

## City Council Meeting October 16, 2024

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on October 16, 2024, in the Council Chambers. Council President Sue Sapp called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. Present were Council persons Max Allen, Sue Sapp, Curt Oblinger, and Neil Van Boening. City Attorney Andy Carothers was also in attendance. Mayor Collin Meints was absent. 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 Max, seconded by Curt to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, seconded by Neil to approve the Treasurers Report. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, seconded by Curt to approve claims & payroll except check # 28960. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, seconded by Neil to approve check # 28960. Motion carried 3-0 with Curt abstaining.

Dilapidated Building- Attorney Andy Carothers has just finished the contract with the owner of the property at 518 N 11<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Carothers is also working on the preliminary draft with Tiemann for the Gambles Building, we have a deadline of November 1. Bockman has also been lined up for the inspection and mediation. Black Hills Energy will have the gas line removed by next week. When the city has a date for demolition, we will unhook the electricity. Kirby Cohorst asked about Marlene taking items out and just leaving them on the property west of the building. Attorney Carothers replied the more she removes the more we save on landfill cost, but if the items become a nuisance, they will be addressed.

Public Comment- Councilman Neil Van Boening shared information on the Willa Cather, Wales, Wymore, and the World presentation at the Great Plains Welsh Heritage Centre Saturday October 19, 2024. Neil also handed out information on the Community Warm Kindness Drive hosted by Southern Gage Kiwanis, donation boxes will be around town for warm mittens, gloves, hats, socks and scarves for area families in need. City Superintendent Tim Sedlack stated that if we do not get some rain soon, we will have to start the first step of water rationing.

Councilman Neil requested, on behalf of the Kiwanis Club, closure of G street from Hwy 77 east to 13<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> street from G street north to H street and H street west to Hwy 77 from 1:30 to 6 to accommodate the safety of Spooktacular 2024. This will allow people to set up and take down their booths safely. Motion by Max, seconded by Curt to close G street from Hwy 77 east to 13<sup>th</sup> street, 13<sup>th</sup> street from G street north to H Street, and H Street west to Hwy 77 on October 27, 2024, from 1:30pm to 6:00pm. Motion carried 4-0.

Discussion on the Re-Codification for the Ordinance book took place. Some changes would include changing the format from 5x7 to 8 1/2x11 and making sure ordinances are in compliance with the state ordinances. Attorney Carothers will reach out to Nebraska Legal for a quote. This item has been moved to the next agenda.

City Superintendent Tim Sedlacek updated council on the Grid Grant, will know more in the next couple of months if we have received it. Neil thanked Tim for applying for the grant.

City Superintendent Tim Sedlacek talked to the council about Rural Workforce Housing Fund which is a program through SENDD. The program has funding available to municipalities and developers for the development of workforce housing units. The property that will be used on the application will be at 15<sup>th</sup> and E street. Motion by Neil, seconded by Max to move forward as quickly as possible with the Rural Workforce Housing Fund/SEND Inc to build a home. Motion carried 4-0.

The parking lot at the Community Center was discussed. The water issues with the parking lot need to be addressed before other upgrades are made. Tim would like to apply for a Thomas Foundation

Grant. Councilman Max Allen agreed the parking lot needs fixed and said to go ahead with the application.

The compensation package for the City Employees discussion has been moved to the next agenda. City Superintendent Tim Sedlacek has asked to post the open positions for a lineman and water operator. The council said to go ahead with the job postings.

Employee Raises, Ordinance 680, were presented to council based on recommendations from City Superintendent Tim Sedlacek and Mayor Meints. Motion by Max to suspend the 3 readings of ordinance 680. Councilman Neil Van Boening would like more time to look this over. Motion retracted by Max. Motion by Max, seconded by Curt to read Ordinance 680 for the first time.

Bryan Davidson, Chairman of the Police Department Advisory Committee, was in attendance to discuss the Police Chief Job Posting which was tabled at the last meeting. Items discussed include lateral transfer of sick and vacation time, bonus and free utilities for a certain amount of time, within the city limits. Bryan proposed 80 hours of sick and vacation time after 6-month probation period. Motion by Max, seconded by Curt to add 80 hours of sick and vacation time after 6-month probation period to the police chief position posting. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilmen Neil Van Boening and Curt Oblinger had a meeting on evening of Monday October 14, 2024 with the rural fire board, Mark Meints and Collin Meints to discuss an invoice from North Central Emergency Vehicles concerning changes that were made to the fire truck during a visit to look the truck over in Florida. Greg, the fire departments salesman for the new truck, has offered to wave this invoice. Mark indicated to Neil that he would be able to get Greg to put that in writing or get an invoice that is marked paid with a zero balance. Councilman Max Allen stated this change order to the truck should have been approved through council beforehand.

Motion to adjourn by Max @ 9:21pm

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Mayor Collin Meints

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Krystal Rutti, Deputy Clerk