

## Wymore City Council Meeting February 17, 2021

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on February 17, 2021, in the Community Center. Mayor Pike called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Present were Councilpersons Neil VanBoening, Curt Oblinger, Sue Sapp, Max Allen, and city attorney Andy Carothers. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting in three places: 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 other proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the public.

Motion by Max, second by Sue to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2021 meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve claims and payroll. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Comment:

Roy Lauby was in attendance to thank council for agreeing to reimburse BSBDA for the dugout roof repairs and give an update on upcoming events and projects at the ball diamonds in Blue Springs. Roy said in the Summer of 2021, BSBDA will be replacing the wooden bleachers with 4 sets of aluminum bleachers, hopefully putting some shading or foul ball netting over them. They have one tournament scheduled that already has 14 teams registered. He said anytime there are events in Blue Springs or Wymore that can bring people in, it's a benefit. Council agrees.

Andy gave an update on dilapidated buildings. He said Mainstreet Bank and the Berwyn Jone's estate have come to an agreement about the building at 204 S. 7<sup>th</sup>. Tiemann Construction will be in charge of demolition and prep work for demo could begin as early as next week. Andy said they are currently working to get an inspection warrant for the property at 207 S. 7<sup>th</sup>.

EMS Chief Shawna Schwartz along with board members Jeff Argo and Brian Polson were in attendance to discuss the department's ambulance. At the Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting we learned the ambulance was out of service due to some repairs. The repairs have since been made, however, the department has looked into purchasing a 2<sup>nd</sup> ambulance as a back up unit. Brian Polson provided a copy of pricing from North Central Emergency Vehicles out of Lincoln. The pricing was on three different ambulance models all produced by Osage. The Type 1 2022 Ford F550 ambulance is priced at \$220,000; the Type 2 2021 Ford Transit ambulance is priced at \$110,000; and the Type 3 2022 Ford is priced at \$175,000. Brian said the department would like to look into the purchase of the Type 2 2021 Ford Transit. Motion by Neil, second by Sue that EMS pursue further pricing on the Type 2 2021 Ford Transit ambulance, with the intent of considering purchase. Motion carried 4-0.

Police Chief Tony Shepardson was in attendance to get council approval for hiring Geoffrey Willmann. Chief Shepardson began the hiring process on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> 2020. Chief Shepardson stated that Geoff interviewed well and based on his previous experience he would be a good fit and is requesting the council's approval to hire him. Geoff will need to attend the academy, which Tony doesn't think there will be an open spot until the class that begins in 6 or 7 months. Mayor Pike and Max, who were on the interview committee, agreed that Geoff interviewed well and Max stated he thought Geoff would be a good asset to the community. Motion by Max, second by Sue to approve and proceed with the hiring of new police officer Geoff Willmann. Motion carried 4-0.

Tim provided 2 estimates for a new bathroom in Arbor State Park. The first quote was from Huffcutt for \$140,665.00. The second quote was from CXT for \$89,590.00. Both estimates include the structure, add-ons, and delivery. The park board made a suggestion to the council that they would like to go with

the quote from CXT. Tim assured council that it can still be locked if/when needed and delivery is 90-120 days from order. Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve bid from CXT for \$89,590.00 for a new bathroom for Arbor State Park. Motion carried 4-0.

Chief Shepardson presented information to the council on the Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center (MOCIC) and Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS). MOCIC/RISS allows for information to be shared with members throughout the Midwest as well as the FBI, they also have equipment that can be borrowed by departments if needed. Chief Shepardson is requesting approval to attend training on the RISS program in order to better utilize it. The training is scheduled for 3 days in August and is being held in South Dakota. The request is to approve cost of training, hotel room, reimbursement for mileage, and meals. This training would cover the number of CEU's needed by Chief Shepardson for the year. Chief Shepardson stated he will only attend if there is enough money left in his budget after paying expenses for the academy for Officer Willman. Motion by Max, second by Sue to approve Chief Shepardson attending training, contingent on academy expenses. Motion carried 4-0.

Janice Cohorst was in attendance. The Wymore Blue Springs Area Fund Group recently met with the park board and they will begin raising funds for the final phase of the McCandless park updates. Janice provided council members with information and drawings on the final phase and they are asking for the council's approval to begin raising the needed funds and working towards this final phase. They have some funds on hand, but would need to have a total of \$70,000 on hand before applying for grants that require a match. Janice doesn't see grant applications happening prior to end of summer/fall of 2021. Sue asked what the hold up has been with completing the new bathroom/concession stand. Roy said that there had been an issue with materials that were being used for the roof, which stopped the progress, and then the companies being used got busy with large pre-existing orders. Ben Reed has assured Roy that work will begin again the beginning of March and once the roof is on, the rest of the work can move forward, as the parts needed are ready and waiting. Andy asks for all groups, in the future, to get permission from council before completing and turning in grant applications. Since these grants have to be completed in the city's name, there are times where council may decide they have to prioritize grant applications, based on application requirements. Sometimes grants allow for an entity to apply only once annually. If council felt there was a larger priority in the best interest of the city, they may need to have a group apply at a different time for a specific grant. Motion by Max, second by Neil to allow the WBSAF group to continue as they have in past years for final phase ; to discover grants and bring grant request before council prior to applying. Motion carried 4-0.

Tim brought information to the council on a Kawasaki Mule for sale by the Nebraska Federal Surplus program. He shared that the park truck was sold during the Purple Wave auction for \$1701.00. He would like council approval the purchase of the mule, as a replacement for \$1750.00. It is currently on a 7-day hold, as Tim is asking for council approval before going to Lincoln to look at it. This equipment would be easier for the guys to use in the parks to gather trash and sticks. In the future a snow blade could be added to be used on areas where they currently use the bobcat. The mule would be easier to use in some of these areas. Max pointed out the sale price is comparable to the payment the city received on the park truck. Motion by Sue, second by Max to approve Tim to purchase the Kawasaki Mule for \$1750.00 from Nebraska Federal Surplus, if he determines it be in good condition. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max to adjourn at 8:09 PM.

---

Milton Pike, Mayor

---

Melissa Wach, Deputy City Clerk

