There are also a lot of old record that can be disposed. She also reported that she has been doing research regarding the park lease from Eveleth and the fire and police protection contracts from Eveleth, this will be discussed later in the meeting.

D. Maintenance

Leroy Roos reported that he had been able to fix the street sweeper and was able to clean the streets. The light pole on 1st street had been reinstalled, and he was working on repairing the cement around the net poles on the tennis court. He then spoke about the storage locker he purchased that will be placed in the garage for city files.

Councilor Rock asked about clearing sod that was kicked up during snow plowing. He stated that some residents had a fair amount of sod in the yard, and asked if Leroy was able to help remove it. It was stated that since it occurred during city snow plowing, Leroy was able to help with the removal. Councilor Rock will coordinate with Leroy to remove the sod from residents' yards.

Councilor Otto stated that he has been in touch with Bollig Engineering regarding the alley and 2nd Ave projects, and was working on setting up a time to meet and go over the work that is needed. He will speak with them again and report back at the June Council Meeting.

The need for repairs on the front entry sidewalk was discussed. Currently, there is gravel/rocks that Leroy had installed last winter after the cement in front of the door had to be removed because it had came up and blocked the front door from opening. The company that originally installed the sidewalk has been unresponsive to correspondence from the city. There was also a brief discussion about how to fix the drainage issues at the city hall. Currently, the City Hall is located at a low point and all the water tends to gather around the city hall. Better drainage needs to be installed to prevent flooding like what happened in April. Councilor Otto stated that he would speak to Bollig Engineering regarding this when he speaks to them about the alley and 2nd Ave projects.

Councilor Rock then asked about the feasibility of starting a compost site in Leonidas where residents are able to place their yard waste and the city would maintain it until it is useable as black dirt which could then be offered to residents. Mayor Milton expressed concerns about safety, and did not want to make the city liable if someone were to get hurt disposing of their yard waste. Clerk Clinton also expressed concerns about the city's insurance covering any accident that could occur. Councilor Otto inquired about how Eveleth's insurance is set up because they allow residents to dispose of yard waste at their city garage. A brief discussion about this occurred. The council agreed that they did not want to make any decisions regarding a compost site at this time but would be open to the idea if the logistics could be worked out.

D. Hall Manager

Jessica Johnson turned in her application for hall manager. The council decided to move forward with hiring Jessica Johnson. Clerk Clinton and Mayor Milton will meet with Jessica Johnson to do an interview and discuss hall manager duties.

Motion by DeRoos, second by Cave to move forward with hiring Jessica Johnson. Ayes – Milton, DeRoos, Cave, and Otto. Councilor Rock abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

6. Old Business

Nothing to discuss at this time.

7. New Business

A. Miners Bank Signature List

The Current List of signers for the savings account at Miner's National Bank needs to be updated to include the current employees of Leonidas. The council voted to remove Rebecca Elko and Charlotte Gerulli because their terms have both expired, and to add Clerk McKenzie Clinton. Mayor Jo Anne Milton is already on the list of signers and will remain on the list.

Motion by Otto, second by Cave to remove Rebecca Elko and Charlotte Gerulli from the list of signers and to add McKenzie Clinton. Ayes – All. Motion carried.

B. Investments/CDs

A discussion took place about using some of the funds in the city’s checking account to move into a savings account or using them to purchase a CD. Currently the City has about \$185,000.00 in their checking account. It was discussed to use \$100,000.00 to purchase a CD or move into a savings account so interest could be earned, the \$85,000.00 would remain in the checking account for city expenses. Clerk Clinton suggested purchasing a 12-month CD that could be used when the roads and alleys are redone next summer. The council would like to gather more information and discuss this further at the June council meeting.

C. Mosquito/Bug spray on walking Paths

The council felt that it would be beneficial to spray for mosquitos/bugs on the walking path and decided to look into the cost and receive estimates before a final decision is made. This will be discussed further at the June Meeting.

D. Park Lease

The Current Park lease agreement with the City of Eveleth has expired and will need to be updated and signed. Clerk Clinton is working on this with Eveleth City Manager Jackie Monahan-Junek. This will be discussed at the June Council Meeting.

E. Eveleth Police Department Contract

The Current Police Protection agreement with the City of Eveleth has expired and will need to be updated and signed. Clerk Clinton is working on this with Eveleth City Manager Jackie Monahan-Junek. This will be discussed at the June Council Meeting.

F. Eveleth Fire Department Contract

The Current fire protection agreement with the City of Eveleth has also expired and will need to be updated and signed. Clerk Clinton is working on this with Eveleth City Manager Jackie Monahan-Junek. This will be discussed at the June Council Meeting.

8. Adjourn

Motion by DeRoos, second by Otto to adjourn the meeting. Ayes – All. Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

JoAnne Milton, Mayor

Attest: _____

