August 4, 2025

 The Newell City Council met in regular session on Monday August 4, 2025, at 7:00pm in City Hall with Mayor Wayne Westergaard presiding. Council members present Larry Nielsen, Bill Henrich, Dennis Ziegler and Ana Johnson. Jeff Shedd Arrived at 7:23pm. City employees, Heather Copp, Doug Lange, Chad Wilson, Pat Cross & Ginger Lyman, Town Reports, Deputy Smith Fire, Chief Bruce Erie, Library Board Tanya Landgraf.

Approval of Agenda: Johnson Motioned, Henrich 2nd, all ayes.

Consent Agenda: After Discussion, Nielsen motioned, Henrich 2nd approval, all ayes. Which included, 7/7/25 regular session minutes, Claims Report 7/15/25 through 8/15/25 (Bills), July Treasurers Report including Revenues MTD $89,327.14 Expenses MTD $45,374.43 & Bank Balances.

Citizens Forum: Westergaard opened the meeting to public comment at 7:07pm. No comments, closed 7:08pm

Town reports: Sheriff - Deputy Smith stated, Deputies responded to 69 calls and spent 174 hours in the month of June. Ziegler questioned Smith on the Subpoena calls as to if it was city or county related business. Smith stated both, as it was a service that law enforcement provides. When asked about the burglaries that happened in July, Deputy Smith replied, stating the investigation was closed the next day and everything was taken care of.

Fire – Chief Erie, Rescue Squad in service. Governor introducing length of service program for volunteers in the amount of $500 but would like entities to contribute around $160. Cross asked council to waive the shelter house rental for the 12th as it will be for the families of the firefighters get together. Council waived.

Ambulance – 5 calls, still working on tires and lights.

Library – New state laws bring new board members guidelines. Training and CEU’s will be mandatory.

Parks – Copp informed council on another concrete bid received, council reviewed and approved bid by L & S Concrete for $6,000. Copp to schedule work.

Pool Committee – Dale Schumann stated that committee has sent blueprints to Stockwell Engineering out of Sioux Falls and in the next will be visiting the site and producing a logic plan. Another firm will be visiting the site as well to see if a liner could work for the current pool. Committee asked for timeline city wants to demo; it was stated that council will make decision at next meeting.

Watermelon Days Celebration went on without any problems. Copp informed the council that the committee was low on donations but made it through.

Old Business – Nielsen asked if the curb and gutter located in front of the Locker had another bid. Both owner Nieland and Public Works stated they are still working on the project.

Golf Course- discussed the purchase of new cooler, but it was tabled due to council looking into ADA Compliance on doorways. Lyman gave her reports along with register numbers and bills. Council was asked to purchase sidewalk painting from the NF Volleyball fundraiser, Copp interjected and stated for City Hall as well. Council approved. Wilson stated his help will be done on the 22nd.

Public Works – July received just under 12 inches of rain. The night of the 23rd, Cross had to bypass around 372,000 gals of rain induced water. DNR was contacted and ok’d. Wastewater plant received over 11 million gals, if rain continues, we could see some problems. 22 more stumps have been finished. Summer help leaves the 15th and has done a fantastic job. Nielsen asked if the weather pattern keeps up will the city need more help mowing, Lange is in hopes for drier weather but may need to reach out for help.

Clerk – Still having issues with Software Company, Council asked if it would be feasible to go to another company, Copp replied the cost is too much to switch. Copp presented the funds received back from a low-income repair housing loan and asked council to put in a CD for future use for residents. Resolution #11-25 Authorizing the deposit of funds into a certificate of deposit in the amount of $9000 with First Community Bank for a term of 14 months at the interest rate offered at the time of deposit. Was moved by Nielsen and 2nd by Johnson. Roll Call Vote 5-0.

Mayor – Westergaard informed council FEMA is not happy that the city has not joined their association. If not compliant it could affect homeowners’ flood insurance. He will call and get more information. NWIRHA would like a council or community member to attend meetings in Spencer or via Zoom. Mayor asked for volunteers and received no response.

Meeting Dates - Next Regular session August 4th 7:00pm. Henrich motioned for adjournment, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes. Meeting adjourned 8:23pm.

Heather Copp – City Clerk Wayne Westergaard - Mayor