

Rowan City Council Meeting December 5, 2022

Mayor Lennea Groom opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Council present- Mark Bruns, Dale Hollman, Marcos Hurtado, Ashley Bosch, and Virgil Park.

Minutes of the November 7th meeting was approved with a motion by Bosch, 2nd by Hurtado. Approved unanimously.

Financials/Vouchers – Motion by Bruns to pay Mountain Movers when the bill comes in as long as it is at or below the bid amount, 2nd by Hurtado. Approved. Motion by Park to approve vouchers and pay bills, 2nd by Bruns. Approved unanimously.

December Expenditures – AgSource Labs (water testing) \$50.75; Alliant Energy (electric) \$1,164.27; Belmond Laundry (rugs) \$32.00; Deb Bruns (hot dogs/buns) \$48.64; DeBour Electric (supplies for xmas decs) \$70.49; Debt Service Reserve (transfer) \$236.00; Frontier (phone) \$129.02; Hawkins, Inc. (additives) \$446.16; IPERS (pensions) \$297.37; Miller & Miller PC (city attorney) \$50.00; Mort's Water (Fall maint) \$2,585.00; Mountain Movers (demo) \$21,733.28; Municipal Supply (radio read meters) \$10,890.60; Dan Roberts (animal control) \$250.00; Rowan Fire (1/3 LOST) \$812.73; Rowan Library (1/3 LOST/cc receipt) \$837.73; Sewer (transfer) \$5,675.72; Site Services (asbestos abatement) \$19,394.00; Street Fund (1/3 LOST) \$812.74; T&S Sanitation (dumpster) \$22.50; USDA (loan) \$2,199.00; VISA (postage) \$240.00; Wright Co. Fire Assoc. (I Am Resp.) \$142.50; Wright County Landfill (Q3FY23) \$987.50; Aimee Frohling (City Clerk/reimb) \$813.22; Alex Frohling (Water assist) \$88.64; Gene Frohling (Water super) \$440.97; Lennea Groom (Mayor) \$92.26; Terri Curtis (Janitor) \$71.02; Virgil Park (maint/reimb) \$220.48.

Public Input – Eric Rector, Director of Wright County Conservation Board presents a check for \$41,000 for an outdoor learning space. This is not tax payor dollars, it is a reserve fund. Is not putting any restrictions on how the space is created. Suggests a butterfly garden. A naturalist works with public libraries and would be a good space for them to have classes. This is a loan that will be paid back over 10 years at 0% interest and no pre-payment penalty. If the City is in arrears there will be 3% interest charged until it is brought current. Bruns motioned to have Mayor sign the agreement, 2nd by Hollman. Approved.

Fire Dept – Mark Pluff has officially retired, another volunteer is currently under medical care and is unsure if he will be able to return.

Maintenance – regular duties, helped with Christmas lights, changed lid at the apartments – was hit by a lawn mower, a bill should be sent to the owner. Purchased batteries for tractor and lawn mower.

Missy Loux – update on food pantry and request. There has been a great response to the Rowan Food Pantry, hard to get an accurate count, but estimating that 80 individuals are served. There has been a 9 member board established, Hurtado is a member of that board. The community garden wasn't as fruitful as they hoped, but plan to continue and make improvements next year. They have partnered with the library and last year had programs about pollinators and bunnies. Loux seeks permission to replace the dorm sized refrigerator with a full sized one. The UCR outreach committee has been supplying ½ gallons of milk and bread, there is a storage space at the church, and eggs are being provided by different people. She has access to yogurts, cheeses and meats, but currently doesn't have the refrigerator capacity to provide those. Hollman makes a motion to approve the larger fridge, 2nd by Hurtado. Approved. Also discussed someone volunteering to pick-up tomatoes from Bushel Boys, were receiving these in the past, however the staff that was arranging it is no longer available.

Selling of Tractor and Lawn Mower – Batteries have been purchased but not installed yet, they are boxed in by some siding in the water department left over from the Community center repairs. Siding will be moved into the rafters. Plan to get batteries installed and tires aired up before the March meeting.

Security Cameras – Would like to add 2 cameras in the Community Center, using video only. Will have to revise rental agreement. Motion by Bruns to go ahead and purchase 2 cameras if clerk can find the same model as what we currently have at a similar price as before, otherwise research costs of others, 2nd by Hollman. Approved.

Old CC door closers – Park wondered if we should sell them, they are taking up space. Bruns

suggests that they could still be used for the non-automated doors if those needed replaced. Will find a sturdy box and Park will find a place to store them in the furnace room.

Wright County Landfill Commission Appointment – Mayor asks if anyone is interested, Hollman might be, but would like more information. She suggested he contact Travis at the landfill and let her know within the week of his decision. Two other names were given as possible appointments if he declines.

Employee Compensation – Council doesn't see the need for COL increases this year. After further discussion Hollman made a motion to pay the Water Superintendent \$20/hr during "class time" for keeping Certification current in addition to regular salary, mileage, etc. 2nd by Bruns. Approved.

Recodification – Has been sent to the drafting department, there is a backlog and we probably won't see a draft until Spring.

Emergency Management Planning – did not receive grant applied for generators.

Community Center South Wall/Roof – Materials have arrived for the roofing, not sure if they will be able to start work or not, dependent upon weather conditions.

Lettering on Fire Dept/Waterworks – no news.

121 Main Street Abandonment – possibly going to court in January.

Playground equipment – Received a grant for \$20,000 from Foster & Evelyn Barkema Trust. Clerk has applied for an additional grant.

Building permits – None.

Adjourned.

Planning session scheduled for Monday, December 19, 2022 at 7 PM.

Next regular meeting of the council will be Monday, January 2, 2023 at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Aimee J Frohling - City Clerk