

May 13, 2024

The regular meeting of the city council was called to order by Mayor Dave Witucki. Council members present were Tom Boeck, Gina Massop, Tiffany Sevcik, and KC Reuter. Also present were Don Wolters, Patty Smith, Bruce Ward, Tamara Dicks and Kris Ambuehl & Bryan Coffin-Bollig Engineering.

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Boeck and 2nd by Reuter to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2024, meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills: A motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Massop to approve the bills.

City of Amboy 11510 – 11564 & EFT's 886E-892E \$206,277.13

Smith had an additional bill from H2O for \$2406.70. Motion carried unanimously.

RO Update: No one from SEH was present at the meeting. Change order 16 for time extension was presented, it had been tabled at the last 2 meetings. Discussion was held, work has been completed, no reason to extend the date. A motion was made by Massop and 2nd by Reuter to not approve change order 16 final payment time extension. Motion carried unanimously. Change order 17 on increase in price for connection to the distribution from 6" to 8" pipe/extra labor on change order 12 for an additional \$16,365.14. Discussion was held; the council can disapprove and see if Joseph's Company takes us to court or approve as our attorney recommended since the work was completed. A motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Boeck approve change order 17 for an additional \$16,365.14. Motion carried unanimously. The punch list for RO system is almost complete, waiting for load of black dirt and training with H2O on May 20-21. Smith had final inspection report from the Dept of Health, project is found to be substantially completed and no deficiencies were identified.

Approval of Liquor License Linda's Place: A motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Sevcik to approve the renewal of liquor license for Linda's Place. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning: Gina Massop, 221 Pleasant Street submitted a zoning permit application for a deck. A motion was made by Boeck and 2nd by Reuter to approve the deck if all setbacks are met. Motion was approved and Massop abstained. Nicholas & Twyla Devens 300 2nd Ave s submitted a zoning permit for a fence around ground. A motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Massop to approve the fence if all setbacks were met. Motion carried unanimously. Request from Michael Orr, 441 Pleasant Street to have his street marked as a dead end to prevent people from driving through the alley behind his house. The area is used by delivery drivers and garbage trucks. It also contains a fire hydrant. Allowing the dead-end sign would set a precedent to allow other residents to close the alleys by their homes and since this alley also has a fire hydrant and other city utilities a motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Boeck to deny the request for a dead-end sign. Motion carried unanimously. Reuter asked for an update on the proposed Dollar General; they are working with the MN DOT on turn lanes before moving forward with a building permit application.

Bollig Engineering: Kris Ambuehl and Bryan Caffin presented to the council information for Bollig Engineering. They focus on cities under 5000 and most are less than 1500. Their staff are funding-based and have a staff that helps find funds available for projects. Bollig has a success rate of an average of 64% of projects receive grant money. Their staff monitors the grants and can take advantage of what is needed to receive the money.

They do not charge for council meetings, phone calls or emails; the focus is on getting correct bills at the start with no surprises. The focus is on Strategic Planning, Funding/Financing, and Implementation. There would be a needs assessment/funding assessment done initially at no cost to the city. They would look at the total city and see what is needed and whatever else we tell them. Billing is done by a task order that would show what it is for and be in a readable format. No work will be completed until the council approves it. The task order sets the budget and will not go over if the project is completed late. Change orders will happen; Bollig will try to minimize them.

Funding/finance is done by their team. They do the paperwork for the grants; some could come from bonding bills. They do the work in company and will bring in an expert if needed at their cost. "We are confident to do everything but not arrogant enough to ask for help." Planning is usually done for 2-3 years down the road, so most of your needs can be met with funds.

They do have licensed operators that could be used for temporary help at water and wwtp. They have offices in Willmar, Lakefield and Two Harbors and currently work with Pemberton and Minnesota Lake in our area.

The city council would need to approve the contract and task order #1 would be done at no charge. Bollig would meet with Don, Steve, Dave, and Patty to discuss what areas/direction on what the city needs would be over the next 5 – 10 years. After we receive the report, we can continue with Bollig on projects or go to another firm. If we would move forward with a specific project, Bollig would have another task order to approve prior to any work being completed. A motion was made by Massop and 2nd by Boeck to approve the Agreement between the City of Amboy and Engineer for Professional Services via Task Order and to have Task Order #1 completed at no charge to the city for an Initial Needs and Funding Assessment Summary. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports: Reports received from police, fire, and public works. Wolters has contacted someone to repair fire hydrants and to replace one hydrant near corner of 3rd Ave/Pleasant or 2nd Ave/Pleasant or 1st Ave/South St E. The chlorine level has been lowered; the smell should be less. Black dirt should be delivered soon and training with H2O is May 20-21; Wolters, Smith and Witucki will be trained, and SOP's will be written. A bypass was done at WWTP due to the rain. It was reported to the duty officer, samples taken and was bypassed for 24 hours. Wolters and Witucki will do smoke testing to help locate more I & I issues.

MN Pump works submitted a bid for the SW Lift Station, on their annual inspection last July it was recommended to do the repair. If you do not do it this year, it will be more expensive. The bid was for \$20,575.56. A motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Boeck to approve the repair bid from MN Pump Works for the SW Lift Station for \$20,575.56. Motion carried unanimously.

Siren Upgrade: Blue Earth County had an evaluation done of all the city's Emergency Sirens. Amboy's is from 1990 and should be replaced. The city is responsible for the maintenance of the emergency sirens. The cost of a siren will be over \$30,000.00 Smith needed to know if you want all electric or solar. The council would like electric; Smith will plan for it in the 2025 budget.

Open Comment: Bruce Ward said we should utilize the engineers on siren upgrade/grant money. Smith and Sevcik have talked with Joan Glaubitz and the donated bench will be placed by the trees/putting golf area. Wolters will install it. Smith had a request from Cailea and Chevy Martin;

they would like to use the football field area for a day for new business All About Fun Inflatables. They have insurance and want to know what the city would charge. The council said to charge the same as vendors during city celebration and confirm their insurance. Sevcik asked about recreational court painting-should be May 20-22. Massop would like Bollig to look at everything, not just previously talked about projects. Boeck requested the sunken manhole cover on Maine St/Truwe be repaired/raised up – Smith will see who did the last one and get bid for next meeting. Reuter asked about the broken-up asphalt by the fire department; Wolters will contact DOT to see who is responsible for the repair. Witucki asked about the sidewalk at recreational area; it was discussed to have bell moved and cow installed before decision where the sidewalk should be located. Wolters will move bell and install the red cow this summer.

Miscellaneous:

Painting of Recreational Area is May 20-22, City wide clean up is May 18, Appliance/Electronic Recycling is June 4 and next council meeting is June 10.

A motion was made by Massop and 2nd by Reuter to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

David Witucki, Mayor

Council

ATTEST:

Patty Smith, Administrator, Clerk-Treasurer