The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall on November 26, 2024, with Mayor Yager presiding, and the following council present: Laube, Funk, Phipps.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** Motion by Funk, seconded by Laube to approve the agenda. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried.

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

1. Motion to approve November 11 minutes
2. Motion to approve TIF Indebtedness Certification
3. Motion to approve Payment of Midland outstanding Invoice
4. Motion to approve debt payment for December 1, 2024 SRF interest only $11,672.50 payment
5. Motion to approve Annual Finance Report
6. Motion to approve Bingo gift card purchases (Thanksgiving and Christmas)

Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried and claims hereby made a portion of these minutes.

**PUBLIC FORUM: None Present**

**COUNCIL VACANCY INTERVIEWS:** Marcy Olson only applicant present. Council interviewed candidate. Main goals for candidate are collaboration between community and municipal organizations.

**LUCKY WIFE LIQUOR LICENCE:** Motion by Phipps to approve, second by Funk. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried.

**ECA:** None Present

**FIRE/EMS:** None Present

**LIBRARY:** None Present

**CITY HALL UPDATES:** City Clerk updated council. City Clerk will pursue sealed bids process for old park equipment.

**PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES:** Bolten and Menk representative Katie Sterk was present to update Council on the engineering progress of the watertower project. Design phase is at 60% currently. Information that was gathered by PW Supervisor VanLangen and City Clerk Eckers is being processed in a move towards a water study being completed and financing options being narrowed down. The 20 year DNR-SRF Financing will not approve financing for speculative growth whereas a 40-year DNR loan will approve the erection of a larger capacity watertower. Several questions were proposed by council members and were answered by Katie Sterk. PW Supervisor and Clerk Eckers will continue to have regular check ins with Bolten and Menk to see that the project continues forward.

**COUNCIL SEAT VACANCY APPOINTMENT:** After discussion by council, motion made by Laube to appoint Marcy Olson to fill the vacancy of Kalib King for the remainder of the term which will end November of 2025. Second by Phipps. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Councilman Laube motioned to adjourn at 6:32PM, second Funk. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried.

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Dolorus Yager, Mayor Heidi Eckers, City Clerk