MAY 6, 2024

The Newell City Council met in regular session on Monday, May 6, 2024, at 7:00 pm. at City Hall with Mayor Wayne Westergaard presiding. Council Members present Ana Johnson, Pam Wilken, Steve Smith, Denny Zeigler, and Bill Henrich. Wilken moved to approve the consent agenda, 2nd by Henrich, all ayes.

Public Works-Water load out stopped working. Cost to replace would be $5-7K with concerns of new blacktop not supporting load out users’ equipment/vehicles. Council decided to not replace, all ayes. Working on mowing/weeds at cemetery & park. Water meters at around 250 put in, and will need to purchase about 50 more. Wastewater lift pump had motor issue; it’s in Ankeny being fixed. No updates on golf course sewer.

Park Board/Pool Committee-Keisha Boevers gave thanks to Council for usage of golf course clubhouse & gift cards/membership donation for pool kickoff fundraiser. $16K was brought in, putting funds at $155K. Proposed questions on city bonding for new pool; Council may consider further down the road. Asked to demo old pool with volunteer equipment/work. Committee will talk with engineer on best practice and bring to council.

Treasurer Report-Smith moved to approve the treasurer report, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes. City garage sales will be May 17-19. A special session will be set for May 29 at 8am for FY24 budget amendment, zoom will be available.

Police-84 calls total with 1 arrest. Chief Lyman gave his official resignation to Council. His last day will be May 31. He will be starting with Sac County Sheriffs on June 3.

Fire-Chief Erie asked for more rock in parking lot and ambulance driveway to prevent drainage.

Ambulance- 4 calls last mo. Bubba Reetz and Laura Degner present. Questions were brought up concerning the rescue unit. State/County process & recommendations were shared. Henrich shared information received from EMS coordinator Gary Merril. It was encouraged that citizens volunteer for ambulance services, as city pays for classes upon successful completion.

Library-Tanya Landgraf reported that the library summer reading program will start soon, a temporary children’s librarian will start soon for the summer, and a library telescope was added to the collection.

Public forum was opened at 7:55pm. Mike Johnson has two trees to plant at golf course in memory of Si Simons and Rod Johnson. They will discuss this with Chad. Pat Cross gave thanks to Chief Lyman for all that he has done with fire department. Closed at 8pm.

A city plot had interest by Brent Ulrich to open a concrete plant. However, decided against due to low ground.

Mark Puhrmann discussed sale of shed to city for $4K. Council decided to discuss with donor of shed before deciding on purchase.

A request for a NWIRHA housing authority representative was made, Zeigler will think on and let Sierra know.

Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08pm, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes.

Sierra Olsen, City Clerk Wayne Westergaard, Mayor