

## REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting was duly held at Adams City Hall at 6:00 PM on the 14th day of May 2024.

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

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Michael Cherney, to approve April 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting minutes as presented. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

### **Approval of Timecards:**

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

### **Old Business:**

The clerk reported to the council that he exchanged emails with Marty Helle, the city attorney, regarding selling city-owned property for nominal considerations. Mr. Helle informed the clerk that only in very certain situations would a city be able to legally sell a property for a nominal amount, such as creating jobs within the community or significantly boosting the tax base.

### **Police Report:**

The Mower County Sheriff's Department patrolled the City of Adams for a total of 222 hours from April 9<sup>th</sup> to May 14<sup>th</sup>. There were 99 calls for service in the city, with 37 traffic stops being the main focus. Sargeant Fisher was asked by the council and by other concerned citizens present at the meeting to patrol 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Street, and Lewison Street (between the Southland High School and Little Cedar Lutheran Church) more frequently, specifically to crack down on speeders and erratic drivers. The council also agreed to install two more stop signs at the intersection of 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Bergen Street to slow down the traffic on 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

### **Fire Department Report:**

No business to report for the month of April.

### **Maintenance Department Report:**

The maintenance on the sewer main below 4<sup>th</sup> Street was completed. There were two blocks where roots were cut from the main, and also, two point repairs were done from the inside of the main. The contractor found another spot in the pipe that will need a point repair soon. The city is hoping that it can wait until 2025 so the city can budget money for the repair. The contractor

also recommended that a camera be run through the main at least every 2-3 years to track any other deficiencies that may arise within the sewer main.

The maintenance department moved the flowerpots onto the city streets for the garden club and opened the campgrounds and park in April. They flushed hydrants in the last week of April and into the first week of May along with cleaning several plugged catch basins. They started mowing the city properties and burned the brush pile that has been building up by the treatment plant. They have also started hauling rock and spreading it in alleyways.

The maintenance department sold its old utility locator to the City of LeRoy for \$2500.00. The plan is to use this money to cover some of the costs of eliminating roots and repairing the sewer main on 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Prairie Visions Report:**

Nothing new to report.

**Approval of Bills:**

The bills payable for April were reviewed by the City Council.

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve the payment of February bills. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

**Financial Report:**

The city clerk presented the March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 financial statements.

Motion made by Christopher Quale, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve the financial report as presented. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

**Traut Companies Payment App #3 (Well #5):**

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Karen Ruechel, to approve Payment App No. 3 from Traut Companies in the amount of \$23,618.94. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

**Building Permits:**

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve a building permit to Chuck Quale to put a gazebo in the side/rear yard at 101 4<sup>th</sup> St. SW. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel and Nick Anderson. Christopher Quale abstains. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Michael Cherney, to decline a building permit to Jeremy and Waneda Rowe until changes are made to their original plan to build a 25' x 25' detached garage at 109 Bergen Street in order to adhere to the accessory buildings portion of the zoning ordinance. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

**2023 Audit Review:**

Craig Popenhagen of Clifton Larson Allen was present to review the 2023 annual city audit report. Craig stated that the 2023 expenditures were in line with the corresponding budget. Craig also reported that no significant adjustments were required to the 2023 financial statement and that the audit results were good.

**Resident Complaint:**

A resident approached the clerk with concerns about the sidewalks in town. They said some walks are beginning to sink and heave, and some walks that were removed while repairing sewer lines have yet to be replaced. The clerk was instructed to have the city maintenance crew create a list of portions of the sidewalk that need replacing so letters can be sent out to residents to replace/repair those sections.

**Library Nook:**

Dave Fasbender attended the council meeting to discuss the possibility of replacing our current library boxes in town with a small 8' x 6' shed. Dave was tasked to repair the current library boxes, and the response he received from thankful residents after he completed the repairs was enough to make him believe that Adams needed more reading options. He talked to Southland Schools about working together to construct the building as a school project, and he has talked to Adams Builders Supply about getting a quote for materials. He was still waiting to hear back about the price of the materials. He also talked to and received permission from Curt Heimer about placing the shed on his property next to the grocery store where one of the current library boxes sits. The discussion then led to who would be responsible for insuring and maintaining the building. The council decided that we should find out how much the materials would cost and then look into ways to try and obtain some grant money for the project.

**Resolution No. 08-2024:**

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Karen Ruechel, to approve Resolution No. 08-2024 a resolution to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the Minnesota Historical Society for the First National Bank Building Restoration project. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

**Adams Clinic:**

After cleaning out the clinic, the city was asked if it would like one of the prints hanging on the wall. The city decided to accept the print and find a space at City Hall to hang it.

No further business.

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Christopher Quale, to adjourn at 7:47 PM. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Jake Goodale

Clerk/ Treasurer