**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF WALHALLA CITY COUNCIL**

**MEETING MONDAY DECEMBER 2, 2024**

Mayor McDonald called the regular meeting of the Walhalla City Council to order at 7:00 P.M., Monday December 2, 2024 at City Hall.

Council Present: Schill, Dumas, Carpenter, Jackson, Horgan, Kalis

Others Present: Steve Gapp, Tanner Sehrt, Rebecca Davis, Dean Jackson, Jeff Amoth, Pauline Amoth, Christopher Trupe, Justin Dearinger, Austin Dearinger, Brian Mathison, Kent Dalzell, Carol Wieler, Lynn, McDonald, Mr. Larry Dubois, Auditor Cook

Motion by Horgan to approve the minutes from the Board of Health Committee meeting as read. Second by Jackson. Ayes, all. Motion passed. Motion by Horgan to approve the minutes from the Nov. meeting as read. Second by Kalis. Ayes, all. Motion passed. Motion by Carpenter to approve the minutes from the Municipal Services Committee meeting as read. Second by Schill. Ayes, all. Motion passed. Motion by Kalis to approve the minutes from the Financial Committee meeting as read. Second by Carpenter. Ayes, all. Motion passed.

Carol Wieler addressed the council on the reformation of the Walhalla Cemetery Association. The board consisting of Kent Dalzell, Bill Zeller, and Duane Schurman will coordinate their financials with the city auditor.

Motion by Carpenter to approve the financial report. Second by Schill. Ayes, all. Motion passed.

**Communications:** Cheryl Trupe had contacted the auditor with concerns regarding the location of the thrift store should the city hire a police officer. Discussion was held on potential for relocating the thrift store into the basement.

The auditor had been in contact with a representative from the Midwest Assistance Program about the possibility of conducting a utility rate study. This would be at no cost to the city and upon conclusion of the study any suggested rate changes would be provided.

Mr. Dubois provided recommendations on changes to the fund movements suggested by the financial committee.

Rebecca Davis had contacted the city regarding the upcoming change in hours of operations at the border and will provide the city with contact information should the city wish to pursue a town hall meeting to petition for hours returning to as they were pre covid.

Angelle French had sent a reminder regarding the deadline and specifics for applying for the Self-Help Program. Motion by Dumas to submit an application to the Self-Help Program for the project use of annual sewer jetting as well as submitting an application to the Self-Help Program for the project use of bathhouse construction. Second by Horgan. Ayes, all. Motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Municipal Services, Building Permits, Streets, and Alleys:** Discussion held on procedure for handling complaint letters. It was decided all complaints should be first directed to the head of the appropriate committee. Discussion held on the potential for Greenway Disposal to take over city garbage pickup. Motion by Carpenter to table the current part-time help application until more information from Greenway Disposal is available. Second by Schill. Ayes, all. Motion passed. Motion by Schill to approve Chris Trupe’s attendance at the Annual Water Expo in Bismarck. Second by Dumas. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Schill, yes; Jackson, yes; Dumas, yes; Kalis, yes. Motion Passed. Quotes for lease and/or purchase of a new loader from Ironhide Equipment and RDO Equipment were reviewed. Decision to move forward tabled at this time.

**Police, Fire, and Traffic:**  The council was informed that only one of the radar units could be recertified. Discussion was held on updating the advertisement for hiring of a police officer to clarify it would be a city position not affiliated with the county.

**Financial & Economic Development Corp:** Motion by Dumas to transfer $72,765.00 from city sales tax into the equipment fund as well as transferring $20,000.00 from city sales tax into the Legion fund. Second by Horgan. Ayes, all. Motion passed.

Motion by Carpenter to adjust the fund account percentages from which Mr. Gapp’s salary is pulled per the auditor’s recommendation. Second by Dumas. Ayes, all. Motion passed.

**Board of Health, City Buildings, and Recreation:** Discussion was held on a no-cost change order regarding swimming pool construction. Motion by Schill to approve the change order, changing the build start date from fall of 2025 to July 2026 with a projected opening date of June 2027. Second by Kalis, Ayes, all. Motion passed. Motion by Schill to replace the broken heater in the city shop. Second by Dumas. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Schill, yes; Jackson, yes; Dumas, yes; Kalis, yes. Motion Passed.

Motion by Kalis to approve all bills presented. Second by Schill. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Schill, yes; Jackson, yes; Dumas, yes; Kalis, yes. Motion Passed.

**Old Business:** Tetrault Trust discussed. Motion by Carpenter to have Mr. Dubois create a new lease agreement to preserve the infrastructure of the wells at a rate of $250 per year. Second by Jackson. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Schill, yes; Jackson, yes; Dumas, yes; Kalis, yes. Motion Passed. Police GPS units discussed. One of the two units requires in-depth install. Jackson gave an update on the Energy Efficiency Grant progress. He is waiting on quotes to proceed. It was stated that the pump and motor from the pool were returned to the city shop and have since been stored at the former Wilbur Ellis building.

**New Business:** Timeline for adding to the agenda discussed with a cut off date of noon the Friday before the meeting agreed upon. New meeting table discussed. Have not received a quote.

Handbook revisions discussed. Motion by Horgan to approve and adopt the suggested handbook revisions. Second by Kalis. Ayes, all. Motion passed. Mayor McDonald stated he will coordinate attending meetings during his vacation.

**Other Business:** Tanner Sehrt offered to help with snow removal during a major snow event. The park board has tabled the issue of dike repair at this time. Pauline Amoth suggested reviewing ND court regulations prior to disposing any old files should the thrift store change locations. Rebecca Davis notified the city of upcoming plans to conduct a wine walk.

Motion by Schill to adjourn. Second by Carpenter. Ayes, all. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 8:46 P.M.

John Rock McDonald\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Michael Cook \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor Auditor

December 2, 2024