AUGUST 5, 2024

The Newell City Council met in regular session Monday, August 5, 2024 at 7PM at Newell City Hall with Mayor Wayne Westergaard presiding. Council members present Bill Henrich, Dennis Zeigler, Steve Smith, Larry Nielsen, and Ana Johnson. Smith moved to approve the agenda, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes. Johnson moved to approve the consent agenda, 2nd by Nielsen, all ayes.

Westergaard selected Steve Smith as mayor pro tem, Henrich moved to approve the appointment, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes. New trees for golf course are ready to be picked up. Materials will be purchased from Menards for around $1,000.

Public Works: Clubhouse sewer project has 3 bids. Shelters at golf course are almost finished. Ash trees left: 39 in ROW, 4 in park, 22 in tree park, 1 in cemetery, some in golf course. Asphalt project is on schedule, Leroy Poulson, Clark and Franklin are priorities.

Clerk: Nielsen moved to approve the treasurer’s report, 2nd by Henrich, all ayes. Discussion was had on looking into CD’s for some savings, this will be discussed at upcoming budget meetings. Zeigler asked about the insurance claim on park equipment, this is in the works and Olsen is waiting to hear back.

Police: Sherrif McCoy updated council on his ILEA testing and certification. After discussion with reserves, a budget was presented to increase the pay for reserves, without increasing the overall budget. McCoy proposed a $25/hour increase to reserve pay while staying within the current year’s budget. Smith motioned to approve the increase, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes. Discussion was had on adding part time officer in the future. McCoy shared information on a possible grant through the State for highway safety.

Ambulance: 4 calls were made in July. BV County donated 2 lift belts, they had training on this at their previous meeting. There will be a fundraiser on Oct 6, details to be determined.

Library: Tanya Landgraf shared that the summer reading program is now finished. A new assistant librarian has been hired and will start at the end of the week. Annual statistics were shared and there is an overall increase in circulation/library attendance/registered patrons.

Westergaard opened the public forum at 7:44PM, no comments made, closed at 7:45PM.

An updated quit claim deed was sent from James Woods concerning property 216/218 Madison St. Council will accept back. Res #13-24 to accept the property was moved by Johnson, 2nd by Nielsen, RCV: Henrich, Zeigler, Smith, Nielsen, Johnson all ayes, 0 nays.

The property will be put up for public sale with sealed bids & stipulations. Res #14-24 for intent to sell public property was moved by Nielsen, 2nd by Henrich, RCV: Henrich, Zeigler, Smith, Nielsen, Johnson all ayes, 0 nays. A public hearing has been set for Sept 9 at 7PM.

Property owner has requested to move a storage container into town to use as a garage. There is no information on this in the zoning code. Council will think about and discuss at next meeting.

Nielsen asked about pool demo quotes, Butch has 2 quotes in the works.

Henrich moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:06PM, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes.

Sierra Olsen, City Clerk Wayne Westergaard, Mayor