

City Council Meeting January 4, 2023

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on Wednesday January 4th, 2023 in council chambers. Mayor Meints called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were councilpersons Neil Van Boening, Max Allen, Curt Oblinger, and Sue Sapp as well as City Attorney Andy Carothers. Notice of the meeting was given by posting in three places: 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 shown 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 Sue to approve claims and payroll, except check #26278, #26304, & #26313. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve check #26278 & #26304. Motion carried 3-0, Max abstained.

Motion by Sue, second by Max to approve check #26313. Motion carried 3-0. Neil abstained.

No Public Comment.

Tim has completed demolition of 8 houses and they will finish backfilling in the near future. No other updates on dilapidated properties.

Shawna Argo, EMS Chief was present. She provided a copy of the EMS Tax Incentive Form to council. Six members met the requirements this year to receive a tax incentive.

Discussion was held on boards and committees and how many vacant spots there are. Current city ordinance for Planning and Zoning Committee states there will be nine members. Mayor Meints and Andy have discussed changing ordinance to state five to seven members, as it is hard to find an adequate number of volunteers. Mayor Meints also said some current members may have to be removed as they do not live within city limits or within one mile of city limits. Council members feel it is important for utility superintendent Tim Sedlacek to stay on the Park Board as a liaison between the City and Park Board. Motion by Max, second by Sue to approve boards and committee members as presented, with the addition of Samantha Thompson to the Cemetery Board and Caleb McKeever to the CRA Board, and Mayor Meints will continue to fill vacancies. Motion approved 4-0.

Andy stated that Southern Youth Sports have no plans to field a legion baseball team this year, therefore the current lease between the City and SYS for the baseball field in Arbor State Park is automatically terminated. Andy provided a acknowledgement of termination of existing lease for Mayor Meints to sign. Motion by Max, second by Curt to approve the acknowledgement of termination of existing lease with SYS and allow Mayor Meints to sign the lease termination agreement. Motion carried 4-0. Andy also provided a copy of the new lease to be signed by the City and American Legion for council members to consider. Topic will be placed on the next agenda.

Discussion was held on the City's options moving forward with the Gambles building downtown. Andy and Collin will meet again to discuss how to move forward.

Motion by Max, second by Sue to allow use of the community center kitchen for community coffee on January 13th, 2023 and the use of Keno funds to purchase refreshments. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, second by Neil to approve hosting the SEACA meeting on February 16th, 2023. Motion carried 4-0.

Gilmore/Thiemann topic on agenda was resolved today, item was not discussed.

Shawna requested approval to send 6 EMS members to EMS Conference in Kearney in March. She stated this training allows for the most CEU hours to be earned in one setting and they generally attend annually. Motion by Neil, second by Sue, to authorize our local EMS members to attend the NEMSA Conference in Kearney, March 9th-12th, 2023, reimbursing lodging, mileage, registration costs, and meals that are not included at the conference. Motion carried 4-0.

Fairbury Journal News requested to be on the agenda to request council to consider approving Fairbury Journal News as the official paper. They provided council with a letter stating their current number of subscribers, which has increased significantly since they started covering the area six months ago. Motion by Max, second by Sue, that we start using the Fairbury Journal News as official newspaper for City of Wymore publications. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, second by Curt to approve Chris Hyberger to go to pesticide application school on February 16th, 2023, with expenses and mileage covered if necessary. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Meints has requested council members' consideration on creating a police department committee. Discussion was held on purpose of committee and who would be included on committee. An ordinance will have to be written and approved in order to create committee. Andy will draft something and provide it to council for consideration at the next meeting.

Motion by Sue to adjourn at 8:29 PM.

Collin Meints, Mayor

Melissa Wach, Deputy City Clerk