

City Council Meeting April 5, 2023

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on Wednesday April 5, 2023 in council chambers. Mayor Meints called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were councilpersons Curt Oblinger, Sue Sapp, Max Allen, and Neil Van Boening, along with City Attorney Andy Carothers. Notice of the meeting was given by posting in three places, the Wymore Post Office, the 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 minutes of the last meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, second by Curt to approve claims and payrolls, except for checks #26612, #26620, and #26681. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve checks #26612 and #26681. Motion carried 3-0, Max abstained.

Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve check #26620. Motion carried 3-0, Neil abstained.

Public Comment: Kirby Cohorst asked the mayor and council members to consider investing in microphones and a speaker for council chambers. Topic will be placed on the agenda for the April 19, 2023 meeting.

Drew Ideus was present to request permission to serve alcohol during a graduation party at the Community Center on Friday May 12th, 2023 from 5PM-Midnight. Drew has also rented the beer garden. Motion by Max, second by Sue, to allow Drew Ideus to serve alcohol at the community center on Fri. May 12th, 2023 from 5PM until Midnight, including the beer garden. Motion carried 4-0.

Steve Crosier was present to request permission to serve alcohol during a graduation party at the Community Center and the beer garden on Saturday May 13th, 2023, from 5PM-Midnight. Motion by Max, second by Curt to allow Steve Crosier to serve alcohol at the community center on Sat. May 13th, 2023 from 5PM-Midnight, including the beer garden. Motion carried 4-0.

Gwen Colgrove was present. She was interested in applying for a TIF Grant to do some renovation work on the one room school house that sits in McCandless Park. At this time due to the location of the one room school house, the project is not eligible to apply for TIF funds. Council did encourage Gwen to reach out to Tom Bliss at SENDD and see if there are possible grant funds available for this project.

Gwen also shared information with council members on the Welsh Heritage Center and a tour that will be coming to Wymore during Labor Day weekend this year. This tour group will be made up of a large number of people from all over the country and international visitors as well. Gwen requested that council consider giving permission for them to paint a red dragon, a well-known symbol of Wales, on the intersection of 7th and E Street. After discussion it was decided it might be better to have the dragon painted on the sidewalks around the Welsh Heritage Center.

Andy provided council members with an updated fees list for consideration. Much discussion was held on newly added rates for Wymore Fire. Wymore Fire will not be charging homeowners, if approved these rates would be charged to homeowner's insurance companies only when/if the insurance company request an invoice from the Fire Department. Neil shared many concerns/statements he had or that he had heard from the public. Prior to the ordinance passing it must be read in public meeting three times. Council members are hopeful that community members will attend and make their opinions

known on the fees list in the next two public meetings. Motion by Sue, second by Curt to read Ordinance #672 for the first time. Motion carried 3-0, with Neil voting no.

Ordinance 673, a revision to a previously passed Ordinance, would increase the number of voting members on the newly formed police advisory committee from four to nine. Motion by Sue, second by Max to suspend the required three readings of Ordinance 673. Motion carried 4-0.
Motion by Sue, second by Max to approve Ordinance 673. Motion carried 4-0.

Tim made council aware a few months ago that the north rotor at the sewer plant needed repairs. We have been renting a unit at the cost of \$4,155/month. Engineers and NDEQ have both signed off on needed repairs. Tim brought two quotes from Newterra, who we currently rent a unit from, on a new rotor. The repairs have been budgeted for. Motion by Max, second by Curt, to proceed with purchasing a new rotor for \$70,315 to replace the north rotor at the sewer plant. Motion carried 4-0.

Melissa provided council a comparison of natural gas and electric usage at the fire hall as requested. The Fire Chief, Rescue Chief, and Council wanted to see if there had been dramatic changes in usage since Senior Diners has started using the space. After reviewing the comparison it seems as though the trend for most months, was similar usage.

Rescue Chief Shawna Argo presented council copies of a resignation letter from Holly Troxel. Holly has moved out of the area and resigned in good standing. Motion by Max, second by Neil to accept the registration of Holly Troxel in good standing. Motion carried 4-0.

Tony Shepardson was present representing the Sam Wymore Days Committee. After council members expressed an interest in Wymore possibly having a fireworks show, he asked if council would consider helping sponsoring a fireworks show during Sam Wymore Days. Tim had spoken with C&C, they would be available if a decision was made soon and they provided Tim with some basic quotes based on amount of time. Motion by Max, second by Sue to approve spending \$3500 of Keno Funds to sponsor a fireworks show during Sam Wymore Days. Motion carried 4-0.

Neil had requested a report from Mark as interim Police Chief. Mark provided a report to council members. He shared during the meeting that the Sheriff's Office had responded to 64 calls within the city limits of Wymore in March. Mark has worked a couple ordinance and animal complaints and was called out to assist the Sheriff's Office twice. Mark anticipates he will work 40-50 hours a month, taking care of administrative items, responding to ordinance complaints, monitoring mail and emails. Neil asked if there should be some guidelines put in place and Andy suggested that will be something for the Police Advisory Committee to discuss. Andy suggested that as the Council Representative Neil could contact committee members and suggest a date. Once a date is determined an agenda will be put together and published. No action on taken on guidelines for Interim Chief.

Motion by Max, second by Sue to go into executive session, for the protection of public interest and the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual, at 8:40PM.
Council came out of executive session at 9:26PM.
Motion by Sue, second by Max to adjourn at 9:28PM.

