

## City Council Meeting August 16, 2023

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on Wednesday August 16, 2023 in council chambers. Council President Sue Sapp called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were councilpersons Curt Oblinger, Sue Sapp, Neil Van Boening, Max Allen and City Attorney Andy Carothers. Mayor Meints was not in attendance. Notice of the meeting was given by posting in three places, the Wymore Post Office, Arbor State Pharmacy, and the City Office. Notice was given to the Mayor and Council and their acknowledgement of receipt is attached. All proceedings were taken while the meeting was open to the public.

Motion by Max, second by Curt to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Motion carried 4-0.  
Motion by Max, second by Curt to approve claims and payroll, except checks #27220, #27233, #27347. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Curt, second by Neil to approve checks #27220 and #27233. Motion carried 3-0 with Max abstaining.

Motion by Curt, second by Max to approve check #27233. Motion carried 3-0, with Neil abstaining.

Motion by Max, second by Curt to approve the treasurer's report.

Public Comment: Neil introduced the new administrator for Hope-Wymore, Dennis Applegarth, who took over the position recently, council welcomed him to town. Tim Sedlacek stated some of the light poles have gone up downtown. Sue and Chief of Police Bobby Martinez both commented that the new center parking downtown will take some getting used to, as it's parallel parking now, rather than angled. Melissa shared with council that the office received a call from HBE this morning and they will not be able to complete our audit for next year. That topic will be put on a future agenda.

Motion by Neil, second by Curt to approve Resolution 2023-04, The Annual Certification of Program Compliance to NE Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards, and its signing by Mayor Meints. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, second by Curt to open the public hearing on the one and six year plan for streets. Motion carried 4-0. Tim had provided council members with a copy of the one and six year plan, which followed closely the suggestions council provided Tim at the last meeting. Neil shared he went out and drove the specific streets discussed and feels they are the best priorities at this time. Three of the four outlined projects will hopefully be covered under a CDBG grant the City is applying for. Motion by Neil, second by Max to close the public hearing. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, second by Curt to approve the one and six year street plans as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, second by Curt to open public hearing for the CDBG grant. Motion carried 4-0. Tom Bliss from SENDD was present and explained the City is applying for a street grant through CDBG. The City is requesting approximately \$400,000 for street repairs. There is a required match of at least \$80,000. If awarded the grant, that plus the required match would cover the majority of the projects. Tom encouraged those attending the meeting, city staff, and council members to continue sharing the community needs survey, in hopes of getting as much community feedback as possible to be added to the grant application narrative. Motion by Max, second by Curt to close public hearing. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, second by Curt to approve resolution 2023-05, which authorizes Mayor Meints to sign any and all contracts or documents needed to process the CDBG grant application. Motion carried 4-0.

Brief discussion was held on the tax levy and if a change to it should be considered for this years budget. At this time, no changes will be made or considered until after certified valuations are released. At that time office staff will get the opinion of HBE on what should be done for the upcoming budget year.

Police Chief Bobby Martinez was in attendance and was requesting council approval for the hiring of a temporary part time employee. This employee would be responsible for helping get equipment and paperwork organized and complete small tasks, that were left by previous employees, so that Bobby can spend more time in the public. He anticipates this person would work three days a week, six-eight hours a day, and be needed for up to six months, however, position could end sooner once organizational tasks are completed. Much discussion followed. Motion by Max, second by Neil to approve Chief Martinez to hire a part time secretary for the Wymore Police Department, for six months from today's date, three days a week, six-eight hours a day, at a wage of \$11/hour. After six months if this position needs to continue council will consider all discussion regarding hiring process from this meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, second by Sue to suspend the required three readings of Ordinance 674. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, second by Curt to approve Ordinance 674, which changes the center parking on 7<sup>th</sup> Street between 'D' St. and 'G' St. from angled parking to parallel parking. Motion carried 4-0.


Chief Martinez would like to sell the Ford Sedan that was purchased from Milford Police Department a few months ago, as he would like to look into purchasing a new vehicle. Max would like all departments to get a list of surplus to Andy so he can write up a resolution. Topic will be placed on the next agenda.

Discussion was held as the City has never received payment from the Valley Police Department for Officer Willman's vest. Chief Martinez will reach out to Valley Chief and give an update to council at next meeting.

Tim has compiled a list of trees that need to be trimmed back from power lines. Being down two staff members he reached out to Green Tree Company for a bid. He had them bid completing have of the list. This is the same company that came into town after the June 2022 tornado. Tim said work could be done in a couple of weeks and once completed could help prevent major damage from future storms. Motion by Max, second by Neil to accept the bid from Green Tree Co for \$54,500 for work outlined on Estimate #326. Motion carried 4-0.

Janet had made requested changes on department budgets and provided new copies for council members to look over. No other requested changes at this time.

Motion by Max to adjourn at 9.39 PM.

  
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Collin Meints, Mayor  
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Melissa Wach, Deputy City Clerk