

City Council Meeting January 19th, 2022.

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on January 19th, 2022 in council chambers. Mayor Pike called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Curt Oblinger, Max Allen, Neil VanBoening, Sue Sapp, and 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 minutes of January 5th, 2022 meeting. Motion carried 4-0.
Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve claims and payroll. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Comment: Tim shared with council that Christmas lights are still up downtown, because the bucket truck is getting repaired in SD. They will come down, once it's back. Neil stated that WBSAF group is postponing their Thomas Foundation grant application until at least after the fiscal year changes over.

Andy gave update on dilapidated properties. If council was ready to move forward with a Thomas Foundation grant Andy says he will get it done and turned in. He also stated the city has filed charges on the owners of the Gambles building.

Interim Chief Schachtschabel was not present at the beginning of the meeting, due to a call for service. Therefore, Andy filled the board in on what he and Jordan had discussed at their recent meeting. Andy gave Jordan a deadline of March 1st, 2022 to finish all policies needed for LB 51, in order to have time for council approval. Andy said we need to get a field training officer in place. Sue and Max both stated it's a good idea to be advertising for the open positions. Neil asked if they were all in agreement to move ahead full force and provide support Jordan needs. Neil stated the majority of community members he has spoken do not want to see the police department dissolved. Other council members agreed and have been hearing the same thing. Mayor will talk with Jordan to determine if he would like to be considered for Chief and then we can determine what we will advertise an open position for. Don Schuller was present and asked why Wymore would need to consider having a paid contract with the Gage County Sheriff's Office for coverage when other small communities do not. Andy stated that the only time we would need to consider that is if our police department was dissolved and the community wanted a specific amount of coverage by deputies. Currently there is no need for that. Jordan arrived at the meeting later and provided information to the council from the crime commission. He said anyone is able to look at the crime commission web site and see if Wymore is currently compliant. He has all but one needed policy written and Andy will review those. Jordan stated he is 'feeling confident in progress being made towards accreditation standards'

There was brief discussion on increasing Jordan's pay now that he has been appointed as Interim Chief. Council has asked for a report with Jordan's current pay, Chief Shepardson's ending salary, as well as Mark Meint's pay while interim chief. Tabled until next meeting.

Andy and Mark worked on updating the interlocal agreement between the city and the rural fire board. Not many changes made. Wording updated to include new truck being purchased and equipment no longer owned was taken out. Motion by Max, second by Curt to accept the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Wymore and the Rural Fire Board. Motion carried 4-0.

Mark presented a list of volunteers who have earned enough points to qualify for the Volunteer Emergency Responder Tax Incentive of \$250. He explained how the points are earned and stated that 16 of the 19 members qualified. Motion by Max, second by Neil to approve the annual certification for the volunteer emergency responders incentive act. Motion carried 4-0.

Mark presented two resignations from the fire department. Saul Garcia and Skylar Kennedy have both moved out of town so are no longer able to be active on the department. Both left in good standings. Motion by Max, second by Neil to accept the resignations. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, second by Neil to accept the 2022 Flag Agreement including a \$500 annual lease fee with Southern Destroyer's Baseball.

The downtown curb and sidewalk project was put out for bids by Keith Gilmore. One bid came in for the project. This project would be the first phase of the downtown project needed to replace the current light poles. This phase would include concrete work for curb, gutter, parking areas, and first half of the sidewalks on South 7th St from D St. to F St. Building owners would be responsible if they would like new concrete poured on the half of the sidewalk that is closest to their building. The angled parking in the center of the street will stay the same. Before accepting bid council would like to see a report of financials to determine if funds are available for project. Tabled until next meeting.

The city got word that the grant funds for the new firetruck have been released, which puts council in a position to sign a purchase contract. Greg from North Central was present. Majority of cost will be covered between CDBG grant funds and Thomas Foundation grant funds. With full payment within 30 days city will receive a discount of approximately \$26,000. Truck will be a custom order and Greg said current delivery time on custom orders is about 20 months. Total cost of the new firetruck will be \$603,875.00. After \$500,000 in grants, the City and Rural Board will split the remaining cost of \$103,875 equally. The City's portion will be \$51,937.50 which the fire department currently has in their budget. Mayor was also asked to sign a letter for the CDBG grant which laid out the steps the fire department went through prior to final purchase. Motion by Max, second by Sue to have Mayor sign the bidding compliance letter. Motion carried 4-0. Motion by Max, second by Sue, to approve the contract with North Central, quotation #118202201, in the amount of \$630,219, with the prepay option discount of \$26,344, leaving a total balance of \$603,875 to be split with Rural Fire, with the city's portion of \$51,937.50. Motion carried 4-0.

Austin Jackson was present. The Wymore Public Library received an ARPA grant through the library commission in the amount of \$4,117. Neil asked how he thought he would use it. Austin has plans for updating an area of the library to make it more inviting for teenage community members.

Melissa asked the council to approve her registration and expenses to attend the League of NE Municipalities annual midwinter conference in Lincoln on Monday Feb. 28th and Tues March 1st. Melissa can earn CEU's through this conference and last year was able to earn all CEU's needed for the year at just this one event. Motion by Sue, second by Max to approve Melissa to attend conference Feb. 28th-Mar. 1st, expenses covered include registration, meals, mileage, and hotel if needed. Motion carried 4-0. Motion by Sue to adjourn at 8:20 PM.

Milton Pike, Mayor

Melissa Wach, Deputy City Clerk

