

**MINUTES OF MENNO CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
November 4, 2024**

Mayor Darrell Mehlhaf called the city council to order at 6:00 p.m. on November 4, 2024 in the finance office at city hall. Council answering roll call: George Cokens, Amber Cross, Ron Diede, Jerry Fischer, and Jacob Mettler. Finance Officer Jodi Fischer, Superintendent Anthony Cokens, Police Chief Mike Hofeldt, and Hope Block were also present.

Agenda: Mettler moved to approve the agenda. Diede seconded the motion. All votes aye.

REGULAR MEETING ITEMS: Minutes: Fischer moved to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2024 regular meeting. Diede seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Finance Report: Cokens moved to approve the October finance report. Mettler seconded the motion. All votes aye.

	General	Restricted GO Bond	Water	Sewer	Bond Ph 1 Sewer Surchg	Dev Ph 2 Sewer Surchg	Restricted Perpetual Care	Totals
Checking Balance 09/30/24	1,081,228.73	115,381.40	10,777.62	217,733.08	52,742.74	27,864.51	2,077.86	1,507,805.94
Warrants:	(47,973.55)	0.00	(12,032.98)	(7,776.39)	0.00	(3,077.00)	0.00	(70,859.92)
JE Adjustment - October 2024	123.06		(453.68)	127.63	107.31	95.68		0.00
Receipts:	52,119.22	172.02	11,339.16	8,110.99	2,455.46	3,198.32	0.00	77,395.17
Interest:	596.52	63.38	5.29	165.41				830.60
Checking Balance 10/31/24	1,086,093.98	115,616.80	9,635.41	218,360.72	55,305.51	28,081.51	2,077.86	1,515,171.79
Profit or (Loss) for the month	4,865.25	235.40	(1,142.21)	627.64	2,562.77	217.00	0.00	7,365.86

Council Financial Review: The council reviewed the bank statements, credit card invoices, bank reconciliation, automatic withdrawals, receipts and checks written during the month of October.

Tyler Goehring entered the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Warrants: Diede moved to approve the following warrants. Cokens seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

WARRANTS APPROVED: Council 652.64; Mayor 207.79; Finance 2419.43; Buildings 36.01; Police 4197.24; Street 385.44; Garbage 490.38; Cemetery 161.61; Ambulance 549.47; Library 344.08; Development 286.46; Water 1594.14; Sewer 1594.15; Aflac, insurance 173.42; Wellmark BCBS, group insurance 4346.76; VSP, vision insurance 31.95; SDRS, retirement 1581.94; SDSRP, supplemental retirement 150.00; EFTPS, payroll taxes 3515.92. **Utilities:** NorthWestern Energy, electricity & gas 3231.31; Golden West, phone 415.87; AT&T Mobility, police cell phone 54.33; SD State Treasurer, sales tax 371.42; USDA, Phase 2 sewer loan pmt 3077.00; Avera Occupational Medicine, prof. services 6.50; Badger Meter, support 79.59; Barnes & Noble, library books 112.71; Bender’s Sewer & Drain, prof. services 750.00; B-Y Water, water 8182.00; Cardmember Services, supplies 90.50; City of Menno, deposit refund 70.38; Deposit refund, water deposit 79.62; Dept of Health, water-sewer samples 270.00; Equipment Blades, supplies 1676.72; Green Eggs & Ram, IT support 125.85; H&H Contracting, water tower cleaning 4300.00; Klautd Service, fuel-repair 1797.15; Matheson Tri-Gas, amb supplies 75.50; Menno Lumber, supplies 217.12; Mettler Implement, supplies 28.02; Mettler Implement, Polaris Ranger 16,300; Myer’s Sanitation, 285 residential 5201.25; One Office Solution, supplies 84.41; Petty Cash, postage, mileage, license 84.80; Principal Life, group ins. 725.15; SCPI, publishing 80.96; SD One Call, locates 17.85; SD Water & Wastewater Association, dues 20.00; Total Stop, fuel 22.40.

Police Report: Fischer moved to approve the police report. Mettler seconded the motion. All votes aye. 2 reports of scam calls, a report of an out-of-control person, minor accident in town, 1 warning for unsafe backing, 1 citation for speeding.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS: Water: Finance officer Fischer explained to the council that the EPA is requiring the City of Menno to send out public notifications to the residents that have lead, galvanized, or unknown service lines. SD DANR has developed three templates that include the required information. These letters will be sent out by November 15th.

NEW BUSINESS: Water Rate Survey by Midwest Assistance Program: Hope Block from the Midwest Assistance Program (MAP) did a water rate survey for the City of Menno at the request of the finance officer. MAP assists rural drinking water, wastewater and solid waste utilities in finding solutions to their infrastructure needs. MAP works to build financial, managerial and operational capacity with hundreds of communities and tribal nations in a nine-state region each year. Their mission is dedicated to helping rural communities improve their environment, quality of life and achieve self-sustainability. This survey was done at no cost to the city. Currently the City of Menno charges a minimum of \$15 for the first 1,000 gallons of water and \$5 per each 1,000 gallon after. This is a total of \$35 per 5,000 gallons. According to Hope Block from MAP the required minimum needed to qualify for state and federal loans or grants is \$55 per 5,000 gallons. The City of Menno has not raised their water rate since September of 2011. With the rising

cost of expenses plus if we want to qualify for future loans or grants to improve our infrastructure, an increase in rates is needed as the water fund is a self-supporting entity for the city.

Cokens moved to transfer \$25,000 from the sewer fund to the water fund to keep water fund in compliance using future water sales to payback the transfer. Diede seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Liquor License Renewals: Diede moved to approve the following liquor licenses for renewal. Cokens seconded the motion. All votes aye.

1. Renewal - Package (Off-Sale) Liquor – Thomas R. Fischer, d.b.a. The Schnitz, N. 24’ of Lot 3, Block 2 & S 27’ of Lot 2, Block 2, Original Plat, City of Menno.
2. Renewal - Retail (On-Sale) Liquor with Sunday Privilege – Thomas R. Fischer, d.b.a. The Schnitz, N. 24’ of Lot 3, Block 2 & S 27’ of Lot 2, Block 2, Original Plat, City of Menno.
3. Renewal – Retail (On-Sale) Liquor with Sunday Privilege – Darin Guthmiller, d.b.a. Rooster’s Bar & Grill, LLC, Lot 4 & N 12’ of Lot 5, Block 2, Original Plat, City of Menno.
4. Renewal – Retail (Off-Sale) Liquor – Darin Guthmiller, d.b.a. Rooster’s Bar & Grill, LLC, Lot 4 & N 12’ of Lot 5, Block 2, Original Plat, City of Menno
5. Renewal – Retail (On-Sale) Liquor – WWIT2 LLC, d.b.a. Beer Garden, Lots 9 & 10, Block 2, Original Plat, City of Menno, & N30’ of the E48’ of Lot 8, Original Plat, City of Menno

1st Reading-Supplemental Appropriations: Mettler moved to give 1st reading of supplemental appropriations ordinance #2024-4, an ordinance to supplement water salaries and materials within the Water Fund. Cross seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

New Employee: Fischer moved to acknowledge Corbin Auch as the new street maintenance worker at a starting wage of \$22.00/hour. He will get a .25/hour increase upon completion of each of the needed certificates in water and wastewater (4 total). Goehring seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Surplus Property: Diede moved to surplus the 1990 GMC Sierra Pickup and sell by online auction. Cokens seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Mettler moved to surplus a plastic 250-gallon water tank and sell by online auction. Goehring seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Monday, December 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Mettler moved to adjourn at 7:12 p.m. Goehring seconded the motion. All votes aye.

ATTEST:

CITY OF MENNO, SOUTH DAKOTA

Jodi Fischer, Finance Officer

Darrell J Mehlhaf, Mayor

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