

City of Wilmont  
Regular Council Meeting  
April 11, 2023

The regular monthly meeting was called to order by Mayor, Gene Bertrand at 6:00 pm in the Wilmont Community Center, 316 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Council Present:** Gene Bertrand, Josh Balster, Steve Brake, Isacc Joens & Alicia Entinger.

**Guests and Staff:** Amber Bertrand, Steve Joens, Logan Neyens, Rebecca Towne & Deputy Waldner

**Absent:**

**Agenda:** Steve Brake moved to accept the agenda and seconded by Josh Balster. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**Minutes:** Alicia Entinger made a motion to approve the minutes from March 7, 2023 seconded by Isaac Joens. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Time Sheets:** Josh Bertrand made a motion to approve time sheets, seconded by Alicia Entinger. All in favor, Motion carried.

**Treasurers Report:** Amber Bertrand presented the treasurers report – nothing new other than the normal bills. Isaac Joens made a motion to accept the financial report and to pay the remaining bills and also to pay the operating bills that are received after the council meeting including the fire department bills. Motion seconded by Alicia Entinger. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Nobles County Sheriff Report:** Deputy Waldner was present and said that nothing new has come up and things are going good on their end. They did need to talk to a couple people about dogs not being leashed and snow being put where it shouldn't but that has been settled. Josh Balster made a motion to approve the Sheriff report and was seconded by Isaac Joens. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Maintenance Report:** Steve Joens gave the report – said lift station pumps are running overtime lately. Steve has been going around picking up the branches now that the snow has thawed and stated there are a bit just hanging in the trees so will work on those as well. Steve is still working on getting the new satellite meter reader in and set up at Slater's – it runs off of AT&T Towers so want to make sure we get signal before putting in the other couple that are needed. Badger does have Verizon ones but those cost more so trying to use these if available. Steve asked if we should get started with the LED lights in the shop, Fire Hall, Street, etc. and the Council said they need to get done no matter what and can use ARPA funds for them. Isaac Joens made motion to replace shop, street, fire hall lights with LED and was seconded by Alicia Entinger. All in favor, motion carried. Ponds haven't thawed out quite yet but they should be able to discharge real soon. Isaac Joens made motion to approve the maintenance report and was seconded by Alicia Entinger. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Fire Department Report:** Logan Neyens presented the Fire Dept. report – 3 people passed the FF1 & FF2 courses. James Joens has taken the position of the Training Officer. The Fire Dept is working on a grant for a washer/dryer so waiting to hear back on that. Fundraiser went really well. Fire Dept received grant money from Nobles 2 Wind Farm and Larkin Township did a grant for the Fire Dept as well for Response equipment – total amount received was \$7,000. Isaac Joens made motion to approve the Fire Department Report and was seconded by Josh Balster. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Clerk Report:** Amber gave the Clerk report – Nobles 2 Wind farm also gave a grant to the Booster Club for swimming lessons again this year for \$2,000 and they gave \$3,500 for cement work at the ballfield as we want a cement slab for the bleachers and also to replace the sidewalk that is all cracked/broken. Amber asked the council what they would like to do for the missed insurance payment from Tim – no fault of his own it was all on the City and how they missed a payment one month when Danielle was helping and then one other time shortly after that. The Council discussed and felt that he should have to pay back at least half of the amount owed since he did have insurance at that time. The auditor stated she didn't care who paid it she just needs to know what way to put it in the system. Josh Balster made motion to cover half of the insurance owed and Tim will need to pay the other half and Steve Brake seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Amber had Gaye McCann (Shirley Meyer) email her and stated that she keeps having standing water at the end of her driveway. Amber did respond and said that we are looking into that street. It was brought up again about possibly selling the land where the old water tower used to be and the Council is willing to do it as sealed bid and Amber will post a notice in Nobles County Review and the shopper and bids will need to be in to Amber by May 8<sup>th</sup> and will be sold as a commercial lot. Steve Brake made motion to approve the Clerks Report and was seconded by Josh Balster. All in favor. Motion carried.

Rebecca Towne from Kinner & Co was present to give the final audit report. No new findings or concerns with the audit. Josh Balster made motion to approve the final audit report and was seconded by Steve Brake. All in favor. Motion carried.

Logan Neyers was present on behalf of the Fire Department to see if the City was willing to give some money towards the Fire Hall Remodel that they are working on right now. Logan had given Amber a bunch of the estimates that they have received The Council wanted

Amber to get a spreadsheet worked out showing what the City has in the works for the ARPA funds and also what the Fire Department has in total estimates for the remodel along with the donations that they have received. Once Amber gets that done the Council can then decide on the exact amount they will give to the Fire Department which will come from the City or County ARPA funds.

New Vision had reached out to Steve Brake to see what they can get for water usage at their site. They would like to just put a meter on a hydrant and Steve Joens said they have to have an air gap device if they do that. Council was fine with them using a hydrant but it needs to be done the right way so it is safe. Steve Joens will check into the cost of the air gap and whatever else he feels they should have to keep the water safe and will approve the set up before New Vision can use water. A motion was already made prior to allow this.

**Old Business:** Front Windows on Community Center – will need to check with Brian to see when he plans to get them done.

Water issues by Vaskes house – Steve is continuing to work on this and figure out. Will remove from old business until Steve gets an idea on if we can fix or what the exact issue is.

Nobles County ARPA Funds – working on how to split for Fire Department and City and getting estimates together to see where we are at.

Camera's for the Shop and Fire Hall – Gene got an estimate and said that Camera cost did come back down so now will wait for him to install.

There being no further business, Isaac Joens made a motion to adjourn, Alicia Entinger seconded.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Amber Bertrand, City Clerk

Note: These minutes are proposed and are subject to change.