JANUARY 16, 2023

The Newell City Council met in regular session on Monday, January 16, 2023, at 7:00 pm. at City Hall with Mayor Brian Puhrmann presiding. Council Members present Chelsee Bohe, Pamela Wilken, Steve Smith, Stan Henrich and Ana Johnson. Wilken moved to approve the agenda, 2nd by Bohe all ayes. Smith moved to approve the consent agenda including minutes, bills, and receipts Henrich 2nd all ayes.

Fire Chief Erie present with the 2022 fire call summary report and 2023 roster. Wilken moved to approve 2023 FD officers 2nd Johnson all ayes. FD wants to apply for BVCFG for new Jaws of Life, electric unit, Wilken moved to approve FD to apply for grant 2nd Johnson all ayes.

Max present for ambulance, 5 calls last mo and EMT classes done in 1 mo.

Mayor Puhrman would like to appoint Josh Nielsen for the vacancy on the library board, Wilken moved to approve 2nd Smith all ayes. Mayor appointed Bohe to personnel committee. Puhrmann thank you to Wayne Westergaard (resigned) and Bob Rehder for all their time on the park board, terms ended 2022. Mayor to add Reed Kruse and Chad Copp to PB, Wilken moved to approve 2nd Johnson all ayes. Keisha Boevers, Courtney Darrow, Brett Bohlmann to return with Boevers as chairperson, Wilken moved to approve 2nd Henrich all ayes. All 2023 Boards and Committee presented to council by mayor appointment, Henrich moved to approve 2nd Bohe all ayes. Quote for new green’s mower presented $43,665.55, Bohe moved City apply for BVCFG for half the mower, 2nd Henrich all ayes. $5K approved last fall for watering system improvements at course for fairways, will be ordering so here for start of season. Mayor met with Beck Engineering and Doug at pool for assessment. They are preparing 3 risk/safety assessments of the pool from least $ to safely open for short-term fixes to long-term all repairs needed. Will also ask ISG. Hazard mitigation being updated, city to add replace/upgrade storm water intakes for standing water. Copy given to council for additional changes/additions.

Landgraff here for library, no Dec mtg. Children’s librarian position still open.

Butch reviewed December numbers, and recalled huge water leak on Dec 27th that took place in town at 2am that resulted in appx 140K gallons of water lost in less than 5 hours. Pat passed turf license for golf course. Can take WW after 1 year employment and Water after 2 years. Water meters ordered and were to be here in Jan, now couple mo out due to supply chain issues. Working on golf course maintenance. Discussion about the pool continued.

Police Chief Lyman recalled December calls totaling about 50. Had ~657 calls in 2022 plus RAGBRAI, Watermelon Days, 3 interns, and Scholarship program.

Olsen presented Treasurer’s report, Wilken moved to approve 2nd Bohe all ayes. Reviewed 2022 Audit, Wheelchair swing ordered and ½ down payment sent in Dec, and Upper Des Moines letter presented.

Mayor Puhrmann also noted city attorney has sent out 4 abatements on properties in town and 1 more to go out soon. Open forum at 8:09 for public comment, nothing, and closed 8:10.

Wilken moved to table public hearing for SF634 FY24 2nd Bohe all ayes. Smith moved to set SF634 public hearing Maximum tax rate dollars for FY24 to 2/6/23 at City Hall 7:00pm 2nd Henrich all ayes.

28-E agreement with NF School & City of Newell for Golf Course 2023-24 season for $800 reviewed and moved for approval by Bohe 2nd Smith all ayes.

Smith moved to approve advertising for 2023 seasonal help (excluding pool for now) including GC clubhouse attendants, cemetery/city mowers & help, and shelter house help 2nd Henrich all ayes.

Ordinance #289 Dog Tag/License update moved for approval of 1st reading by Bohe 2nd Johnson, RCV Bohe, Wilken, Smith, Johnson ayes, Henrich nay. 1st reading approved 1/6/23.

Wilken moved to approve the City Code update in 2024 with Simmering-Cory per quote 2nd Bohe all ayes. Bohe moved to approve $25K in FY24 budget to add a part-time deputy city clerk, 2nd Wilken all ayes.

Smith moved to adjourn at 8:36 pm, 2nd Bohe all ayes.

Sierra Olsen, City Clerk Brian Puhrmann, Mayor