

Wymore City Council Meeting March 3, 2021

They Wymore City Council met in open and public session on March 3, 2021, in the Community Center. Mayor Pike called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Councilpersons Curt Oblinger, Max Allen, Neil VanBoening, Sue Sapp 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 Curt to approve the minutes from the February 17th, 2021 meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve claims and payroll, except check #23518. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve check #23518. Motion carried 3-0, Max abstained.

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

Public Comment:

Mark Meints shared with council that Truck 31 was bought new by the Wymore Fire Department and the Rural Fire Board in 1983. After many years of service the truck has become a liability to the department as it frequently breaks down. It also has limited storage space and a lack of newer safety features, such as over the shoulder seat belts and airbags. The department will be working with the rural board to begin looking for a replacement. This topic will be added to the agenda for the next council meeting.

Andy gave an update on dilapidated buildings. The old Arbor State Building was taken down this week. In the near future, Tim will be completing two asbestos inspections, one property on North 7th St and another on North 8th. Andy also sent out letters today for two more dilapidated properties in town. One that is owned by a real estate company and the other has a roof that is collapsing. Blue Springs is moving forward on taking down some houses, Andy thinks it would be best if we could have properties that need to come down ready to go, so that the same equipment can be utilized.

Shawna gave an update on a new ambulance. She says currently department members and board members all realize there is a need for a new ambulance, but aren't in agreement on how to move forward. Mike suggested once they have come to an agreement and are ready to discuss options moving forward that Shawna have it placed back on the agenda, until then its tabled.

Melissa provided council members with copies of bills for ambulance repairs from both Zoellner Ford-Lincoln of Beatrice and Anderson Auto Group in Lincoln. No discussion was held, it will be tabled until the March 17th meeting.

New officer Geoffrey Willman was in attendance and took his oath of office.

Tim gave an update on the downtown streetlights. Last week the light poles in front of Mainstreet Bank and Diane's Dresses Etc fell down. Tim said a third one in front of A&N had fallen last winter. Tim asked council if they would like him to look for a temporary solution for the two that are down, or if they would like to start working on a plan for repairing all of the streetlights in the downtown area. Mike asked if he felt they would all need to be replaced, and Tim said he thinks they are all probably in the same shape, as they've been standing for a long time. Max asked for an estimated price for a temporary fix, Tim said roughly \$6,000. Sue asked about new poles/permanent fix and Tim said it would be costly

because it would need to include new poles, along with curb, gutter, and storm drains. Someone asked if TIF funds could be used for city project. Collin Meints was in attendance and as a member of the CRA board he said that the city can apply for TIF funds, but not more than 10% of their total account balance can be used annually. Mike asked Tim what his recommendation was. Tim suggested since this would be quite a large project that the city reach out to Keith Gilmore, of Gilmore & Associates, our street superintendent for his advice. This will be put on the agenda for the next council meeting. Max stated once this project starts it will be a domino effect. This could be the opportunity to correct the curb, gutter, drainage issue downtown.

SEND D recently sent Drawdown #3 & #4, for the owner-occupied housing grant, to the office and asked that claims be approved at this meeting. Melissa provided copies for each council person and explained that once the deposit comes in from the state the claims have to be paid out within 5 days. The state should be depositing the funds within the next 30 days and if council approves, Melissa can send checks directly to SEND D and contractors listed, for work completed. Motion by Max, second by Neil to approve payments for drawdowns #3 & #4 once the deposit has been made. Motion carried 4-0.

Shawna presented Clark McMurray for approval as a new member of EMS. She provided a copy of his application to each council member. Mike asked Clark if he plans to complete EMT classes or be support staff. Clark said he is open to either. Motion by Max, second by Sue to approve Clark McMurray as a new member of Wymore EMS. Motion carried 4-0.

Shawna needs council input on how to proceed with some patients who refuse to pay their ambulance bill after calling for assistance. Shawna and Max pointed out that even if a patient refuses service, the EMTs have completed an assessment and Beatrice Rescue many times have already been called, which the City of Wymore is billed for. All the cost is coming back on the City when patients refuse to pay. It was mentioned that it might be time to consider an interlocal agreement with other towns in the service area. There was a lot of discussion on what this might look like and if this is the correct solution. It has been discussed many times in the past as well. Max feels it's time for a meeting with all involved parties to come up with a solution. Mike asked if Max and Neil, the members of council's EMS committee, could meet with Shawna. No action taken at this time.

Shawna requested board approval to send both new EMS members to the upcoming training in Kearney. They would only need to add one additional hotel room. Motion by Sue, second by Curt, to approve both new EMS members attend training, and the cost of one additional hotel room. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max to adjourn at 7:49PM.

Milton Pike, Mayor

Melissa Wach, Deputy City Clerk