

## City Council Meeting March 5, 2025

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on March 5, 2025, in the Council Chambers. Mayor Collin Meints called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Council persons Max Allen, Sue Sapp, Curt Oblinger, and Neil Van Boening. 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. It was also posted in the Fairbury Journal News. 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 Sue, seconded by Curt to approve minutes of the last meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, seconded by Sue to approve claims and payroll except checks #29427, 29432, 29435 & 29459. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Sue, seconded by Neil to approve check #29427 & 29459. Motion carried 3-0 with Max abstaining.

Motion by Max, seconded by Curt to approve check #29432. Motion carried 3-0 with Neil abstaining.

Motion by Max, seconded by Neil to approve check #29435. Motion carried 3-0 with Curt abstaining.

Dilapidated Building- Bockmann has been working on the remediation of the asbestos, should be getting close to being done. Attorney Carothers has talked with Eric Tiemann, a contract has also been sent to him, no agreement has been signed. We will need a letter from a 3<sup>rd</sup> party once the asbestos has been removed.

Public Comment- Attorney Carothers informed the council there is a buyer for the Diane's Dresses Building. They have talked with some people about tax financing for funding some renovations. The current plan is to save the building to the south. Attorney Carothers is also working on new ordinances for the Fire Department and EMS. Attorney Carothers has been in contact with Tara Stingley on revisions to the personal code, she will pull some numbers and see about coming down to do some training on employee discrimination and sexual harassment. Attorney Carothers will reach out to Fred Wiebelhaus from Larm to see if he would be able to do some training. Jacqueline Baker brought her concerns to the council about why it is taking so long to get 18<sup>th</sup> street from F to E and F street from 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> vacated. Attorney Carothers replied it takes time to get the easements for things like sewer lines and overhead and underground powerlines. City Superintendent Tim Sedlacek will work on getting the lines charted. Attorney Carothers will get done what he can that is not impacted by easements.

Discussion on the Fire Department Cadet Applicant has been moved to an executive session at the end of the meeting.

During discussion on recording or live streaming the council meetings Councilman Max Allen stated that he had tried to reach out to Austin Jackson at the library but was unable to do so. Mayor Meints stated that he had talked with Gordon Hopkins, who told him that he has a copy of his recordings on file that he could send over.

Councilman Neil Van Boening spoke with Ted Huls, who expressed he would like to be part of the Police Department Advisory Committee. Councilman Van Boening's take on the conversations was that he thinks Ted seems sincere and this is his way to give back to his community. Motion by Neil, seconded by Max to approve Ted Huls as a member of the Police Department Advisory Committee. Motion carried 4-0.

The Sam Wymore Days Committee asked to use the Community Center and the park house during the Sam Wymore Days celebration June 13, 14 & 15. The Committee also asked for a donation to go towards the Fireworks and Insurance, which the city had done in the past. Motion by Sue, seconded

by Max to approve using the Community Center and Park house and taking \$4500 for Fireworks plus \$500 for insurance from Keno funds. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilman Neil Van Boening expressed his concerns with the timeliness of submitting claims after noticing a claim dated back to 2021 involving some legal fees. He would like to see those claims submitted every 90 days. The council and Attorney Carothers discussed the matter and came to an agreement.

Fire Chief Mark Meints was present to ask to attend the Nebraska Chiefs Association Symposium which is better held in Crawford this year. Mark stated that there is grant money available to pay for all the expenses. Motion by Max, seconded by Curt to approve Mark to attend the Nebraska Chiefs Association Symposium on March 15, 2025. Motion carried 4-0.

The council asked Mark Meints for a report to be given once a month on the police department's activity, so they have an idea of what is going on. They would like to be able to answer questions from the public when approached about what is happening with the police department.

Motion by Max to go into executive session at 7:58pm for the protection of the public interest and the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. They came out of executive session at 8:42pm.

Motion by Sue to adjourn at 8:42pm.

---

Mayor Collin Meints

---

Krystal Rutti, Deputy Clerk