

Rowan City Council Meeting April 1, 2024

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

Council present- Dale Hollman, Marcos Hurtado, Heather Baumgartner, and Virgil Park.

Minutes of all 3 March meetings were approved with a motion by Hollman, 2nd by Park. Approved unanimously.

Financials/Vouchers – Motion by Hollman to approve, 2nd by Hurtado. Approved unanimously.

April Expenditures – AgSource Labs (water testing) \$110.50; Alliant Energy (electric) \$1,112.47; Auditor of State (exam fee) \$800.00; Belmont Laundry (rugs) \$40.00; Frontier (phone) \$130.85; IPERS (pensions) \$400.43; Miller & Miller PC (legal fees) \$100.00; Mountain Movers (snow removal) \$360.00; Rowan Library (Apport) \$1,500.00; Sewer (transfer) \$4,468.89; Simmering-Cory (codification) \$735.00; T&S Sanitation (dumpster) \$20.00; Treasurer – St IA (WH) \$30.00; Tri-County Services (Insurance) \$2,070.00; USDA (loan) \$3,000.00; US Treasury (payroll taxes) \$1,692.98; Aimee Frohling (City Clerk) \$916.34; Alex Frohling (Water assist) \$129.08; Dale Hollman (council) \$115.44; Gene Frohling (Water super) \$688.48; Heather Baumgartner (council) \$115.33; Lennea Groom (Mayor) \$92.26; Marcos Hurtado (council) \$69.26; Mark Bruns (council) \$115.44; Terri Curtis (Janitor) \$118.04; Virgil Park (council) \$46.17.

March Receipts – Property Taxes \$1,164.01; Rents \$1,005.40; Road Use Tax \$839.48; Utilities \$6,777.35.

Public Input – Dan Roberts concerned about kids vandalizing the whole town, they shot out a window on a truck of his and a window of a house he owns with some sort of high-powered pellet gun. Has noticed all the other unoccupied houses that have been sitting for years unbothered, suddenly have the windows broken and doors that don't stay closed. Recalls an incident where kids broke the window out of a porch recently where an elderly person who lived there alone was home and heard it happen. Something needs to be done, maybe a curfew or something? Worried that he might go on vacation for a week and come home to his house being destroyed. Jared Evanson also in attendance to answer any questions about the Farm Nutrients business moving into the old coop building. Describes what they do. They will want water to the building in the near future.

Maintenance – Mounted smoke alarms around the Community Center, Library, City Hall; changed camera batteries, recharged water softener, etc.

Guests – Gary and Kathy Nielsen representing the Lions Club to discuss the generator. Discussed grant monies from Wright Co. Charitable Found, Foster & Evelyn Barkema Trust, and ICAP along with monies pledged from the Lions Club. Groom has already requested an extension from the WCCF, Nielsen's have been in contact with Barkema Trust. There is still some electric work to be completed. ICAP grant covered the propane tank install. May end up returning some of the grant money in the end. Concrete was donated, etc.

Septic Filter Cleaning – Have received information from the engineer's office that households with less than 4 occupants probably only need to be done once per year. Still need to confirm requirements with DNR, etc. and find out about raising pumps. Bruns is absent and may have some of that information. Tabled for now.

Resolution 2024-04 Setting a Public Hearing on the Adoption of Proposed "Code of Ordinances". Motion by Hollman to set the Public Hearing for May 6, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 2nd by Baumgartner. Approved.

Ordinance Amendment 2024-02 Raising water rates (minimum bill and usage fees) – Motion by Hollman to approve, 2nd by Park. Approved.

Ordinance Amendment 2024-03 Lowering sewer rates – Motion by Park to approve, 2nd by Hurtado. Approved.

Motion by Hollman to hold the Public Hearing for both Ordinance Amendments on May 6, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 2nd by Hurtado. Approved.

Lawn Mowing Position – Mayor Groom summarized her conversation with Meyer regarding his resignation and reasoning. Motion by Park to accept the resignation, 2nd by Hurtado. Approved. Motion by Hollman to place an ad to hire the position with the same requirements as before, 2nd by Park. Approved. Hollman will mow if it needs to be done prior to getting someone hired.

Playground Equipment – Instruction manual has been given to Bruns.

Fence at Church – Have not gotten estimates yet.

Building permits – none.

Hurtado moves to adjourn, 2nd by Hollman. Adjourned.

FY25 Budget Public Hearing – April 6, 2024 at 9:00 AM.

Next regular meeting of the council will be May 6, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Aimee J Frohling - City Clerk