DECEMBER 5, 2022

The Newell City Council met in regular session on Monday, Dec 5, 2022, at 7:03 pm. at City Hall with Mayor Brian Puhrmann presiding. Council Members present Pamela Wilken, Steve Smith and Stan Henrich. Absent Ana Johnson and Chelsee Bohe. Wilken moved to approve the agenda, 2nd by Smith and all ayes. Henrich moved to approve the consent agenda including minutes, bills, and receipts Smith 2nd and all ayes.

Char Jeppeson and Marty Shepherd in attendance and presented a check for $20,000 they fundraised to install a wheelchair swing in the park in memorial of Char’s daughter, Tasha that passed away. A dedication will be done once this is installed.

Marie present for the library. 100+ patrons for Halloween party and Jensen applying for grant for audio books. Library board voted to move 3 savings accounts into 3 24-mo CDs @3.75%, Smith moved to approve 2nd Henrich all ayes.

Patrick for FD said decrease in calls.

Police Chief Lyman reported over 50 calls including 9 ambulance, 4 mental evals, 4 suspicious activity, and no arrests. Christmas light contest again with sponsors and judging to happen by 23rd. We need to send letter regarding livestock at property in town.

Butch said taking trees down is going well. Greens at golf course watered 2x before the frost. Pat working on spraying license.

Olsen gave treasurer’s report, Wilken moved to approve Smith 2nd all ayes. Reviewed budget meeting information. Asked council to implement new gWorks Payments systems at no cost to city with a $500 credit during promotion now, Wilken moved to approve 2nd Smith all ayes.

Mayor Puhrmann did budget meeting online and encouraged all to partake in future. Staff mtg last mo, working on abatement properties, and asked council to send Pat (and other employee) to turfworks conference in Feb in Ankeny (2 days). Henrich moved to approve sending 2 to this, 2nd Wilken all ayes. Dec 15th Hazard mitigation mtg at county, and C mas party discussion.

Open Forum at 7:48pm, no comments, closed.

Wilken moved to approve the FY22 street finance report, 2nd Smith all ayes. Wilken moved to set the public hearing date for SF634: Setting Tax Rate for January 9, 2023 at 7:00pm at City Hall, 2nd Henrich all ayes. Budget discussion included Mayor asking council to consider adding a part-time deputy clerk $25K addition. Smith agreed after researching towns our size most have deputy clerk.

2023 Council meetings and holidays reviewed, changing July 3 to 10th and adding Black Friday as a paid holiday. Wilken moved to approve these changes and schedule for 2023, 2nd Henrich all ayes.

Council reviewed the Golf Course EOY report. Ginger Lyman’s clubhouse manager contract reviewed, Smith moved to pay $24,000, no 2nd motion withdrawn. Henrich moved to pay $24,500 contract for 2023, 2nd Smith all ayes. Resolution #17-22 Pay increases discussed, Henrich moved for 6% increases for full time employees, 2nd Wilken RCV Wilken, Smith, Henrich ayes, passed.

Ordinance#286 Amendment to water meter rent and water rates moved for approval of the 3rd/final reading by Wilken, 2nd Henrich RCV Wilken, Smith, Henrich ayes, absent Johnson and Bohe. Ordinance#287 Amendment to sewer rental monthly fees moved for approval of the 3rd/final reading by Wilken, 2nd Smith RCV Wilken, Smith, Henrich ayes, absent Johnson and Bohe. Ordinance#288 Amendment to garbage collection rate moved for approval of the 3rd/final reading by Wilken, 2nd Henrich RCV Wilken, Smith, Henrich ayes, absent Johnson and Bohe.

Henrich moved to adjourn at 8:34 pm, 2nd Wilken all ayes.

Sierra Olsen, City Clerk Brian Puhrmann, Mayor