

City of Wilmont
Regular Council Meeting
April 9th, 2024

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

Council Present: Josh Balster, Isaac Joens, Steve Brake & Alicia Entinger.

Guests and Staff: Gene Metz, Bruce Heitkamp, Deputy Sheriff, Amber Bertrand & Steve Joens

Absent:

Agenda: Josh Balster moved to accept the agenda and was seconded by Isaac Joens. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Minutes: Alicia Entinger made a motion to approve the minutes from March 13, 2024 seconded by Josh Balster. All in favor. Motion carried.

Time Sheets: Time sheets look good and no questions arose. Steve Brake made a motion to approve time sheets, seconded by Isaac Joens. All in favor, Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Amber Bertrand presented the treasurers report – nothing out of the ordinary. Josh Balster 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 Steve Brake. All in favor. Motion carried.

Nobles County Sheriff Report: Deputy Sheriff said that it was quiet in Wilmont. Alicia did bring up the mess that is behind Scholtes store – the items were moved from Lowell's building when Slater tore it down. Deputy will look into it and also let Deputy Simpson know as he is our main contact for the City. On a motion by Isaac Joens and seconded by Alicia Entinger it was duly passed to approve the Sheriff Report.

Maintenance Report: Steve Joens gave the report – Said the siren is now working – it was something to do with the County not City. Steve is still looking at trying to find a Snow Plow for this coming up winter – no one seems to be able to find a radiator that fits the current plow. Cliff Altman did give Steve a number to contact as they know when and what kind of trucks are going up for sale. Steve asked what is the protocol for when he takes vacation or is gone for a weekend – who will cover. Council talked and said that Steve could check with Tim Bertrand or even Justin Ahlers to help cover since they both have their water/wastewater license. Steve will check with Justin and Gene said he can ask Tim. Either way Steve will need to make sure that whoever he has cover knows when he will be gone. Steve ordered the shut off valve for the ponds and plan to pump around the first week of May and at that time Justin Ahlers will place the valve. Isaac Joens made motion to approve the maintenance report and was seconded by Alicia Entinger. All in favor. Motion carried.

Fire Department Report: Steve Joens gave the report – Said they didn't have a meeting yet for the month so not much to report on. They did have a great turn-out for the Fundraiser – around 450 plates were served. Alicia Entinger 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 – Had the annual Liability Waiver Form for insurance and on a motion by Josh Balster and seconded by Isaac Joens it was duly passed to not waive the monetary limits, all in favor, motion carried. Amber had saw in some emails through the LMC Clerk group that some people were asking if their City offered a stipend to someone who does not take health insurance. Right now the City covers 100% of the premium if you choose the individual middle plan. Amber is currently on her husbands insurance but is

looking at possibly taking the insurance offered by the City as she would then be able to get VEBA as well. Council discussed but wanted to look into it more so asked to table it until the next meeting. Steve Brake made motion to approve the Clerks Report and was seconded by Isaac Joens. All in favor. Motion carried.

Gene Metz and Bruce Heitkamp were present to talk about the Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Wilmont and Nobles County for the regulation of Cannabis. They went over what the Agreement meant and what it would do. Council didn't want to make a motion on it yet – wanted to have the City Attorney look it over to make sure it was in the best interest for the City. Gene and Bruce said they don't need anything right away but the sooner they know the better as they need to plan for 2025. Amber will get the agreement sent over to the Attorney and Council we discuss more at a later date.

Josh Balster had asked Steve who covers what if putting in a new water line – per the fee schedule the cost of a new water line is actual cost so the City doesn't charge a certain amount. Since this water line is an additional line and wasn't something that broke the cost would all be on the resident. If they get any items from the City like a water line and the meter they would just have to pay the actual cost of the products. Josh said he was fine with this and just wanted to be on the same page. Alicia Entinger made a motion and was seconded by Isaac Joens to approve placing an additional water line and that all costs would be covered by Josh. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business: Front Windows on Community Center – waiting for Brian to install.

Local Board of Appeal & Equalization will be held on Tuesday, April 30th at 2:30 pm. Gene, Isaac & Alicia plan to attend.

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

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14th, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Amber Bertrand, City Clerk

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