

9/3/24 Garwin City Council Minutes

Called to order at 6pm.

Present: Deam, Zoffka, Brave Heart, Raymond, McCubbin, Simcox

Others present: R. Collins, G. Zielstorf, J. Nelson, S. Parks, P. Smith, A. Niederman

Zoffka motioned, Brave Heart seconded the approval of Aug bills and minutes. Approved with all ayes.

Mayor Deam reported he has been to several meetings lately including 2 school board, Tama County EMA board, Fire and Ambulance.

Under old business, Simcox motioned to approve Resolution 2024-6 to transfer leftover FD budget funds. Raymond seconded and it was passed with all ayes.

Zoffka reported in more depth on property tax lien assessments. An ordinance will be made after final details are worked out. If someone buys a property in town with a lien and they restore/update it so that it earns property taxes, then they could apply for a reimbursement of the lien.

Deam reported we are making more progress on fire station project. This will be a pole building. Deam called State Fire Marshall and State Dept of Inspections. It was made clear that no inspections (excluding electrical) are needed unless we get a state grant to help pay for it. An architect is no longer needed which will save \$55,000. The current contract states the City can terminate at any time.

Parks reported that the current ambulance is not in the best condition. She is hoping an EMS bill is passed on Nov 5 in order to provide more income.

Under new business, P. Smith asked why Tama EMS is responding to calls here and not the Garwin EMS. Parks said we are understaffed. Deb Stamp has passed the EMT class and will be able to help now. Justin Nelson has requested to take the EMS training. Raymond motioned, McCubbin seconded and it was passed with all ayes.

Vaverka went over the Debt Obligation Report that is due at the end of every Aug. She presented paying the tractor loan off to save \$400 in interest. Brave Heart motioned, Simcox seconded. Passed with all ayes.

Raymond reported the fire dept got their truck back from shop. The whole electrical board was fried somehow.

Parks reported there is new administration at the school and our Ambulance service will be working the football games again this year. Deb Stamp has completed her EMS course and is now an official member of our EMS crew. Justin Nelson would like to join the Ambulance crew and needs to be EMS certified. The next EMS class starts Oct. 3. Raymond motioned; McCubbin seconded. Approved with all ayes.

McCubbin reported that there are some tripping hazards in the Main Park that should be fixed. The old yellow/wood equipment needs to be taken down or given away. Lorie Raymond has been doing a wonderful job cleaning and fixing up the Shelterhouse. The City is aware of the needs/repairs that still need to be done. There are 2 Library Board members retiring so there are 2 spots to fill. Any board member must live within the city limits. The Library is looking to hire another pt helper. Council was ok with that as long as they stay within payroll budget. Minors 14 yrs and older will be considered.

Simcox reported he went over the City debit card receipts and everything looks good.

Zoffka reported on Nuisances. 301 4th St needs to go to attorney. A letter needs to go to 504 Carlton St.

Brave Heart reported that clerk needs to reach out to LL Pelling to schedule street repairs.

Vaverka reported that since the City changed our savings accounts to a different type of account, we are earning more income through interest. The FD Trust fund still needs to be changed because it is considered a checking account. There will be no changes to the signers on this account. Raymond motioned, Simcox seconded to approve closing current account and re-opening as a Business Savings account in order to earn more interest. Approved with all ayes.

A. Niederman asked if the City could do anything about the entrances to the alley between 3rd and 4th Streets. The council will have Maintenance try to fix it.

Brave Heart motioned, Zoffka seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday 10/1/24.

By Michelle Vaverka, City Clerk