

## Wymore City Council Meeting May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, in the Community Center. Mayor Pike called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Present were Councilpersons Neil VanBoening, Sue Sapp, Max Allen, Curt Oblinger, 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 Sue, second by Curt to approve the minutes of the April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 meeting. Motion carried 4-0. Motion by Sue, second by Max to approve claims and payroll, except checks #23784 and #23808. Motion carried 4-0. Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve checks #23784 & #23808. Motion carried 3-0, Max abstained. Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Comment: Roy Lauby was in attendance and shared with the council that the ball diamond association has found new bleachers they would like to order for the ball fields. If the order can be processed under the City, there would be some savings as far as sales tax. There could be no discussion on a public comment, it will be added to the agenda for the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Shelby Temps was in attendance to discuss the City's contract with Temps Disposal. It recently came to his attention that we have been out of contract for a couple of years. Currently he has no proposed changes to residential accounts. He said following an 8 year period of no increases, commercial accounts will see a small increase. The current contract does not state specific prices, it simply states if there needs to be an increase Shelby needs to receive council approval. Sue asked how long the contract would be good for. Shelby said generally they like to do contracts for 5 year periods as long as both parties remain happy. Andy requested insurance info be sent to him and he would like to look over the contract. Approval of contract was tabled until the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Ben Leseberg was in attendance representing the State of Nebraska, EMS division. He wanted to publicly recognize the members of the Wymore EMS Department for a call they responded to recently. Members of the EMS department as well as the patient they treated, and the patient's family were in attendance. The patient's sister stated that the patient had suffered 3 heart attacks and a stroke and when Wymore EMS got to her she was coding, and they were able to save her life. Ben recognized each member in attendance with a certificate and council members thanked them for their service.

Tim Sedlacek and Andy gave a quick update on dilapidated buildings. Andy says we are waiting for an inspection on one of the downtown buildings. He has sent out a couple letters on properties, requesting the owners allow for the city to take ownership. One house downtown that had recently been advertised for sale, but was also on our list of dilapidated buildings, sold to an individual who began work on the home immediately. Tim said any future houses that are approved for demo will not get done until late fall possibly around November.

Jacque Borzekofski was in attendance requesting permission to have alcohol at the Community Center Sat. May 15<sup>th</sup> from 5PM-1AM for a graduation party. She said they will probably use the beer garden as well. Motion by Max, second by Sue, to allow alcohol to be served Sat. May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021, by Jacque Borzekofski at the Community Center from 5PM-1AM. Motion carried 4-0.

Janet Roberts and Austin Jackson were in attendance. Janet announced to council that she will be retiring as of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. She said the library board has recommended Austin to be Janet's replacement. Austin will start full time on Fri. May 14<sup>th</sup>. Austin worked at the Beatrice Public Library and has been at Wymore Public Library for the last 5 months. Neil asked how Austin's salary will be determined and Andy said that will be left up to the Library Board to determine. Janet did say Austin has been attending classes and once completed he will receive a raise. Motion by Max, second by Sue to accept Austin Jackson to replace Janet Roberts at the time of her retirement. Motion carried 4-0.

Recently grants were available to bring fiber internet to rural libraries. Janet applied and if awarded this grant will cover the cost of installation. It's possible the Wymore library may also qualify for a discount on monthly costs as well. Janet or Austin will keep council informed once they know more.

Chief of Wymore Fire Mark Meints was present as well as Todd Clyne from MacQueen Equipment/Pierce Manufacturing. Mark provided a presentation to council members on the current state of Truck 31 and Truck 61. Both trucks need to be removed from service and this would leave the department with 1 pumper, 1 rescue. The fire department would like to purchase a combination heavy duty/pumper truck, using one truck to replace both that need to be taken out of service. Mark went through all of the things currently wrong with both trucks, as well as options for the trucks (no longer able to repair, trying to sell, use as trade in).

Mark along with Todd Clyne presented the council with the idea of purchasing a 2021 Pierce Enforcer HDRP at the cost of \$673,000. This would be the total cost after a USDA grant of \$50,000, that Mark has already secured, a trade in amount of \$14,275 for Truck 31, and a \$22,100 customer discount. Mark proposes this amount would be financed through a USDA loan, in the City's name, and the rural board would cover half of the cost. Roy Lauby, a member of the Rural Fire Board was in attendance and he stated he was unaware the department was looking to purchase a new truck. Mark said a meeting with the Rural Board hasn't happened yet. Some council members suggested that this is where things need to start-a meeting with the rural board to see if they are even willing to pay half-then Mark bring it back to council. After many questions and much discussion, a motion by Max, second by Neil, to table approving to sign purchase agreement with the Wymore Rural Fire Protection for a Pierce Enforcer Heavy Duty Rescue Pumper from MacQueen Equipment. Motion carried 4-0. Tabled until the May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 City Council Meeting.

Mark asked council for approval for six people to attend NE State Fire School May 20-23. They are requesting meal reimbursement, cost of five hotel rooms, mileage for three vehicles, registration, with a total cost of \$3780-4000. Half of the total cost will be paid for by the rural fire board, and the cost has been budgeted for. Motion by Neil, second by Sue, to approve 6 people attend NE State Fire School May 20-23, 2021 and approved reimbursement for stated expenses. Motion carried 4-0.

Discussing Rescue Truck #61 was on the agenda. Council members asked if that still needed to be discussed, since there was lengthy discussion of all vehicles previously in the meeting. Mark said that because of safety concerns Truck #61 needs to be taken out of service. They will need to temporarily find vehicle to put equipment in until they have a replacement truck. They will also give Beatrice a heads up that they may need more assistance.

Keith Gilmore, from Gilmore and Associates, left copies of the advertisement for bids and plans for the 2021 CDBG street project. Motion by Max, second by Curt to approve plans and bid specifications and engineers estimate of \$500,000 for the 2021 CDBG Street Project.

Motion by Max, second by Neil, to set bid letting date for the 2021 CDBG Street Project for Friday May 28<sup>th</sup>, at 11AM at the City Office. Motion carried 4-0.

Tim presented council with some preliminary budget numbers to replace the streetlights downtown. The bid came in from Aaron Watts. There were a few things on the base bid, that Tim said could be removed, because they are something that city guys will do themselves. The current bid, for the entire project start to finish is roughly \$740,000. The project will need to be done at some point, as is obvious by the issues that we have experienced the last couple of months with poles falling. Max asked if TIF funds might be available to use. The city can only use 20% of total TIF fund available. Tim did suggest that business owners could apply for TIF funds for sidewalks/curbs/etc as part of the project.

This week the City received a letter from Midwest Area Refuse Solutions(MARS) regarding recycling fees. As of May 3, 2021 there will be a \$300 charge each time we need to empty our recycle trailer. Currently the recycle trailer is emptied weekly. Tim is reaching out to contacts to see if we can find a more reasonable location to take our recycling. There is also concern if Blue Springs will be able to afford the cost, which could lead to them getting rid of their recycle trailer, which will increase the amount of recyclables we receive and will need to empty. Due to the fact our current recycling trailer was obtained through a grant, we must continue our recycling program for at least another year. Tim will continue to look at other options and it will be discussed again at the next meeting.

City Treasurer, Melissa Wach provided council members with a copy of a letter that was received from the Nebraska Auditor's Office regarding the city's 2020 audit. The letter was received on Apr 24<sup>th</sup> and notified the city that the annual audit had not been turned into the state, so a hearing had been scheduled for Tues. May 4<sup>th</sup>. After receiving the letter Melissa reached out to Christy Hadden with Schultz & Associates. Christy said not to worry about it, they would get it turned in, that no one from the city needed to attend the hearing it was just a formality. Janet reached out to Christy as well on Apr 27<sup>th</sup> and was told the same thing. Janet also called the state auditor's office that day and was told not to worry about it. City Attorney Carother's stated that he isn't aware of a situation like this happening before in Wymore or any of the other cities he works with. Council members and Tim all voiced concerns about this happening. It was suggested we may need to look at some different options for the future.

Council was provided copies of an inspection report from Norris Public Power District. There were a couple issues found at the substation. Some of the center phase connections have temperature readings of 174 degrees and higher, on a day where the actual temp was in the mid-40s. At this time Tim is unable to find parts or replacement connections. He will continue looking and it will be discussed again at a later date.

Motion by Max, to adjourn at 9:36 PM.

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Milton Pike, Mayor

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Melissa Wach, Deputy City Clerk

