

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 24th, 2023

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a special meeting was duly held at City Hall at 5:30 PM on the 24th day of October 2023.

Council present: Christopher Quale, Ella Noterman and Michael Cherney (Via Phone).

Council absent: Karen Ruechel

Mayor: Brian Anderson presided over the meeting.

Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Michael Cherney, to approve the October 10th, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Votes in favor: Christopher Quale, Ella Noterman and Michael Cherney. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Old Business:

The clerk contacted the City of Blooming Prairie about its endeavor to try and acquire a Class B wastewater operator for its city. Blooming Prairie's city administrator informed the clerk that they have not been able to find a Class B operator and that with no other options, they have been contracting a Class A operator who works for the City of Owatonna. The administrator said that the operator comes to the City of Blooming Prairie for approximately 10 hours a week and is paid \$2,200.00 monthly. Lance Sorenson, who currently acts as the Class B operator and signatory for the treatment plant has requested a pay raise from \$300.00 monthly to \$600.00 monthly. Craig Hegge, who helps out sporadically at the treatment plant and around town has requested that he get paid \$400.00 monthly to continue to fill out the paperwork for the treatment plant and that he continue to receive \$28.27 per hour for helping out with city operations other than paperwork.

Motion made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Christopher Quale to approve increasing Lance Sorenson's pay to \$600.00 and to pay Craig Hegge \$400.00 to fill out the paperwork for the treatment plant and to continue to pay him \$28.27 per hour for helping with other city operations. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Ella Noterman. Votes against: None Motion carried.

The city clerk was in contact with Mike Hanson, the Mower County Public Works Director, about digital speed control traffic signs, similar to the ones that were installed in Johnsbury and Elkton, to be placed on the outside edges of Mower Co Rd 7 which runs North and South through the City of Adams. Mr. Hanson informed the clerk that the county does not have any more digital speed control signs, but they plan to budget more money in 2024 to get more. He said that Adams was on the list to receive signs when the county gets more of them.

Well #5 Financing Options:

The City of Adams will be using a PFA loan to finance phase number one of the Well #5 project. It is required that if a PFA loan is solely funding a water project for a municipality, then that loan must be paid back through that municipality's water fund. For this reason, the City of Adams will be adjusting water rates to pay back the PFA loan.

Resolution No. 12-2023:

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Ella Noterman, to approve Resolution No. #12-2023, a resolution adopting the increase in water charges for the fourth quarter of 2023 and thereafter, until such time a change is made, shall be charged as follows:

Minimum charge per quarter for the first 1,000 gallons of water usage is \$45.00. Each additional 1,000 gallons used shall be charged at the rate of \$8.50. Rates shall be applied to all user classes. Failure of the property owner not returning their meter reading card within 10 days, the city staff will read the meter and the property owner will be charged a fee of \$25.00. New connections to the water service system shall be charged a one-time connection fee of \$150.00. Meter deposits will be \$300.00 for ¾” meter, and \$375.00 for 1” meter. Votes in favor: Ella Noterman, Michael Cherney and Christopher Quale. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Resolution No. 13-2023:

Motion made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve Resolution No. #13-2023, a resolution adopting the increase in sewer service charges for the fourth quarter of 2023 and thereafter, until such time a change is made, shall be charged as follows:

Minimum charge per quarter for the first 1,000 gallons of water usage is \$15.00. Each additional 1,000 gallons shall be charged at the rate of \$8.50. Rates shall be applied to all user classes. Six cents per 1,000 gallons from the rate shall be used to fund the Sewer Replacement Fund. New connections to the sewer service system shall be charged a one-time connection fee of \$150.00. Votes in favor: Ella Noterman, Michael Cherney and Christopher Quale. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Gambling Permit:

Motion made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Christopher Quale to approve the issuance of a gambling permit to the Southland Public Education Foundation to conduct at raffle at Southland High School located at 200 Water Street NW. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Ella Noterman. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Building Permits:

Motion made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Christopher Quale to approve the issuance of building permits to: Charlie Ruechel at 14775 State Hwy 56 for an addition to an existing shed, Jerry Hanson at 306 6th Street NW for a 8’ x 10’ storage shed to be placed in the backyard, and Jane Pettey for the construction of a 8’ x 28’ deck to go in the front of the house at 106 Commerce Street along with a 8-foot variance from the front yard property setback. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Ella Noterman. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Property Adjustment:

June Smith approached the council with a request to combine two parcels that she owns. Parcel number 21.009.0470 located at 311 Lions St. SW and parcel number 21.009.0300 located at 309 Lions St SW. After some discussion, the council decided that it would be very unlikely that anyone would want to build a house on the lot located at 311 Lions St SW if it were ever to be sold because of its size.

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Ella Noterman to approve June Smith’s request to combine parcel number 21.009.0470 located at 311 Lions St. SW and parcel number 21.009.0300 located at 309 Lions St. SW. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Ella Noterman. Votes against: None Motion carried.

406 Vangness St NW:

A couple approached the city clerk about zoning regulations, specifically, how the city feels about sheds large enough to house RV's or campers. The couple was informed that as long as the shed is not constructed like or looks like a pole shed, and they stay within the city's zoning ordinance as it pertains to property setbacks and height regulations, the city will be okay.

Fall Lawn Treatment Quote:

Matt Simon provided the City of Adams with a quote for fall lawn treatment services which would cover treatment for the City Park, North Side Park Addition, City Hall, Emergency Services Building, and the City Pumping Station for \$1453.37. The council discussed the quote and decided that treatment was necessary in all areas except the North Side Park Addition, which would bring the total quote down to \$1066.49.

Motion made by Christopher Quale, seconded by Michael Cherney to approve Matt Simon's quote for fall lawn treatment to all city properties except for the North Side Park Addition for the amount of \$1066.49. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Ella Noterman. Votes against: None
Motion carried.

No further business.

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Ella Noterman to adjourn at 6:27 PM. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Ella Noterman. Votes against: None
Motion carried.

Jake Goodale
Clerk/ Treasurer