

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PHILIP, SOUTH DAKOTA
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
MARCH 18, 2024**

The Philip City Council met in special session on Monday, March 18, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Haakon Co. Courthouse for the purpose of meeting as a Board of Equalization. Board members present were Mayor Brit Miller; Council Members Marty Gartner, Greg Arthur, Scott Pinney, Terri Pelle, Marion Matt; and Haakon School District 27-1 Board Member Jari Spry. Also present were the following: City Administrator Brittany Smith, Public Works Director Matt Reckling, Haakon Co. Director of Equalization Sara Pfeifle, Haakon Co. Deputy Director of Equalization Katrina Gartner, Haakon Co. Auditor Stacy Pinney, Jonathan Dearmond, Shirley Dennis, Lee and Nicole Dennis; and later, Chief of Police Ben Buls, Dean VanDeWiele and Luke Neville with the SD Dept. of Transportation.

Absent: Council Member Joni Parsons.

The board convened as the Local Board of Equalization and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Miller introduced Haakon Co. Director of Equalization (DOE), Sara Pfeifle.

Pfeifle reported the City's 2024 growth for new construction at \$279,484 with the majority (\$253,332) reflecting one-fifth or 20% of the assessed valuations in accordance with the city's adopted discretionary taxation ordinance. The county-wide growth was \$2,013,407. Said growth is for the 2024 taxes payable in 2025.

Filed Property Assessment Objections for 2024 (taxes payable in 2025):

Jonathan Dearmond (parcel #9163): current land assessment - \$10,149; current building assessment - \$135,148; total assessment - \$145,297. Property owner recommendation: land - \$10,149; building - \$94,309; total - \$104,458. DOE's recommendation: land - no change; building - no change; total - no change. Motion was made by Matt, seconded by Pinney to deny any change in the valuation for said parcel #9163. Motion carried.

George Lee Dennis (parcel #9237): current land assessment - \$1,158; current building assessment - \$15,739; total assessment - \$16,897. Property owner recommendation: land - \$1,158; building - \$13,971; total - \$15,129. DOE's recommendation: land - no change; building - no change; total - no change. Motion was made by Arthur, seconded by Arthur, to deny any change in the valuation for said parcel #9237. Motion carried.

George Lee Dennis (parcel #9950): current building assessment - \$13,294; total assessment - \$13,294. Property owner recommendation: building - \$10,240; total - \$10,240. DOE's recommendation: building - no change; total - no change. Motion was made by Pinney, seconded by Matt to deny any change in the valuation for said parcel #9950. Motion carried.

George Lee Dennis (parcel #9636): current land assessment - \$1,158; current building assessment - \$12,846; total assessment - \$14,004. Property owner recommendation: land - \$1,158; building - \$10,712 total - \$11,870. DOE's recommendation: land - no change; building - no change; total - no change. Motion was made by Gartner, seconded by Arthur to deny any change in the valuation for said parcel #9636. Motion carried.

George Lee Dennis (parcel #9821/9239): current land assessment - \$1,737; current building assessment - \$15,119; total assessment - \$16,856. Property owner recommendation: land - \$1,654; building - \$11,960; total - \$13,614. DOE's recommendation: land - no change; building - no change; total - no change.

Motion was made by Pelle, seconded by Pinney to deny any change in the valuation for said parcels #9821 and #9239. Motion carried.

Theo Fitch (parcel #9647): current land assessment - \$2,772; current building assessment - \$123,002; total assessment - \$125,774. Property owner recommendation: land - \$20,000; building - \$70,000; total - \$90,000. DOE's recommendation: land – no change; buildings - \$119,519; total - \$122,291. Motion was made by Arthur, seconded by Matt, to approve the DOE's recommended changes in the valuation for said parcel #9647. Motion carried.

It was noted that the County's equalization meeting will be held on April 9, 2024.

With no further business to come before the Local Board of Equalization, motion was made by Spry, seconded by Gartner to adjourn the meeting at 4:22 p.m. Motion carried.

City Council

Motion was made by Matt, seconded by Arthur to reconvene as the City Council. Motion carried.

Dean VanDeWiele, Pierre Region Engineer with the SD Dept. of Transportation, addressed the Council regarding upcoming State projects in and around the Philip area. This included a review of the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) for fiscal years 2024 through 2027. Concerns with the US Hwy 14 and SD Hwy 73 intersection were also discussed including the speed limit as traffic is entering Philip from the north. A copy is on file in the city office.

Motion was made by Arthur, seconded by Matt to approve the following Resolution #2024-01. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #2024-01
AUTHORIZING USE OF SEWER FUND CMA ARPA FUNDS
NORTHEAST SEWER & STEWART AVENUE CAPITAL PROJECTS**

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Philip, South Dakota, that the Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to utilize \$111,500.00 of ARPA funds reserved in the sewer CMA unassigned account for the Northeast Sewer Improvement Project as allocated in the 2024 Annual Appropriations Budget (Ord. #2023-16).

Dated this 18th day of March 2024.

/s/ Brit Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Brittany Smith, City Administrator

The Building Committee updated the council on a recent review of the 175 S. Center Ave. property with Building Consultant Tom Paisley. It has been recommended to solicit quotes to clean out the entire building and remove all interior partitions on the main floor prior to making any repairs. In addition, asbestos testing will be required prior to any work which is estimated at \$600-\$1200.

Motion was made by Pinney, seconded by Matt to authorize the Building Committee to solicit quotes for the above work as recommended. Motion carried.

PWD Reckling reviewed additional sewer truck options with the Council. This included quotes for a sewer jetter trailer from Sanitation Products and Hot Jet USA as well as a used sewer jetter truck available through online auction. He is still waiting for an additional from Hot Jet USA for a jetter/vactor trailer.

No action was taken.

Motion was made by Arthur, seconded by Gartner to approve the city being the loan guarantor on Philip Volunteer Fire Department's truck loan through West Central Electric and authorize the mayor's signature on said Loan Guarantee Agreement. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

None.

With no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Miller declared the meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

/s/ Brit Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Brittany Smith, City Administrator

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