

City Council Meeting October 6th, 2021

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on October 6th, 2021, in the Council Chambers. Mayor Pike called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were councilpersons Sue Sapp, Max Allen, Neil Van Boening, Curt Oblinger and City Attorney Andy Carothers. Notice of the meeting was given 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 acknowledgment of receipt is attached. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the public.

Motion by Max, second by Sue to approve the minutes from the Sept 15th meeting.

Motion by Sue, second by Max, to approve claims and payroll, except for check #24543. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve check #24543. Motion carried 3-0, with Max abstaining.

Motion by Neil, second by Max to approve the minutes of the public meetings held on Sept 15th, with the correction to the date. Motion carried 4-0.

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

Public Comment: Sam Thompson was in attendance to share info on Spooktacular, which is happening at McCandless Park on Sat. Oct 30th from 11am-1pm. Neil shared that at a recent meeting with some members of Beatrice Fire, they were very complimentary of the Wymore Fire Dept after working a fire together recently.

Max provided council with a spreadsheet comparing our current EMS billing company QuickMeds, with 2 new options; having Beatrice take over our billing or a new company in Tecumseh. There was brief discussion on the pros and cons of both alternatives. Andy requested a copy of the proposed contract with Tecumseh to look over. Tabled until the next meeting.

Shawna Schwartz was in attendance to ask for approval for herself and Anthony Troxel to attend an EMT to AEMT bridge course. Shawna says that the departments current medical director has given approval for this class, and is even pushing for it. With completion of this class, Shawna feels that there will be a significant decrease in the number of ALS calls, which require assistance from Beatrice. Motion by Max to approve Shawna Schwartz and Anthony Troxel to attend the EMT to AEMT bridge course. Motion carried 4-0. Motion by Neil, second by Sue to approve payment of \$2200 for the AEMT bridge course. Motion carried 4-0.

Sam Thompson requested approval for street closures around McCandless Park during the Spooktacular event. She requested that G St and H St from 13th to 14th be closed, as well as 13th St from G to H during the event. She also asked the council to consider waving the rental fee for the new concession stands, as the Wymore Blue Springs Area Fund will be selling meals to help raise funds for the next phase of the McCandless Project. Motion by Sue to approve all street closures mentioned above and wave the rental fee for the concession stand for the Spooktacular event. Motion carried 4-0.

Carmen McKeever and Carol Maxson were present representing Blue River Area Agency on Aging, to discuss Senior Diners. After discussion on the importance of the program and multiple council persons expressing support in keeping the program in town, it was decided that the program would continue to operate out of the Wymore Fire Dept as it has done for the last year. They are hoping that in the near future they will be able to open again and serve lunch in person, rather than doing all deliveries. Carmen will bring a new contract to the next meeting for council consideration.

Dilapidated buildings: Andy stated that Chief Shepardson had provided a return of service of the Gambles building downtown. Since it has been condemned, the current owners have a short amount of time to vacate before the city starts the next process. The city has 3 houses ready to be taken down as soon as we can get equipment to do so.

Melissa Wach shared with council that the City Office will be hosting Community Coffee on Friday Oct. 22. She requested approval to purchase drinks and refreshments. It was suggested that would be a good use for Keno Funds. Motion by Sue, second by Curt, to approve community coffee and expenses incurred come out of keno funds. Motion carried 4-0.

Suggested annual raises were presented for city employees. A 4% increase for employees of the light, water, sewer, street departments and office staff was proposed. Motion by Neil, second by Curt to approve proposed new wages. Motion carried 4-0.

The planning and zoning committee recently met on a building permit application. The project the owner is interested in doing would require moving a sidewalk. The planning and zoning committee sent their recommendation to council. After some discussion it was tabled until the next council meeting, so council members could look into it more.

Mark Meints requested approval to send 3 fire department members to the annual NSVFA conference. This year's conference is in Chadron, NE. The cost will be split 50/50 with the Rural Fire Board. Motion by Neil, second by Sue, to approve Gordon, Mark, and Collin attending the 2021 NSVFA Conference in Chadron, Ne on Oct 14-16th. Motion carried 4-0.

Mark also provided a copy of information from Jones Insurance that highlights insurance benefits which are provided to members of the fire department and EMS.

Tim requested approval to sign a contract with Sapp Bros to lock in fuel prices for the year. The contract would lock in a diesel price of \$2.63/gallon and fuel price of \$2.76/gallon. Motion by Max, second by Neil, to enter Sapp Bros contract for the next year. Motion carried 4-0.

The city shop is still in need of repairs from storm damage that happened 3 years ago. Andy suggested Tim get estimates and bring it back to council.

Motion by Sue, second by Curt to approve the 2019-2020 audit. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max to adjourn at 8:54PM.

Milton Pike, Mayor

Melissa Wach, Deputy City Clerk