

Wymore City Council Regular Meeting November 4th, 2020

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on November 4th, 2020, in the Community Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Mayor Pike. Present were Councilpersons 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 Max, second by Sue, to accept the resignation of Councilperson Keith Ottersberg. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion by Max, second by Sue, to approve Neil VanBoening as new council person. Motion carried 3-0. City Attorney Andy Carothers administered the Oath of Office and Mr. VanBoening accepted his role as council person.

Motion by Max, second by Sue to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2020 meeting. Carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, second by Curt, to approve claims and payroll, except check numbers #23098 and #23124. Carried 4-0

Motion by Sue, second by Curt, to approve checks #23098 and #23124. Motion carried 3-0 with Max abstaining.

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

Update on Dilapidated Buildings: Building Inspector Chet McGrury was in town to inspect multiple buildings. The first of these was the property at 301 N 8th. It was determined that house will be condemned. The property owner has agreed with this decision. The inspector also looked at a property at 122 N 7th. This property will also be condemned. However, the owner of this property is not local so Andy will reach out to him to get permission for building to be taken down. The inspector took a brief look at two more buildings along South 7th st., but will need to come back for a more detailed inspection. Mark Meints asked for an update on the old Arbor State building. Andy has been in contact with the estate that has ownership of the building. Gordon Michaelis asked about a property on 15th and E St. that has been discussed before. Andy will send a letter to that owner as well, requesting approval for inspection.

Tim brought forward a draft of the new fees list. There were only a few minor changes including: increase to \$90/hour (1 hour minimum) for the use of city equipment; water sold in bulk fill is \$5.00 minimum, plus \$2.00 per 1000 gallons; and cost of rock is the actual cost of rock, plus \$80.00 per load (a full load is approximately 8 tons). Out of stockpile rock delivered by loader bucketful is actual cost of rock plus \$30.00 and subject to availability. A copy of the fees list is available to the public at the city office, as is information about the division of cost, for electrical equipment, between the city and customer. Motion by Max, second by Sue to accept new fees list as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Council members were all given a copy of the City of Wymore Hazard Mitigation Plan, which had been filled out with updated notes by the City Clerk. This plan is updated every 3-5 years. It is a joint effort between the Little Blue NRD and Lower Big Blue NRD. This plan helps cities pre-plan for emergency or natural disaster situations. Completing this plan allows the city to apply for and take advantage of FEMA funds when offered. Fire/EMS department have their own mitigation plan they will be filling out as well.

Larry Schmidt was present at the meeting. The Wymore Country Club would like to put in a new irrigation system, which would require a 3 phase electrical system. This is not currently available at their location. When Larry reached out to NPPD he was told that this was still in the city's distribution area. So he came to council to see if city is interested. Tim said the expense of running poles/electrical line/etc to the country club could come in around \$80,000 or so. The additional revenue to the city would be minimal. Larry said the NPPD's hookup for service is already located closer to the country club. No decision will be made by the country club until the spring. The council would like to have more discussion before a decision is made.

At the last council meeting Chief Shepardson had asked the board to consider compensation for himself and Officer Schachtschabel as they work increased shifts while advertising for the open full time position. Andy looked into the Fair Labor Standard Act and described some options for compensation to be considered, the council will have to approve a policy that states specifics on how they would like to accomplish this. Andy will reach out to Tony and share this information with him as well.

Chief Shepardson provided the city with a copy of the job description/ad he would like to run for the open full time position his office has. Mayor expressed a desire for a new hire to sign a contract saying they will stay with department for a longer period of time. Council and City Attorney agreed that discussion could take place after someone is hired. Motion by Max, second by Neil, to proceed with the advertisement for the open position of full time police officer for the City of Wymore. Motion carried 4-0.

Andy has been in touch with both LARM and Skyline trying to come to a resolution on the final balance owed to Skyline. Anthony Thiner from Skyline has told Andy that everything on the Skyline claims have been approved by LARM. Therefore, Andy is questioning why LARM hasn't paid the invoice in full, except for the deductible. Andy will reach out to LARM again asking for explanation and once that is clear he will reach out to Skyline in hopes of coming to an agreement on a final amount owed.

The city office had received a call last week asking for a donation to the annual treasure hunt event. A \$100 donation has been made in years past and is budgeted for. Motion by Max, second by Sue, to donate 10 gifts of \$10 community cash for the 2020 Treasure Hunt. Motion carried 4-0.

There are a couple boards that have a vacant seat, due to the recent passing of Danny Hawkins. There as brief discussion about filling that spot. It was decided that it could wait until the first council meeting in December when the Mayor appoints new board members.

Mark addressed the council about the Fire/EMS communication system. That system was purchased about a year ago, using money from a Thomas Foundation Grant, Keno funds, money from EMS, Rural Fire Board, and the Fire Dept. The system was purchased with the intent to be used for Wymore Fire, Wymore EMS, Wymore PD, and later add on Blue Springs Fire. According to Mark the city is licensed as an owner of a radio frequency that was also purchased with these funds. All equipment was purchased through First Wireless. He claims there was a meeting with the county at some point and they were given permission to use the system. This has led to many new users added to the system, and no one affiliated with the city of Wymore having any control over this system. Max request someone reach out to First Wireless, who Mark states has control over the system and the password and this be looked into. At this time no one is aware of a written agreement between the city and first wireless, however, this is being looked into. Andy also stated he would be sending a letter to First Wireless to try and get some answer.

Wymore EMS Chief Shawna Schwartz joined the meeting via phone call to discuss sending members of the department to annual EMS training that will be held in Kearney in January. Since there is plenty of time to register members it was tabled until the Nov. 18th meeting, when Shawna can present information to the board in person.

There was a resignation from the EMS department. Motion made by Max, second by Sue to accept the resignation of Holly Troxel. Motion carried 4-0.

The annual well and pump test were completed in August by Sargent Drilling. There was one needed maintenance noted. It was noted Well #8 needed repairs to the lineshaft bearings and the quote for that fix could be about \$18,184. Sargent Drilling noted that if the problem isn't taken care of it will only get worse. They also gave the city a quote to cap 3 wells at the pump house that haven't been in use since approximately 2006. Tim is unsure why this wasn't done at the time, however, the quote to have that done is about \$14,250. Max suggest we get going on the repair as waiting will just cost us more. He asked Tim if he could also reach out to NRD to see if there might be a program that offers assistance with the cost. Motion by Max, second by Sue to approve repair for \$18,184 from Sargent Drilling for well repair. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max to adjourn meeting at 8:41PM.