OCTOBER 3, 2023

The Newell City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 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 Henrich all ayes. Smith moved to approve the consent agenda including minutes, bills, and receipts Johnson 2nd all ayes.

Beth Olsen: Library- reviewing and updating policies, many programs in Oct.

Chief Lyman - had over 70 calls last month, including 3 arrests.

Daryl Sievert: Public Works Sup- fire hydrants repaired, few more to do. Wells need treatment and pulled. Council recommends getting pricing. Handicapped swing concrete and 5th st repairs quote is $4k. Bohe moved to do both projects up to $4500, 2nd Wilken all ayes.

Mayor Puhrmann – Thank you golf course volunteers for tree removal help, which was 42 people, especially Cory Flanigan for his truck. Mid Am taking trees down by power lines. Budget workshop meeting10/17/23 at 6:30pm.

Olsen -Treasurer’s Report, moved to approve by Smith, 2nd Henrich all ayes. League of cities budget workshops open for staff and mayor/council in Nov. City Hall closed Oct 19-20 for IMFOA conference. Community Lease sent title for police charger and letter for air tanks that are paid in full.

Open Forum at 7:24pm, no comments, closed.

Utility Rate follow up discussion with Geoff Smith, Ag State. Bohe moved to retroactively charge 1/3 new rate for Q1-2023, 2/3 for Q2-23, and 100% new rate Q3 forward, 2nd by Wilken, ayes: Bohe, Wilken, Johnson, nays: Stan, Smith abstained, motion carried. Wilken moved to waive the penalty charges totaling $1,116.19, 2nd Johnson, all ayes.

Murphy’s tree request was removed per her request.

Olsen: pool committee: presented engineer proposal from Water’s Edge for initial fees of $3,800 for concept planning. Johnson moved to approve, 2nd Bohe all ayes.

Res#12-23 LOST-Pool intentions: moved for approval by Bohe, 2nd Wilken, Roll Call Vote Bohe, Wilken, Smith, Henrich, Johnson ayes, 0 nays.

Wilken moved to approve the Class C Liquor License for Screwie Lourie’s Bar, 2nd Bohe, all ayes.

Cemetery stone replacement from damage will be fully paid for by insurance claim.

Nuisance/Abandoned properties obtained by the City discussion had. 219 S Madison: house full, 2/3 new wiring, some sheet rocked. 218 W 2nd St: includes both lots. Stipulations to include selling both as is, sealed bidding with city right to refuse any and all offers, properties to be either demolished properly within a year or rehabilitated in 18 months with 6 month progression updates/inspections. Bohe moved to approve Res#11-23 for 219 S Madison Intent to Sell, 2nd Wilken RCV Bohe, Wilken, Smith, Henrich, Johnson ayes, 0 nays. Res#13-23 for 218 W 2nd Intent to Sell, 2nd Wilken RCV Bohe, Wilken, Smith, Henrich, Johnson ayes, 0 nays. Wilken moved to set the Public Hearing for these properties on 11/6/23 at 7pm at City Hall, 2nd Bohe all ayes.

Personnel committee- Smith moved to approve reserve officer Blake Wiley upon application and background check completed, 2nd Johnson all ayes. Smith made new motion for PT police reserve officer as needed with IPERS for Wiley, 2nd Johnson all ayes. Committee discussed adjusting vacation time. Lyman requested to be paid out for vacation time not used. Council decided to look at options for next meeting.

Bohe moved to adjourn at 8:42 pm, 2nd Johnson all ayes.

Sierra Olsen, City Clerk Brian Puhrmann, Mayor