

City Council Meeting February 16th, 2022

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on February 16, 2022 in council chambers. Mayor Pike called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Present were councilpersons Neil VanBoening, Sue Sapp, Max Allen, and Curt Oblinger as well as City Attorney Andy Carothers. Notice of the meeting was given by posting in three places: Wymore Post Office, Wymore Arbor State, and the City Office. Notice was given to the Mayor and Council and their acknowledgement is attached. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the public.

Motion by Max, second by Sue to approve the minutes from Feb 2, 2022 meeting. Motion carried 4-0.
Motion by Max, second by Curt to approve claims & payroll, except check #25011. Motion carried 4-0.
Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve Check #25011. Motion carried 3-0, Max abstained.

Public Comment

Max asked for utilities for the Fire and EMS Department be added to the next agenda for discussion. On behalf of the city council Sue wanted to express sympathies to Dan Schultze and his family after the recent loss of Linda. Greg Lauby was present to share with council he had attended the hearing on LB 942, which would relax/remove some of the restrictions of LB51 for police departments in low population areas. However, due to the population requirements in LB 942, Wymore would not have been impacted. Andy shared that in his letter of support he sent on behalf of Wymore, he requested the judiciary committee consider redefining the population standards. Lauby shared that Sen. Slama has included an amendment in the bill that would outline a low population area as a county with fewer than 50,000 residents or a city with fewer than 5,000.

Dilapidated Buildings

Andy didn't have much of an update. Mark Meints requested that someone look into another property on North 7th that is in disrepair. Andy will send a letter to the owners of the property.

Rebecca Lillibridge was present to request serving alcohol at a graduation party being held at the community center on Sat. May 7th. It is a private event that will not be open to the public. Motion by Max, second by Sue to allow Rebecca to serve alcohol on Sat. May 7th, 2022 from 5:30 PM-12AM, with all alcohol remaining inside the community center, no beer garden. Motion carried 4-0.

Tim updated council on the downtown curb and sidewalk project. He is waiting on bids for the light poles and electrical work. He spoke with Tiemann's Construction and was assured they would honor their bid for awhile yet. Topic tabled until the next meeting.

Chief Schachtschabel was in attendance to give an update on the police department. He has currently passed on the newly written policies to Andy for review and Andy anticipates those will be returned with suggestions by next week. Then they will come to council for final approval. Chief stated all else is going well, he would like to hire 2 part time guys.

Mark presented the fire departments hazard mitigation plan to council for approval. Mark said this is the first time that the fire department has been asked to write their own, in the past theirs was combined with the city. Andy would like to look over it and make sure wording is correct before it is approved. Topic tabled until next meeting.

There are two sections of city owned land that has been leased by local farmers. The contracts for these are about to expire. When the previous contracts expired it was put out for bids. Everyone was in

agreement that is the best way to go this time as well. Andy had drafted new leases and provided those for council to look over.

Tim brought up for discussion the cost of putting up and replacing lights on private property. Almost all of the street lights in town have been changed to LED lights. However, there are still some old lights on personal property, which the city no longer stocks parts for. Council directed Tim to work with Andy on an ordinance to show how these are maintained and billed. Tim shared a rate table from another city for information and this topic will be up for discussion at a future meeting.

There was discussion held on health insurance benefits for full time city employees. The city has been with the same company for a number of years. The premiums increase yearly and are based strictly on the age of the person being covered. There is a large discrepancy between what the city covers for individual employees. Council was asked to consider different options that might alleviate that. Council suggested we reach out to insurance companies for new quotes.

Tim asked council if they are ok with full time employees transferring some of their remaining sick time to an employee who is out of sick time but needs to be gone for an extended period of time. Council is fine with this.

Dates for Sam Wymore Days has been set for June 10-12. Tim asked council if they were ok with allowing free admission to the swimming pool on Saturday as well as use of the community center, Arbor State Park and the park house for the Sam Wymore Days events. These are all the same things council allowed last year. They were all in agreement that was fine. They expressed that last year well very well and there was a good turn out, they are hopeful the same will be true of this year.

Mark presented Tim Rienke for approval as a new member of the fire department. No motion taken.

Motion by Sue to adjourn at 8:07PM.

Milton Pike, Mayor

Melissa Wach, Deputy City Clerk