NOVEMBER 6, 2023

The Newell City Council met in regular session Monday, November 6, 2023 at 7pm 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 Henrich, all ayes. Bohe moved to approve consent agenda including minutes, bills, and receipts, Henrich asked about meter bill, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes.

Tanya Landgraf – Library: FY25 budget discussion continues, board approved opening temporary librarian position & volunteer work during assistant’s upcoming leave.

Chief Lyman – had over 80 calls last month, including 5 arrests. City code concerning pit bulls as state certified emotional support was brought up. Lyman will discuss with attorney how to proceed.

Fire Chief Erie – Received another application and waiting on background check. Nothing to add to the budget.

Chelsee Bohe – Ambulance: 2 calls last month

Doug Lange – Public Works: Average water usage is down due to golf course closure. Getting ready for winter & working on plow. New meters being installed as time allows.

Sierra Olsen – Treasurer’s report moved by Wilken, 2nd by Johnson, all ayes. Audit report is available. BV County Foundation grant options were discussed. A large grant for city side-by-side for public works will be applied for.

Mayor Puhrmann – Thank you to staff & council. A bill coming for a tree removal in the right of way for $2-300, council good with that. A bid was received by Randy Pedersen for $22K for GC Clubhouse Sewer repair. Council wants another bid to evaluate. Had a conversation with a staff member about taking roll of public works superintendent when Sievert retires. Personnel committee will discuss further.

Open forum at 7:38, no comment, closed.

Public hearing for selling properties 219 S Madison and 218 W 2nd St was opened at 7:39pm. 5 sealed bids were received and opened by Mayor Puhrmann. Pat Murphy: 219 S Madison for $6,500 to rehabilitate. Gerry Woods for 218/216 W. 2nd for $2,500 to renovate. Mitch Petersen: 219 S Madison for $1,000 to rehabilitate. Jay & Amy Gross: 219 S Madison for $6,151 to rehabilitate. Ryan Helmkamp: 219 S Madison for $1,001 to demolish. Henrich moved to decline all sealed bids for 219 S Madison, 2nd by Wilken. Bohe, Wilken, Henrich, Johnson ayes. Smith nay. Motion carried. Motion to cancel Res#14:23 made by Bohe, 2nd by Smith. Roll call vote Bohe, Wilken, Smith, Henrich, Johnson ayes, 0 nays. Res#15:23 to sell 218 W 2nd St to Gerry Woods was made by Bohe, 2nd by Johnson. Roll call vote Bohe, Wilken, Smith, Henrich, Johnson ayes, 0 nays. Res#16:23 of intent to sell 265 Walnut St was tabled. Letter was received for 257 Parker St. Mayor will respond with time frame and criteria to be met.

CRS Contract 2024-2029 was moved to be accepted by Smith 2nd by Henrich, all ayes. Garbage utility rate review was discussed. Motion for garbage rate to go up 3% January 1 made by Smith, 2nd by Wilken, all ayes. Personnel committee was tabled to next month. Street Finance Report FY23 was tabled for next month.

Annual Financial Report was moved to be accepted by Bohe, 2nd by Wilken, all ayes.

Res#17:23 for 1st ½ of library allocation was moved to accept by Bohe 2nd by Johnson RCV Bohe, Wilken, Smith, Henrich, Johnson ayes. 0 nays.

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

Sierra Olsen, City Clerk Brian Puhrmann, Mayor