

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 28th, 2025

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a special meeting was duly held at City Hall at 6:00 PM on the 28th day of January 2025.

Council present: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale, Nick Anderson and Karen Ruechel.

Council absent: None

Mayor: Brian Anderson presided over the meeting.

Agenda:

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve the City Council meeting agenda. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Michael Cherney, Nick Anderson and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Fire Board Meeting To Approve 2026 Fire Department Budget:

The 1st biannual fire board meeting of 2025 opened at 6:02 PM. The City Council met with the Adams Fire Board to review fire department operations and look at a proposed fire department budget for 2026. Fire Board members present were Ted Kiefer (City of Taopi), Mark Schulz (Clayton Township), Troy McCabe (Marshall Township), Brian Hill (City of Elkton), John Kirtz (Lodi Township) and John Kloeckner (Adams Township). Dillon Heimer and Eric Wiste, the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief, attended the meeting representing the Adams Fire Department. The City Clerk presented a spreadsheet that determined the fire service fees for each participating City and Township in 2026 based on a \$80,000.00, \$85,000.00 and \$90,000.00 budget. The clerk reported that at the end of 2024 there was no remaining money in the Fire Department fund after getting the two new fire tanker trucks fully operational, which cost approximately \$109,000.00 each. The clerk said that to cover the remainder of the expenses for the new tanker trucks from LK Welding & Fabrication and Clarey's Safety Equipment the Fire Department would have to acquire a loan from the bank in the amount of \$83,896.92. Fire Chief Heimer stated that there should not be any big expenses for the fire department in the near future and the department will continue to work on a grant to purchase a UTV for department use. After considerable discussion the Fire Board recommended that the 2026 fire department budget be set at \$85,000.00. The \$85,000.00 does not include the Fire State aid. The City Council was agreeable with this request. The Adams Fire Board will meet again in August when the Clerk will present the Cities and Townships with their invoice for participating in an \$85,000.00 budget for 2026. The Fire Board meeting closed at 6:20 PM.

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Nick Anderson to approve setting the 2026 Fire Department budget at \$85,000.00. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Michael Cherney, Nick Anderson and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Fire Department Report:

Fire Chief Heimer the in the month of December the fire department responded to 1 house fire, a medical call, and helped land mayo one.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Michael Cherney, to approve the January 14th, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Michael Cherney, Nick Anderson and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Old Business:

The clerk informed the council that 1 to 4 auditors were present at city hall from January 21st to January 24th conducting the annual audit, and that it went swiftly and smoothly.

The clerk and mayor closed on the purchase of the Adams Clinic building located at 908 West Main Street on 1/28/2025. The City of Adams now owns the building and will start moving forward to turn it into a community center.

The clerk informed the council about the progress being made with the Veterans Memorial. The two trees are supposed to come down before the end of the week and a new sign, picturing the completion of the memorial was installed. The council discussed recognizing the Veterans Memorial Committee with a plaque to be placed at the memorial for all the hard work that they have committed towards the project in such a short time. This will be discussed further when construction begins.

The clerk was asked to check with Mower County about the digital speed signs that were talked about in 2024 and were to be placed on County Road 7 on the North and South sides of town. The clerk was also asked to check on the prices of digital speed signs to see if it would be feasible for the City of Adams to place its own signs on Hwy 56 on the East and West Ends of town.

Shop Heater Quotes:

The heater that hangs in the shop behind city hall has gone out a few times since the start of winter. The maintenance department acquired quotes from Lonestar Plumbing and heating in the amount of \$3345.00 - \$3740.00 to replace the heater and one from Schmitz Electric in the amount of \$3500.00. The council asked the clerk to get one more quote before any decision would be made.

Certificate of Deposit Renewal:

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve the renewal of the CD at United Farmers State Bank. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Michael Cherney, Nick Anderson and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

No further business.

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Christopher Quale to adjourn at 6:57 PM. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Michael Cherney, Nick Anderson and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Jake Goodale

Clerk/ Treasurer