

Regular Meeting

**Echo City Council
Tuesday February 11th, 2025**

The regular city council meeting of the City of Echo Minnesota was called to order by Mayor Nichole Kepler at 6:00 pm at the Community Center.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: Mayor Nichole Kepler, Councilman Mark Schettler, Councilman Darren Gjerset, Councilman Wyatt Bendix, Councilman Dan Larsen, Clerk Brian Pitzl, Public Work Supervisor Bryan Nielsen, Fire Chief Matt Dunphy

Citizens/Guests: Jerick Kosel

Open Forum: Jerick Kosel stopped in to meet the new council and introduce himself.

Approval of Minutes & Resolutions:

Motion to approve, January 14th, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes, was made by Councilman Gjerset, seconded by Councilman Bendix. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

Matt Dunphy- Fire Chief: The department was recently called to 2 separate fire calls. On one call, a fire truck was backed into a water drop tank that belonged to a neighboring town. The city will have to replace it. Matt received a quote for \$2,300 and will check to see if the bladder was included in the price. The firefighter who was responsible for the incident was recently in another accident and a motion was made by Councilman Gjerset, seconded by Councilman Larsen to put this individual on a temporary relief of duty on the fire department until a clearance letter from a doctor is received. Motion carried unanimously. There are 3 individuals going through Firefighter I and II training and are taking tests. One firefighter has taken prior training but didn't pass testing and will be limited as to what he can do for the department until he takes any required tests. Has not received a bill for asbestos testing in the house that was burnt for training purposes, but it is usually the responsibility of the homeowner. Fire school in Moorhead in March that Matt would like to attend. Firefighter pension increase was voted on at the last department meeting and did not pass. Councilman Gjerset suggested doing hose testing when the weather warms up and would like to see the old ladders removed from the hall. Bryan received quotes for truck tires for all the fire trucks. Motion made by Councilman Bendix, seconded by Councilman Schettler to approve the purchase of steer tires for all trucks of the department. Motion carried.

Chastity Kuehn,

Maintenance Supervisor Nielsen- Bryan will be at training March 3-6th. He has someone lined up to cover for any possible snow removal. Waiting for insurance company for pricing on generator fire. Department of health was here and did a walk through. Bryan will get all required information to them.

Mayor Kepler- Inquired about a citizen falling at the community center and if there were any issues with flooring at the center. No safety issues at the center.

Councilman Schettler

Councilman Gjerset –

Councilman Bendix –

Councilman Larsen –

Clerk Pitzl – Informed the council that water bills were not sent out this month due to the new utility billing software is still being transferred from the old system and there are a few issues that need to be worked out. Hopefully it will be all ready for the February billing. City office closed on February 17th for Presidents Day and February 24th-28th for clerk vacation. Sara from Oberloh Associates is working on the 2024 budget and should have it ready for the April council meeting. The March city council meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 10th at 6:00 pm at the Echo community center.

Old Business:

New Business: Motion made by Councilman Gjerset, seconded by Councilman Bendix to approve a liquor license for the Legion for the E.C.H.O. groups March trivia night. Motion carried unanimously. Motion made by Councilman Larsen, seconded by Councilman Gjerset to approve a gambling license for the E.C.H.O. group for the Echo Days Celebration. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda: Motion made by Councilman Schettler, seconded by Councilman Bendix to approve the consent agenda consisting of Bills, Payroll, and Bank Information. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: Motion was made by Councilman Schettler, and second by Councilman Larsen to adjourn regular meeting at 7:05 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Nichole Kepler

City Clerk- Brian Pitzl