

August 12, 2024

The Larchwood City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, August 12, 2024 in the Larchwood Community Center. Council members in attendance were: Mayor Snyders, Ned Hodgson, Shane Reinke, Candie Medema, Mike Metzger and Tanner Tracy. Others in attendance were: Sandi DeSmet, Matt Bouwman, Tony DeSmet, Steve Simons, Austin DeSmet, Carla Manning, Stewart Vander Stoep, Traci Wibeto and Becky Majeres.

Mayor Snyders called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Sheriff Vander Stoep presented the Council with the Police Protection 2 year Contract. Prices are staying the same for this year and going up \$.50 per capita for next year. The Department has hired 3 new deputies which will be riding around with current officers for 6 months for training and to the academy.

The Consent Agenda was approved on motion by Metzger, second by Reinke. Items on the Consent Agenda were: July 8, 2024 Minutes, Building Permits: 425 Geiser Street-house, 1223 Dement Street-garage. Liquor License: Venus's. Rebates: 802 Holder Street-heat pump, 1133-Holder Street A/C.

Tony DeSmet gave the Maintenance Report: all flood trash has been hauled away, pedestrian crosswalks installed, tilled playground sand, added dirt to some of the graves at the cemetery, fixed drain issue by The Shop. Replaced a knob at the Baseball diamond, trimmed and removed some trees, fixed street light at the park. There is an underground fault at the light pole on South Street, Meyer Electric will be fixing. Shane asked for a few stop signs to be changed and the dip sign removed on Blaine Street.

One of the treadmills at the gym is not repairable, motion by Tracy, second by Metzger to replace. All ayes. Sandi gave results on the Facebook poll: there were 238 votes for pickleball and 100 for basketball. Residents suggest upgrading the tennis/basketball area in City Park to accommodate both sports, adding netting or fencing for separation. Some propose upgrading the splash park, playground equipment and adding a dog area. Pickleball and volleyball courts are also recommended along with more parking and a community center. One bid was received for concrete and one for the courts. The Council suggested getting another bid for each. Traci Wibeto with the Larchwood Community Group said that their group would like to help with the park improvements and she would write a grant with the Lyon County Riverboat Foundation. The Council will decide matching funds at the next Council meeting.

Matt said that he was asked to put some speed signs on Fell Street near St Mary's Church and coming into town and could the City possibly write a grant for them. Ned said don't you think that the City could just fund them. Motion by Hodgson, second by Reinke to spend up to \$15,000 for 3 signs. Roll call vote: Reinke-aye, Medema-aye, Tracy-nay, Metzger-nay, Hodgson-aye.

Shane asked Sandi to update customers on service calls and to call Northwest Iowa Planning & Development on nuisance abatements. Ned asked if going forward if the city would put out a rental agreement for all city rental buildings and for events such as the Chislic Festival.

The meeting was then adjourned at 6:07 pm on motion by Metzger, second by Hodgson.

Sandi DeSmet, City Clerk