

HERON LAKE CITY COUNCIL

February 5, 2025

7:00 PM

REGULAR MEETING

Attended by Council Member Kuhnau, City Clerk Olson, Council Member Schumacher, Mayor Rasche, Council Member Haberman, Council Member Baumann, Joe Liepold, John Haberman, Chad Diemer

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Rasche called a meeting to order at 7:00 pm

APPROVE AGENDA

Council Member Schumacher made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye - Rasche, Kuhnau, Schumacher, Haberman, Baumann. Nay – none. Motion passed.

- Any additions
- Approve meeting minutes January 9, 2025

Council Member Baumann made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Council Member Haberman. Vote on the motion: Aye - Rasche, Kuhnau, Schumacher, Haberman, Baumann. Nay – none. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- **FEMA – Heron Lake Recovery Scope Meeting**

Updated council members of the current numbers of the amounts received.

- **Squad Car Update**

Squad car at the moment is problem free.

- **gWorks Update**

Still continuing to clean up glitches.

- **Forfeited House Update**

Hoping that the next nice stretch of weather, Stenzel Excavating will be available to come

- **Website Update**

No updates

- **BioEnergy – Industrial Well**

Mayor Rasche talked to the city attorney about the transfer to HLBE.

- **Apartment Renter**

Update given after the resident did not vacate the apartment.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Setting Appointments – Resolution 2025-02**

Motion was made by Mayor Rasche to approve the updated resolution. Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye- Rasche, Kuhnau, Schumacher, Haberman, Baumann. Nay – none. Motion passed.

- **Variance/CUP for 201 10th Street Resolution 2025-03**

Discussion started with the meeting of the requirement for off street parking as requested. **Motion made by Council Member Schumacher to approve the Variance/CUP for 201 10th Street.**

Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote of the motion: Aye – Rasche, Kuhnau & Schumacher. No – Haberman & Baumann. Motion passed.

- **Request to purchase – Original Town Block 7 – 2 lots and lot next to**

The owner of 201 10th Street is requesting to purchase the lot next to 201 10th Street or the two city owned lots across the street. Discussion on requesting more information from a contractor or a drawing. Do not want to lose the mural on the side of his building. Council is not interested at this time – awaiting on what happens with current building before decision of lot purchase.

- **New TV in Community Center Big Hall**

Discussion on needing to put in a larger TV in the big hall of the community center. More meetings are now using the TV for their programs. Currently, thru Walmart an 85” television will run between \$799.00 to \$899.00. Tabled.

- **Accept Resignation Chief Fauglid**

Motion made by Mayor Rasche to accept the resignation of Chief Fauglid. Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye – Rasche, Kuhnau, Schumacher, Haberman, Baumann. No – none. Motion passed.

- **Accept Resignation of Deputy Clerk DeWall**

Motion made by Council Member Schumacher to accept the resignation of Deputy Clerk DeWall. Seconded by Council Haberman. Vote on the motion: Aye – Rasche, Kuhnau, Schumacher, Haberman, Baumann. No- none. Motion passed.

- **Library Meeting Minutes**

Reviewed January 2025 meeting minutes.

- **Southwest Broadband**

Federated Rural Electric is trying to buy Southwest Broadband. Southwest Broadband is city owned. The City of Jackson is wanting to go with the buyout. All cities will have one vote. A meeting will be set up to meet with the county mayors to discuss.

- **Taylor Family Farms Foundation Grant**

Discussion on a grant that is available. Currently, no interest.

- **PeopleService Yearly Contract**

Just a reminder that we need to start the discussion on the contract that ends August 31, 2025. We have to make a decision before May 31, 2025, to step away or to keep as is. Tabled.

LIQUOR STORE – MONTHLY UPDATE – BRIDGIT PRESTON, MANAGER

- **Municipal Heater**

Pumps went out – repaired by Kaufman Heating & Cooling.

- **Water Heater**

Basement water heater quit working. 100-gallon water heater was replaced by Federated Rural Electric. Need to register for the life-time guarantee with Federated. Discussion on whether the second inventory was completed. Discussion on bar tabs of patrons left open. No more tabs left open – must be closed by the end of the night, paid as served, card left for payment.

AMBULANCE – MONTHLY REPORT – JOE LIEPOLD, DIRECTOR

One call the last two pay periods. Refresher has been completed. Some new products are coming in – splints, tourniquets that were introduced during the refresher. County funding is not increasing. Met with other directors. The amount of money received is figured out with the number of calls, number of ambulances, etc. There will be a county commissioner meeting in April to discuss.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT – CHAD DIEMER, FIRE CHIEF

Purchased side-by-side from the DNR. They will deliver when able on their schedule. Will need to be paid after 60 days of receipt. Okabena Fire Department went to the state for their fire relief. This runs through as part of PERA – for small towns have a huge increase. Something the fire department should look into. Discussion on yearly retirement.

Motion was made by Council Member Kuhnau to increase the yearly retirement from \$600 to \$850. Seconded by Council Member Haberman. Vote on the motion: Aye – Rasche, Kuhnau, Schumacher, Haberman, Baumann. No – none. Motion passed.

PEOPLESERVICE – MONTHLY REPORT - JOE LIEPOLD, OPERATOR

- **Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Proposals – one year or 4 years**

Monthly report reviewed. Presented two proposals for cleaning and inspection of the sanitary sewer system. One proposal was for it all done in one year for \$40,490 to \$74,890 or the second proposal is for a four-year process for \$70,382.50 to \$86542.50. Discussion on if it is necessary with the flood that we just went through. It has been around 13 years since it was done in Heron Lake. Tabled until the November meeting with discussion on budgeting. Went through the monthly numbers – found and repaired a leak – a thin wall plastic pipe had a hole. An abandoned line was found – suggest removing T – no curb stop found. Will need one put in this Spring/Summer. Heater at the Red Rock shed was found stuck on. Melted the plastic inside the building. Equipment is still working. Red Rock will have to repair, as it is their building.

PUBLIC WORKS – MONTHLY REPORT – JOHN HABERMAN, PUBLIC WORKS

- **Crack Seal? Mastic?**

Question if to do another round like we did last year and get on the list. Tabled till next month to get the dollar amount.

- **Senior Room Parking Lot Door – Cement Sinking**

Found a 2” cement drop going into the senior room outside door. Tabled

- **Furnace #3 – Senior Room**

Furnace # 3 was having issues not heating. Kaufman Plumbing & Heating fixed a plug. He suggested that this is a 30-year-old furnace (original to building) that it would be something to think about replacing. The air conditioner was put in 2023 – so that part of the installation is already done. Will hold off for now.

- **Tabled**

- **Control Structure Bid**

It would cost between \$5000 to \$7000 just for the shut off – custom made 20” pipe.

- CASE tractor – ball joints on it are out – should be still on warranty. The council agreed to have them come and get it for repair.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT – TONY FAUGLID, POLICE CHIEF

- **Heron Lake Police Report**

Police Chief not in attendance. Reviewed report.

- **Jackson County Report**

Reviewed report.

CLAIMS

- **Review Claims**

Motion made by Council Member Schumacher to pay the claims. Seconded by Council Member Haberman. Vote on the motion: Aye – Rasche, Kuhnau, Schumacher, Haberman, Baumann. No-nones. Motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

- **Next Council Meeting – March 5, 2025 @ 7:00 pm**

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: _____

Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: _____

Rasche, Kuhnau, Schumacher, Haberman, Baumann

