

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 8th, 2019

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a regular meeting was duly held at City Hall at 7:00 PM on the 8th day of January, 2019.

Council present: Brian Anderson, Michael Cherney, Paul Kirtz, Karen Ruechel, and Peter Schmitz.

Council absent: None.

Oaths of office were administered by the City Clerk to Brian Anderson, Michael Cherney, and Paul Kirtz.

Mayor Brian Anderson presided at the meeting.

Motion made by Ruechel, seconded by Schmitz, to approve the City Council meeting agenda with the addition of the Pledge of Allegiance to start meetings. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Kirtz, seconded by Schmitz, to approve starting all City Council meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Ruechel, seconded by Schmitz, to approve the December 11th, 2018 minutes as recorded. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

City Engineer Bryan Petzel presented the feasibility study to reconstruct 4 blocks of 5th Street, 1 block of Bergen Street, and 1 block of Water Street, and an intersection of Lions Street. Bryan reviewed block by block construction plans and estimated costs. The project includes replacement of water lines, sewer lines, storm sewer lines, curbs, and sidewalks. The project would take place in 2020. Bryan informed the City Council that low interest loans may be available to fund the project. The grant for the low interest loan would need to be applied for in March, 2019. The city council will review the plans and make a decision as to proceeding with the construction project at the next council meeting.

Michael Gehrke presented the December, 2018 police report. The report lists 2 State citations, 11 warning tickets, 3 law enforcement assists, 2 Fire/Ambulance assists, and 1 traffic accident. Mike handed his resignation/retirement letter to Mayor Anderson. Effective date for Mike's last working day is March 1st, 2019. Final employment date will depend on accumulated comp time that will be used before March 1st. Motion made by Kirtz, seconded by Ruechel, to accept Mike Gehrke's resignation letter. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Fire Chief Curt Sheely presented the Fire Department report for 2018. During 2018 the Adams Volunteer Fire Department responded to 37 calls for assistance. Property losses attributed to actual fire calls accounted for \$521,700.00 of which \$265,400.00 was from building and structure losses and \$192,800.00 from personal property losses. There were no fire deaths or injuries to civilians or fire department members during the 2018 year. Fire Incidents contributed 24.3%, Public Service Calls 27%, Storm Spotting 8.1%, Rescue Incidents 10.8%, Hazardous Conditions 13.5%, Good Intent Calls 8.1%, and False Alarm Calls 8.1%, of the total responses during 2018.

Department members provided 545 hours to time in completing their calls for the year. This does not include the additional time spent by members to restore the equipment to service reporting and documentation of incident reports. The hours spent by individual members to complete regular truck checks, maintenance and repairs to the trucks, equipment and/or station is not currently tracked either. The department had 1 retirement during the 2018 year and currently has 24 positions filled of the 25 regular positions available.

A motion was made by Kirtz, seconded by Cherney, to accept a \$300.00 donation to the Fire Department from Rick and Margarete Neuvirth. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Craig Hegge presented the maintenance report for December. Craig reported that the new garage door has been installed in the maintenance shop. Craig is working on the replacement of the wastewater plant flume. Estimates to replace the flume are between \$15,000.00 and \$17,000.00.

The bills payable were reviewed.

Motion made by Kirtz, seconded by Schmitz, to approve payment of bills as presented. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

The city clerk presented the November 30th, 2018 financial statements. Motion made by Kirtz, seconded by Schmitz, to approve the financial statement as presented. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Kirtz, seconded by Schmitz, to approve CliftonLarsonAllen quote of \$11,000.00 for the 2018 audit of the City of Adams financial records, and \$1,125.00 for the Fire Relief Association annual audit. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Mayor Brian Anderson announced the following 2019 appointments:

Assistant Mayor – Paul Kirtz

Official depositories: United Farmers State Bank, and Northland Securities

Ambulance Joint Powers Board – Paul Kirtz and Brian Anderson.

Emergency Management Director – Michael Gehrke

Fire Chief – Curt Sheely, 1st Assistant – Ryan Sathre, 2nd Assistant – Eric Wiste

Fire Department appointment – Peter Schmitz.

Planning Commission – Charles Gilles, Dean Kiefer, Rick Hinz, Karen Ruechel, and Barry Kurtz.

Prairie Visions Representative – Michael Cherney.

Police Commissioner – Karen Ruechel.

Street Commissioner - Paul Kirtz

EDA Board – Brian Anderson, Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Paul Kirtz, and Peter Schmitz.

Personnel Committee – Nancy Thalberg, Gail Anderson, Larry Tompkins, and Jim Kiefer.

Nursing Home Sale Committee – Nancy Thalberg, Brian Anderson, Dan Wagner, Rick Hinz, and Jim Kiefer.

Motion made by Ruechel, seconded by Schmitz, to approve Mayor Anderson’s 2019 appointments. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Kirtz, seconded by Schmitz, to approve a one day raffle permit to the Southland Sportsmen’s Club for March 9th, 2019. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Kirtz, seconded by Schmitz, to approve a one day raffle permit to the Southland Sportsmen’s Club for June 9th, 2019. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

City Clerk Jim Kiefer requested a motion on one financial year end transfer. A motion was made by Kirtz, seconded by Cherney, to transfer \$8,000.00 from the Water Fund to the Sewer Fund. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Discussion was held on publishing minutes in the official newspaper. The City Council decided to discontinue publishing minutes in the official newspaper. Bids for publishing legal notices were received by the city council. One bid was received from Mower County Independent for \$4.25 per column inch. Motion made by Ruechel, seconded by Cherney, to accept the bid from the Mower County Independent for publishing legal notices for 2019. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Jim Kiefer reported that representatives of the Rural Fire Board would like to meet with representatives of the Adams City Council to review the fire protection agreement between the two parties. A motion was made by Ruechel, seconded by Cherney, to appoint Paul Kirtz, and Peter Schmitz to meet with the Rural Board and review the agreement. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Kirtz, seconded by Schmitz, to adjourn. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Meeting reopened after the Nursing Home meeting to discuss retirement of Police Chief Gehrke. A special meeting to discuss the retirement and plan for the future was set for next Tuesday, January 15th, at 5:30 pm in City Hall.

Motion made by Kirtz, seconded by Ruechel to adjourn. Votes in favor: Cherney, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Jim Kiefer

Clerk/ Treasurer

