JANUARY 8, 2024

 The Newell City Council met in regular session Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7pm at City Hall with Mayor Wayne Westergaard presiding. Council members present Dennis Zeigler, Steve Smith, Bill Henrich, and Ana Johnson. Absent: Pamela Wilken. Henrich moved to approve consent agenda including minutes, bills, and receipts, 2nd by Smith, all ayes.

 Mayor-Committees and board appointments almost complete for 2024.

 Public Works-No issues to report on water/waste water this month. 2019 Polaris Ranger was purchased with help of BVCCF Grant. It has heated cab & snow blade attachment. Wheelchair swing dedication on Dec. 29th went great, ramp lift assist was added to properly operate. Golf course shelters and large tree taken down. If ground doesn’t harden too much will putposts in for new 14x16ft shelters. Rafters for this are in, 3 weeks late. Doug has appx 50 meters installed and making appointments for more installations, as the deadline is October 24th for the DNR water line survey in every household.

 Clerk-Smith moved to approve the treasurer’s report, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes. Working on final report for BVCCF Grant; UTV purchase was $15K, with $7,500 coming from the grant. Fire & Ambulance insurance company is being dropped for all of Iowa, Siepker is working to find a solution for Newell before April renewal.

 Fire-Chief Erie provided reports for 2023 and 2024 Roster and Officers appointed. Zeigler moved to approve new officers, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes. Application for James (JR) Thompson was received, and background check came through. FD approved with 1 year probation period. Zeigler moved to approve with 1 year probation, 2nd by Smith, all ayes.

 Ambulance-Sierra Olsen reported 11 calls in December. EMTs and drivers are needed. Upcoming hybrid class for EMT are January 18 until April 26. If anyone is interested, contact director Laura Degner.

 Library- Tanya Landgraf reported that the library board will meet next on January 15.

Westergaard opened public forum at 7:18, no comments and closed.

 Ruth & Ryan Witt requested to speak with council about adding private septic south of newly purchased land off West Jensen St, behind Culp’s, where they intend to build a home. The idea of a future development is possible. Smith moved to approve the private septic pending the approval of county and state ordinances, 2nd by Henrich, all ayes.

 Public hearing for sale of 219 S. Madison and 265 E. Walnut was opened at 7:58. Two sealed bids were read. Jay & Amy Gross bid $1,500 for 219 S. Madison St. They plan to rehabilitate. James Peterson bid $1,500 for 265 E. Walnut St. He plans to build a future residence. City attorney does require the garage to be removed at 265 E Walnut, as half of it on the parcel to the East.

 Res 01-24 authorizing the sale of 219 S. Madison to Jay & Amy Gross for $1,500 was moved by Zeigler, 2nd by Johnson. Ayes: Johnson, Zeigler, Henrich. Nays: Smith, Absent: Wilken. Motion carried.

 Res 02-24 authorizing the sale of 265 E. Walnut to James Peterson for $1,500, as long as agrees to garage being removed, was moved by Smith, 2nd by Henrich. Ayes: Johnson, Smith, Zeigler, Henrich. 0 Nays, Absent: Wilken, motion carried.

 Johnson moved to approve the 28 E Agreement with Newell Fonda School for $800 for Newell Golf Course rental for 2024-25, 2nd by Zeigler, all ayes.

 Smith moved to approve seasonal help wanted ads, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes.

 Pool Committee asked council to consider a fundraiser can drive. 3 companies were contacted for information. This was tabled for another meeting.

 Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22pm, 2nd by Johnson all ayes.

Sierra Olsen, City Clerk Wayne Westergaard, Mayor