

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 27th, 2024

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a special meeting was duly held at City Hall at 6:00 PM on the 27th day of August 2024.

Council present: Michael Cherney, Nick Anderson and Christopher Quale

Council absent: Brian Anderson

Assistant Mayor: Karen Ruechel presided over the meeting.

Agenda:

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

Biannual Fire Board Meeting:

The City Council met with the Adams Fire Board to review fire department operations and look at needs for the upcoming year in 2025. Fire Board members were present from Clayton Township, the City of Taopi, Lodi Township, and Marshall Township. Dillon Heimer, the Fire Chief and Eric Wiste, the Assistant Fire Chief, attended the meeting representing the Adams Fire Department. The clerk informed the board that in 2024 the Fire Department has applied for and received a \$2500.00 Mower Freeborn Grant and a \$1650.00 DNR Grant. The department also applied for a grant from Firehouse Subs for a new UTV but did not receive the award, and just recently applied for \$4000.00 Compeer Financial Grant for replacement fire hoses and the Worth County Grant for \$25,000.00 for a backup generator and new radios. The clerk also reported that the Fire Department purchased an air compressor from the Grand Meadow Fire Department to be used to refill the department's SCBA bottles. Also, electrical drops in the truck bay were upgraded and moved to comply with OSHA regulations. The clerk then went over the department's current statement of revenues and expenditures with the board explaining that there is approximately \$39,000.00 left in the budget for 2024. The next thing discussed was the progress being made on the two new tanker trucks. The price per truck so far is about \$95,000.00 which is \$5,000.00 over what was approved last year and does not include the cost to install the safety lights. The clerk informed the board that the department's excess funds were all spent on acquiring the new truck chassis and that the department would need to get a bank loan to cover the costs of the materials and installation of the tanks and safety lights. Lastly, the discussion led to department needs for the upcoming year. Chief Heimer and Assistant Chief Wiste explained that there were no big departmental needs for the upcoming year but did think that the budget could be bumped up a little to help cover some of the debt from the loan for the SCBA's and the future loan for the new tanker trucks.

Meeting adjourned at 6:21 PM

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve the August 12th, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Michael Cherney and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Old Business:

The clerk told the council that he met with Mary Schmitz and Dave Fasbender regarding the piece of property the city was looking to lease for a Veterans Memorial. Terms were discussed and it was decided that the city would be able to lease the land for a nominal amount as long as the city insured and maintained the site.

The clerk and the head of the maintenance department talked to the council about concerns they had with the sewer line inspections on 4th Street. Because street improvements have been planned for that street in the near future, they along with the engineer who has been helping the city plan for the project, determined that it would not be fair to the people living on 4th Street to replace their sewer lines only to have them ripped back up during the street improvements unless catastrophic circumstances warrant the replacement.

The clerk talked about the cannabis moratorium that was passed last year and how the city needed to adopt an ordinance regarding to the usage of cannabis in the city before the end of the year. The clerk thought it best if the city sought legal counsel to develop a cannabis ordinance. Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve the clerk to seek legal counsel with a lease agreement for the veterans memorial, with the sewer inspections on 4th Street and with the cannabis ordinance. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

The clerk discussed the land that Jeff Smith wanted to purchase from the city in order to get his parent's buildings onto their own property. The clerk reported the last time the city sold land to a property owner in town was to Dale Barrows for \$500.00 and Mr. Barrows was also asked to take care of all legal documents and fees.

Motion made by Nick Anderson, seconded by Michael Cherney, to proceed in the sale of land to Jeff Smith in the same manner that the city sold land to Dale Barrows. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

The clerk finished up old business by speaking about the community center. He had done some research into the sale of the clinic building and it turns out the City of Adams sold the Adams Clinic to the Austin Medical Clinic back in 1984 for an unknown amount as it was not posted in the minutes. The Mayo Clinic then became affiliated with Austin Medical Clinic and St. Olaf Hospital in 1995. The clerk had also spoken to Curt Sheely about gathering insurance information with regards to moving the community center into the meeting area at the Emergency Services Building. Mr. Sheely was still in the process of getting the clerk the information, but once received it would be presented to the council at the next meeting.

Ordinance No. 202:

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve Ordinance No. 202 an Ordinance fixing the salaries of the mayor and council members increasing the annual salary from \$2500.00 to \$3000.00 for the mayor and from \$2000.00 to \$2500.00 for the council members. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Michael Cherney and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Building Permit:

Motion made by Christopher Quale, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve a building permit to Dennis Underdahl at 303 3rd St NW for a utility shed to be located in the backyard. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Michael Cherney and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Gambling Permit:

Motion made by Christopher Quale, seconded by Michael Cherney, to approve a gambling permit to the Southland Youth Clay Target Team for a raffle to be held at the Adams American Legion on 10/19/2024. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Michael Cherney and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Parking Ordinance Review:

There have been some complaints about residents parking their vehicles across or partially onto the city sidewalks. The clerk looked over the city's current parking ordinance and couldn't find anything that specifically prohibits that action. The clerk was then asked to look at the State level and see what he could learn. If anything the parking ordinance may need to be revised.

Ambulance Board Meeting Review:

The ambulance board met this month and it was decided that a new ambulance chassis would be purchased every 10 years rotating between the two ambulances. The boxes would be transferred from the old vehicles onto the new chassis. Also discussed was some touch up painting issues in the meeting room, the arrival and installation of the new whiteboard and the removal of some furniture from the bunk room.

Traut Companies Payment App #4 (Well #5):

Motion made by Nick Anderson, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve Payment App No. 4 from Traut Companies in the amount of \$26,792.81. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Community Development Initiative:

Two members from the Community Development Initiative attended the meeting to ask if the City of Adams would act as a fiscal agent for the group in order to apply for the Taylor Rural Child Care Grant in the amount of \$20,000.00 to help out with the child care predicament that has come over the community.

Motion made by Christopher Quale, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve that the City of Adams acts as the fiscal agent for the Community Development Initiative in order to apply for the Taylor Rural Child Care Grant. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Michael Cherney and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

No further business.

Motion made by Christopher Quale, seconded by Michael Cherney to adjourn at 7:27 PM. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Michael Cherney, and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Jake Goodale

Clerk/ Treasurer