

Wymore City Council Regular Meeting May 19, 2021

The Wymore City Council met in an open and public session on May 19, 2021. The meeting was held in the Wymore Community Center due to COVID-19. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Milton Pike at 7:00 pm. Present were Mayor Pike, Sue Sapp, Curt Oblinger, and Neil VanBoening. Council member Max Allen was not in attendance. Also in attendance City Attorney Andy Carothers. Notice of the meeting was posted in advance at three places, (Wymore City Office, United States Postal Service Office, and Arbor State Pharmacy) by 5pm on May 14, 2021. 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.

Curt made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 5th meeting. Sue seconded the motion. Motion Carried 3-0.

Sue made a motion to approve claims and payroll. Curt seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

There was no Public Comment.

Andy gave a report on Dilapidated Properties. He reported that a letter was sent to the owner of a property at 301 S 15th St. The owner would like to take a look at the property. Tim reported that the asbestos report came back on two other properties, 301 N 8th and 122 N 7th, have asbestos. Both properties will need asbestos abatement done.

Business:

Shelby Temps was present to renew the Temps Disposal Contract with the City. Andy updated the contract with new insurance information and added an indemnification clause. Neil made a motion to accept the agreement and allow the Mayor to sign the contract. Sue seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Shelby remained on hand, because he had information pertaining to the issue of the recycling which was tabled from the last council meeting. Tim stated that due to the grant that was used to purchase the recycle trailer, we are obligated to provide recycling for at least another year. If we pay the fees that Beatrice has started charging it would cost a minimum of \$1200.00 a month, which the city cannot afford. Tim inquired of Shelby about recycling centers and was given the information for a center in Beattie KS. Tim has done a test run and it went well but is farther away and we will need another set of bins so we can go down and drop the full bins and pick up the empty ones. A new set of 10 bins from the place we bought the trailer would cost \$4900.00 and on top of that cost would be the extra maintenance on the trailer and pickup. Shelby stated he may have some contacts who may be able to help lower the cost of the bins. After much discussion and many suggestions, the following motion was made. Neil made the

motion to access each customer \$1.50 (on their utility bill), beginning with the July 2021 billing period to cover the cost of recycling. Sue seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

EMS Chief Shawna Schwartz was on hand to request the Council set an official percentage to the amount of utilities and upkeep of the Fire Hall for the EMS to pay. She stated the department has been paying 50% of the bills but has access to only 10-15% of the building. After some discussion and questions being asked the Mayor stated the matter needed thought and tabled the issue.

The next item on the agenda was a request for Melissa Wach to be allowed to attend the 2021 Municipal Accounting and Finance Conference June 15-17 and 22-24, 2021. The training would be virtual and held 2 hours each day. Sue asked if Melissa would get CEU hours for this. Tim stated yes, she would. Neil made a motion that Melissa Wach attend the virtual 2021 Municipal Accounting and Finance Conference June 15-17 and 22-24, 2021. Sue seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Roy Lauby was on hand to request the city purchase new bleachers for the softball diamonds. The bleachers will be city property and will be paid for with the use of some grant funds. Sue made a motion to purchase new bleachers for the softball complex. Curt seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. It was decided that the old bleachers would be moved to the old field for the time being.

It was brought to the Council's attention that there are new laws regarding the sale and use of fireworks in the state of Nebraska. They were also made aware of a copy of a license to sell fireworks that the City has received from the vendor. This was for information purposes only.

Fire Chief Mark Meints stated that they have been continuing to look at new and used fire trucks. He stated that the issue still stands that truck #31 (1983 Ford Pumper) and truck #61 (2007 GMC Heavy Rescue) are out of service. The Department is looking at Rescue/Pumpers in order to save space in their building and maintenance costs. A different vehicle from the one presented last meeting came to their attention shortly after that meeting. It holds more water and the price for this one is lower than the previous truck (approximate price \$570,000).

Insurance on the new truck would cost approximately \$600.00 more than on the 1983 Pumper. Greg Stofer from North Central Emergency Vehicles was on hand to present a proposal, which is at the City Office.

Mark and Roy Lauby reported that earlier in the day the State Legislature had voted into law and increase in MFO funds to \$10,000.00 a year for each department. Mark stated this money would be used to make the City Departments portion of the payments.

Mark stated that the height of the door openings is a concern. He looked into raising the door height. It would cost approximately \$50,000 to raise all of the doors 9 inches according to Blue Valley Door.

Mark stated that the Rural Fire Board has signed an Intent to Purchase, and that they were only awaiting the Council's decision.

Sue asked about future plans. Are they going to have the same problem with the height of the doors on future truck purchases? Neil asked about the weight of the truck on area bridges. Collin stated that there are currently 4 bridges left in our area that have not been converted to culverts.

Curt stated he would like to hear what Danko had to say about the heavy rescue truck in question. Mark stated they had been told to wait to take the truck up until the Council had made their decision.

Neil and Sue both stated that they needed more information and that the process was happening too fast. They also stated there were other things the city needs to address including some projects that will be high in cost. There were questions about the ability to use more USDA funding if need be.

Roy Lauby and Don Schuller were on hand from the Rural Fire Board. They stated that the expense of the truck would also be a stretch for them, but their concern was for the area they serve, and a truck is needed.

Neil asked how many fires the department is called to in a year. Mark did not have the numbers from this year but stated that two years ago it was 90. He stated that truck 32 has an air leak and needs repairs but he can't take it out of service until we get another truck.

After much discussion, the Council did not make a motion. Mike decided to move on to other issues and if someone changed their mind, they would revisit the issue. No action was taken at this meeting.

A proposal to upgrade the computer system in the City Office was brought to the Council. The proposal would include the purchase of 2 new computer towers, webcams and mics and a laptop. Tim stated that the old computers are 7-9 years old and with the new online bill pay and virtual trainings, the computers are being used more. They are no longer able to keep up. The laptop would also come in handy for webinars and for council meetings. Neil made a motion that we accept quote number 5783 dated May 18, 2021 from NCS for \$2827.00 plus another webcam and mic for \$52.00 bringing the total to \$2879.00. Sue seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

The council was presented with a letter from Brad Breunsbach indicating his intention to retire later in the year.

Angela Meyers was in attendance to request a lease of the Legion Baseball field by Southern Youth Sports. SYS has taken over the running of the Legion Baseball program and would like to be able to make improvements to the facility and need the lease to apply for some grants. Andy asked if the Council wanted to enter into a lease with Southern Youth Sports. He stated that he

will prepare the lease and then the Council will vote on the matter. It will be a one-year lease with a right to renew for an additional year. Southern Youth Sports will pay for the utilities used.

The Council was presented with a Letter of Resignation from the Library Board for Betty Johnson.

Sue made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Milton Pike/Mayor

Janet Riensche/City Clerk