

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 8th, 2024

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting was duly held at Adams City Hall at 6:00 PM on the 8th day of October 2024.

Council present: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale, Nick Anderson and Karen Ruechel (Via Phone).

Council absent: None

Mayor: Brian Anderson presided over the meeting.

Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Nick Anderson, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve September 24th meeting minutes as presented. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale, Karen Ruechel and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Approval of Timecards:

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

Old Business:

Multiple residents attended the meeting still having concerns about a community center. The residents were not satisfied with the explanation that the building located at 16 East Main Street is dedicated for the operation of the City of Adams' Emergency Services and thought that the building, specifically the meeting room area, should be open daily to the public as a gathering spot. Council members discussed the potential liability risks that the city faced by allowing the public daily access to that building. The council agreed that a community center is needed and would benefit the city and its residents. Ideas were presented, such as purchasing the unused clinic building and renting space out of the old furniture store from the Adams American Legion. There would obviously be expenses associated with these ideas, but the city could use these spaces as dedicated community centers. The clerk suggested that as a short-term solution, the meeting room at city hall could be used if community members wanted a spot to gather. The council asked the residents to provide some information about what regulations they would like to see, times when they think the site should be open, and any other thoughts they might have about a community center, which could be discussed at a future meeting.

The clerk spoke to Tracy Smith about the City of Adams selling the family a strip of land to put their sheds back on their property. The family was agreeable to buying the strip of land from the City for \$500.00 and covering all the legal expenses that would be incurred.

The clerk was asked to contact Colleen Jennings to see if she would be interested in selling the vacant lots owned by the City at the North Park 2nd Addition after Steve Golombowski removed himself from the position and the City has yet to find anyone else interested.

Marty Helle, the City Attorney, drafted a lease agreement between the City of Adams and Mary Schmitz for the leasing of the green space in front of 310 Main Street for a Veterans Memorial. If Ms. Schmitz agrees to the lease agreement, the city will sign off on it as well.

Mr. Helle also addressed the clerk's question pertaining to sewer inspections on a portion of 4th St. NW where the city is planning to make repairs. Mr. Helle told the clerk that the City of Adams could pass a resolution which would approve a moratorium on enforcement of sanitary sewer service lines for certain lots adjoining to 4th Street. The clerk will work on drafting a resolution for the council's approval at the next meeting.

Police Report:

No News to report

Fire Department Report:

The Fire Department responded to three calls in September. There was no other news to report.

Maintenance Department Report:

The maintenance department reported that they cleaned 10 blocks of sewer lines, they also helped Mower County with repair of the storm sewer located at the intersection of 3rd St. NW and Water Street. Rock was spread in the alleys and at the Emergency Services Building. Weis Landscaping was at the Adams City Park and helped with some repairs and upgrades to the Matheis memorial. The maintenance department put in an order for a new skid loader, which was budgeted for 2025. Mercury samples were conducted and sent in for analysis and all the samples came back good. The maintenance department just began flushing hydrants this week.

Prairie Visions Report:

No new news to report.

Approval of Bills:

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

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

Financial Report:

The city clerk presented the August 31st, 2024 financial statements.

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

Mower County Cannabis Enforcement & Regulation Joint Powers Agreement:

Cannabis will become legal to sell on January 1, 2025; therefore, Mower County is in the process of developing a Cannabis Ordinance for adoption. The individual Townships and Cities in Mower County have the option to adopt their own regulations, which could be more or less restrictive than the County's, or to enter into a Joint Powers Agreement with the County in which the County would oversee all regulations. If a City or Township does choose to develop their own ordinance they will be obligated to perform all the required inspections and enforce all violations on cannabis businesses. The County's proposed regulation would require any businesses that house cannabis use to have a 500ft setback from protected uses (parks, schools, daycares, residential treatment facilities), allow up to 4 cannabis businesses countywide (1 per

every 12,500 residents), and only allow retail businesses in commercially or industrially zoned areas. Retail would be prohibited in agricultural and residentially zoned areas.

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve a Joint Powers Agreement between Mower County and the City of Adams for the enforcement and regulation of cannabis. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale, Karen Ruechel and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Veterans Memorial Committee:

Dave Fasbender was in to inform the council that he has put together a committee for the Veterans Memorial comprised of himself and his wife, Lynn Sathre, Bill Boe, Carol Kiefer and Lisa Boe. He asked the council if he could use the Emergency Services Building meeting space to conduct a Veterans Memorial committee meeting. As the meeting was concerning a city project the council was agreeable in letting the Veteran's Memorial Committee meet in that space.

Building Permit:

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve a building permit to Cody Kirkpatrick for an addition on the rear side of his house at 311 5th St. NW. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale, Karen Ruechel and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

322 Building Grant:

The clerk reported that the City of Adams was awarded a grant for the repairs to the roof and roof hatch as well as masonry rehabilitation at the First National Bank building which it owns at 322 West Main Street from the Minnesota Historical Society. The City of Adams will need to match 20% of the total amount granted.

Welcome To Adams Sign:

Brynn Sathre, a senior at Southland High School, attended the meeting to discuss installing a "Welcome To Adams" sign on the East side of Co Rd 7 as you enter town from the South as her senior project. She presented a design to the council showing a 6' x 8' sign promoting the different branches of the military. She explained that the total project cost was estimated at \$1500.00 and that she had already received a \$1000.00 donation from the Adams American Legion. She inquired if the City of Adams would be willing to donate and wondered what kind of permits she would need, if any. She was informed that to install a sign within the City Limits of Adams she would need a \$20.00 building permit.

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve a \$500.00 donation from the city and to waive the building permit fee for the installation of a new "Welcome To Adams" sign. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale, Karen Ruechel and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Liquor License:

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve an off-sale liquor license to Bing's Liquor. Votes in favor: Karen Ruechel, Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

No further business.

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Christopher Quale, to adjourn at 7:45 PM.

Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale, Karen Ruechel and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Jake Goodale

Clerk/ Treasurer