APRIL 3, 2023

The Newell City Council met in regular session on Monday, April 3, 2023, at 7:00 pm. at City Hall with Mayor Brian Puhrmann presiding. Council Members present Chelsee Bohe, Pamela Wilken, Ana Johnson, Stan Henrich and Steve Smith. Wilken moved to approve the agenda, 2nd by Bohe all ayes. Wilken moved to approve the consent agenda including minutes, bills, and receipts Smith 2nd all ayes.

Jill Johnston present for library, started lamination service, summer reading programs for toddlers-adults, youth advisory board had 10 at meeting.

Bruce present for FD, Jaws same as last month and waiting on last grant. Congrats to Max Gransow for passing his National EMT!

Butch gave water and wastewater numbers for March. Got quote for stumps from Lewie Wright in Sac $1.25/inch. Water meters are in and starting to install them.

Chief Lyman had over 70 calls in March, including one arrest.

Max stated 4 ambulance calls last month. Newell ambulance passed the state audit.

Mayor Puhrmann is working with MidAmerican on trees by power lines. The water system is ready for golf course fairways this summer, the shelters on the course will be replaced this year by staff, Patrick has company lined up to dress and seed greens when it’s warmer, new mowers arrived today, white rock coming to spruce up course and cemetery, and will try to get summer help started sooner.

Olsen presented Treasurer’s report, Henrich moved to approve 2nd Johnson all ayes.

Open forum at 7:22, no comments, closed. Dale Schumann on agenda not present.

Roberta Westergaard present regarding Community Garden. It is open for our community to pick what they want, and any extras will go to Food Pantry. Wants a volunteer committee and clarification on few things. Henrich moved to approve $1,000 for the garden from beautification, 2nd Smith all ayes. Thank you Westergaards for their work on this!

Andrea Vanderhoff, Chad Copp, and Tim Hanson present for Baseball/Softball association. They are updating scoreboards, adding fencing to North diamond, and repairing fence on main diamond. Henrich moved to give them $10,000 for fencing update, 2nd Bohe all ayes.

City Wide Garage sales will be May 19-21 and Clean up day Friday, June 9th.

Personnel Committee recommended Max Carlson for city mowing and Hiliary Hang for golf course clubhouse at $13/hr. Moved for approval by Bohe, 2nd Henrich all ayes.

Wilken moved that certified police officers classified as reserves to part-time with IPERS, contingent upon HR clarification to re-open position, 2nd Johnson all ayes.

Mayor Puhrmann working on floodplain issues, one property in particular. The City wants to help remedy the DNR requirements to clear the residence for NFIP.

Guyson Lyman inducted to NHS and presented new Golf Course logo, which he wants to make a new sign and clean up landscaping at course entrance. Wilken moved to approve the project, 2nd Johnson all ayes. Butch presented for Max Carlson NHS project, which is making driving range signs and targets. Bohe moved to approve, 2nd Smith all ayes.

Pool discussion: 2 more companies willing to come assess pool for repairs (cost between $5-10K for initial assessment). Discussion on extremely unsafe pool conditions from Beck Engineering Assessment, and public health update requirements. City council decided the pool will not open this year. We will work on forming a pool committee next.

Smith moved to adjourn at 9:00 pm, 2nd Bohe all ayes.

Sierra Olsen, City Clerk Brian Puhrmann, Mayor