

Watson City Council Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2022

Present: Mayor: Todd Tongen Council Members: Carter Lokken, Nathan Jordahl, Cheryl Bjornstad, Todd Vogel City Clerk: Nicole Koenen. Georgette Jones was also present.

Mayor Tongen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Water and Wastewater Totals, and snow drifting along ballpark tree line was added under Maintenance Report.

Motion to approve Agenda by Tongen, 2nd Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.

Motion to approve December 14th, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes by Vogel, 2nd Jordahl m/s/p unanimously.

Financial Report

- Cash Balances

Motion to approve monthly claims by Tongen, 2nd Vogel m/s/p unanimously

- Utilities – Delinquent Accounts were sent disconnection notices. Prairie five is taking applications for the Energy Assistance Program that can help with past due utility, electric, and heating bills. Information was sent to delinquent accounts.

Old Business

- Town Hall – Discussed options for the Town Hall. A potential proposal was discussed for a business to lease out the building. The interested party would try to get a proposal ready for our February meeting. The city received feedback from 4 residents regarding the Town Hall. One asked if the city could fundraise to cover the costs of upgrades or register it as a Historical Landmark. The city cannot fundraise for itself; a community club, organization, or residents can fundraise and donate the proceeds back to the city. The building has been changed too much for it to be a Historic Landmark. The council will continue the discussion once the city receives the proposed plan.

New Business:

- Resolution 1-11-22-1 – City official Newspaper

Motion to approve Resolution 1-11-22-1 made by Tongen, 2nd Vogel m/s/p unanimously

- Resolution 1-11-22-2 – City Official Depositories

Motion to approve Resolution 1-11-22-2 made by Tongen, 2nd Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously

- Resolution 1-11-22-3 – City Official Attorney

Motion to approve Resolution 1-11-22-3 made by Tongen, 2nd Vogel m/s/p unanimously

- Resolution 1-11-22-4 – City Official Prosecuting Attorney

Motion to approve Resolution 1-11-22-4 made by Tongen, 2nd Vogel m/s/p unanimously

Maintenance Report

- Shop Furnace Quote – The shop furnace stopped working again, Dunrite came out to check it out and determined the pilot light was blown out. Dunrite was asked to provide a quote for a replacement as we keep having issues with our current one. They quoted \$2,705.00 for a 75,000

BTU propane gas ADP unit. Council discussed that the City did have a surplus in funds allocated for our city attorney in 2021.

Motion to approve the quote for a new shop furnace made by Lokken, 2nd Vogel m/s/p unanimously

- Water and Wastewater Totals – Nicole went over the totals for 2021. This year wastewater totals were 584,029 gallons less than last year and the city used 243,691 more gallons of water.
- Snow drifting along the ballpark tree line – Lokken asked if the city should allow Tongen to use the payloader to help push the snow drifts back further. Tongen stated he did move them back today with his own equipment. Discussion followed of allowing Tongen to use the payloader to move snow as needed.

City Clerk Report

- Discussed the property that had pipes freeze and flood their basement. The meter and base were frozen and damaged. Nicole will be trying to get a read from it to determine the amount of water used. Byron replaced the meter and base but found a leak in another area that the owner still needs to repair.
- Clerk Review – a closed session was held at 6:30pm for Nicole’s performance review. The council decided to give Nicole a .50 raise in addition to COLA increase.

Motion to increase city clerk wages made by Tongen, 2nd Vogel m/s/p unanimously

Meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

City Clerk, Nicole Koenen