The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall on October 9th, 2023 with Mayor Yager presiding and the following council present: Norem, Sogard, Gelder and Funk. Absent: King.

September Receipts September Disbursements

General Fund 5648.15 16660.19

Road Use Fund 7936.77 1167.00

Employee Benefit Fund 32.78 861.59

Emergency Fund 12.19

Local Option Sales Tax Fund 5656.95

Tax Increment Finance Area 1 33.62

Tax Increment Finance 1 Amend

Bingo Fund 4257.44 2255.76

Debt Service Fund 19.26 2415.00

Capital Project-Strm Water

Capital Project-Water Tower 58702.50 58702.50

Water Fund 27313.94 14227.97

Water Sinking Fund

Sewer Fund 9915.37 15957.13

Electric Fund 70556.17 68224.39

Electric Sinking Fund

Storm Water Fund 4758.01 54.60

Storm Water Sinking 3058.00

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$194843.15 $183584.13

**AGENDA APPROVAL**: Motion by Sogard, seconded by Gelder to approve the agenda. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**: Motion by Norem, seconded by Funk to approve the following items listed on the consent agenda:

1. Motion to approve September 11th, 2023 council minutes.
2. Motion to approve September payment of claims.
3. Motion to approve FY23 Annual Street Finance Report.

Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried and claims hereby made a portion of these minutes.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** None

**RECYCLING BIDS:** Both American Sanitation, LLC. and The Trash Man, LLC. submitted bids for three-to-five-year contracts to the City for future recycling services. American Sanitation offered weekly pickup service and residents their choice of 3 different cart options: a) 35-gallon, b) 64-gallon, and c) 96-gallon. The Trash Man offered weekly pickup services and 4 different cart options to the City: a) 32-gallon for everyone, b) 64-gallon for everyone, c) 96-gallon for everyone, or d) residents choice, with the option to change service levels one time per year. Both representatives were present to answer questions from the council and address any concerns they may have had. After much consideration and discussion and taking into account resident feedback, there was a motion by Gelder, seconded by Norem to accept the 3-year contract bid from The Trash Man LLC. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

**RESIDENT COMPLAINT:** A complaint was submitted regarding twisted electrical lines in the alley in the area between Dayton and Dearborn Street. Supervisor Vanlangen will take a look at the lines and address the issue this week.

**COMMUNITY CENTER LOBBY FLOOR:** The flooring at the Community Center has been in need of replacement for quite some time. Large holes and uneven surfaces are becoming worse and have been deemed a possible tripping hazard for the people attending Bingo. The City obtained a quote from Peterson Flooring in Story City for removal and replacement of the lobby floor and hallway, cove base, stair treads and risers and an additional quote for the same service for the lunchroom. After reviewing the quotes, the council determined that at this time, the added expense of the lunchroom floor was unnecessary, as it’s not used. Motion by Norem, seconded by Gelder to approve the $15,722.90 cost to replace the floor be donated from Bingo funds. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

**COMMUNITY MEET AND GREET:** An inquiry was made about whether there would be a way for the public to meet the current council members and mayor and any new candidates running for this November’s election. The City had previously discussed a Meet and Greet event being held at the Community Center and determined that this would be the perfect opportunity to offer the residents the option to do both. The public is welcome to attend an informal meet and greet function at the Ellsworth Community Center on Saturday October 28th, 2023 from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm, where current councilmembers, mayor and possible candidate’s will be available to answer questions and concerns.

**GAS PIPE REPAIRS:** The City Clerk received a letter from Alliant Energy concerning a small section of piping at 2 locations within City buildings that had become partially exposed or uncovered and needed to be reinsulated prior to winter weather. The Clerk will discussion with Supervisor Vanlangen and get the repairs completed.

**DEPARTMENT BUDGET MEETINGS:** Due to several changes in the budgeting system and an anticipated loss of revenues for the next budget season, the council is requesting each department head attend the December council meeting to discuss how to prepare and plan for the FY24/25 budget.

**INVOICES:** The City Clerk presented several invoices that she had questions on how to proceed with to the council. Concerns regarding the costs of certain repairs, enforcement of repairs done on residential property billed to the City and responsibility of repairs requested by other parties but billed to the City were addressed. Due to Supervisor Vanlangen’s absence, the discussion will continue at next month’s meeting after further information is collected.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Yager adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm.

/s/ Dolorus Yager, Mayor

/s/ Amy L. Zeman, City Clerk