

City Council Meeting June 19, 2024

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on June 19, 2024, in the Council Chambers. Mayor Collin Meints called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Council persons Neil VanBoening, Max Allen, Sue Sapp and Curt Oblinger. City Attorney Andy Carothers was also in attendance. 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 proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the public.

Motion by Max, seconded by Sue to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, seconded by Curt to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, seconded by Sue to approve Claims and Payroll except check #28474. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, seconded by Sue to approve check # 28474. Motion carried 3-0 with Curt abstaining.

Dilapidated Buildings-Attorney Carothers reported on the Gambles property downtown that all the paperwork was done to release funds; the documents were submitted on Friday. Marlene will have until September 1st to get what she wants out of the building and Tieman will start around October 1st to get the building down. The Wehrbein house has been torn down. The McConnell house is set to be demolished at the beginning of next week.

Public Comment-Gary Redden inquired about the properties that the city has torn down houses on, if the city would sell those properties. Attorney Carothers stated that most of those properties are not owned by the city, they remained in the property owner's name, if the taxes are not paid the property will go on a tax sale. Attorney Carothers will get a list to Gary of the properties. Gary would like to build a duplex on a property, he was advised to make sure the property is zoned for a duplex and submit a building permit with the city. Neil expressed his appreciation to the City and Sam Wymore Days Committee for all they did to make Sam Wymore Days happen. Sue commented how nice the fireworks display was during Sam Wymore Days.

Utility vehicle registration was discussed to allow the office staff to be able to give out permits after the qualifications have been met. Attorney Carothers will look at the ordinance to see what changes need to be made. Discussion was to be tabled until the next meeting.

Bryan Davidson, chairman of the Police Department Advisory Committee, was present to discuss the possibility of using a city employee as a code enforcement officer while the city is without a police chief. Job duties would include finding the violations, notifying the property owner, then following up to make sure the violation has been taken care of. It was suggested that if 5-10 notices a week are sent out, that seems to be the most effective. Janice Cohorst would like to see an update from the ordinance officer published in the library newsletter. The letters need to say nuisance notice on the envelope, also photos to go along with the letters. Motion by Neil, seconded by Sue to move forward with code enforcement officer and let Tim move forward with his team. Motion carried 4-0.

Bryan Davidson presented an updated job posting for the police chief, the only change made was adding, A successful candidate will display skills of police management and supervision, knowledge and practice of modern police science, ability to recruit staff and excel in community relations. Bryan said we need to make a few changes to the salary sheet so it is spelled out clearly, he will get with Janet to get those changes made. Mark updated us on the requirement for hiring someone from out of state. Mark said that he will be working 1 hour a day. Motion by Neil, seconded by Sue to move forward with the job posting that has been presented. Motion carried 4-0.

The Sam Wymore Day committee asked permission to use the city truck to drive the float through the Homestead Days Parade in Beatrice. Motion by Neil, seconded by Sue to allow the use of the truck in the parade. Motion carried 4-0.

Blue Rivers Area Agency lease renewal was discussed. Mark said that it is no longer working for them to be in the fire department. He would not like to see the lease renewed. Janet will send them a letter to notify them. Motion by Neil, seconded by Sue to extend the lease agreement to August 31, 2024. Motion carried 4-0.

Attorney Carothers stated that a quick claim deed prepared and has been sent to LincOne, just waiting to hear back from them on the property at 719 N 7th Street.

Discussion on the insurance coverage status of recent improvements at the Blue Springs Ball Diamond, Janet has been in contact with insurance about the recent updates. Max stated that the city should be included in the improvements if it is on city property, before the improvements are made it should be brought to the council's attention. Neil agreed. Attorney Carothers will check when that lease agreement is up and make those changes to the agreement.

Jacqueline Baker was in attendance to give her opposition to the opening of F street, some of her concerns include they own both sides of the road, would not like people turning around on their property and there are no power poles on F street. Darin Michaelis expressed his concern with opening 18th St, which would cause more water problems for him. Mayor Meints stated the most cost-effective street to open for the city would be F street. Curt commented that we can not close F street due to the property being divided into lots, if they sold lot 7, 8 or 9 that property would become landlocked. Motion by Sue, seconded by Curt to table to the next meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Neil presented the idea of having a council e-mail for better communication between the council and the mayor. Curt was not interested in having another email, stating that it would never get checked. One problem with the council email is that it would just go to the next council person who would then have access to all the past information in the email. The Council will think about this topic.

Motion by Sue at 9:46pm to adjourn the meeting.

Collin Meints, Mayor

Krystal Rutti, Deputy Clerk

