

City of Wilmont
Regular Council Meeting
September 11, 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: Isaac Joens, Alicia Entinger, Steve Brake & Gene Bertrand.

Guests and Staff: Deputy Nelson, Amber Bertrand & Steve Joens

Absent: Josh Balster

Agenda: Alicia Entinger moved to accept the agenda with additions and was seconded by Isaac Joens. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Minutes: Isaac Joens made a motion to approve the minutes from August 14, 2024 and was seconded by Alicia Entinger. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

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

Nobles County Sheriff Report: Deputy Nelson was present and said he didn't have anything new for us. We did bring up the noise ordinance for Al Fuerstenberg as people have called him in for making too much noise. Deputy Nelson said he has talked to him once and so did another Deputy. Per the Ordinance any sort of power tools, loud radios, etc. after 10pm should not be used or anything that will make enough noise to be heard by neighbors. Amber gave Al the ordinance which is all the City can do on the subject and it will be between the Sheriffs, Al and the complaining residents. On a motion by Alicia Entinger and seconded by Isaac Joens it was duly passed to accept the Sheriff's Report. All in favor, motion carried.

Maintenance Report: Steve Joens gave the report – Finally found a radiator for the plow truck that fits. Steve said he needs to look into a form letter of some sort for Galvanized Pipes as they are supposed to get letters stating they should replace their pipes. There are also a couple illegal hookups that will need letters. A lot of lights are starting to burn out at the Community Center so Steve was wondering if he should start switching over to LED and Council said to go with LEDs. Ponds were pumped once and Steve plans to do it one more time and when ponds are low he will have Justin come in finally to install that valve. Gene brought up the weeds that are coming up in the streets so asked Steve if he has sprayed which Steve said he hasn't. Next Spring/Summer we will need to look into cracking filling the streets – Amber mentioned that we may be able to borrow the County's equipment or possibly rent and do the crack sealing ourselves – just buy the product which could save some money while fixing our streets up. Steve Brake made motion to approve the maintenance report and was seconded by Isaac Joens. All in favor. Motion carried.

Fire Department Report: Steve Joens gave the report – new air compressor is hooked up and new air tanks are in. They are just working on getting all the new equipment into place & getting everyone familiar with it. Still looking for a pump truck yet – tank on the old truck is starting to rust through. Alicia Entinger made motion to approve the Fire Department Report and was seconded by Isaac Joens. All in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk Report: Amber gave the Clerk report – Amber asked Steve if he called Chandler Coop to contract LP which he did not so Amber asked the Council if we should just go with what we contracted last year which they agreed. Amber asked Steve to reach out to Chandler to get the contract set up. Amber looked more into gWorks and all the extra fees that they have and after looking at quotes again Banyon looked the best option – this is also what they use in Lismore. Banyon's initial price seemed like quite a bit but once broke down the annual cost is a lot cheaper than what gWorks is plus there are no hidden fees. Contract is on a yearly basis so if down the road something better comes along it won't be difficult to change. On a motion by Alicia Entinger and seconded by Isaac Joens it was duly passed to go with the Banyon Utility software, all in favor,

motion carried. Steve Brake made motion to approve the Clerks Report and was seconded by Isaac Joens. All in favor.
Motion carried.

On a motion by Alicia Entinger and seconded by Steve Brake it was duly passed to approve Resolution 2024-06 to raise the City Credit Card limit from \$2,000 to \$5,000. All in favor, motion carried. Amber will get resolution to First Western.

2025 Budget – Amber and the Council went over the budget line by line and the Council also discussed pay rates for Amber and Steve and decided on a 5% COLA which is also what Lismore decided on for Amber. After much discussion the City Council decided to set the Preliminary Levy a little higher than normal so they can discuss more as once you set the preliminary levy you can also go down but cannot increase for the 2025 Budget. In the end it was decided to go with a 32% increase over last years levy which will still leave us short on the budget but Council was fine with that. On a motion by Isaac Joens and seconded by Alicia Entinger it was duly passed to approve the Preliminary Levy amount at \$213,894.00, All in favor, motion carried.

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

There being no further business, Steve Brake made a motion to adjourn.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Amber Bertrand, City Clerk

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