

November 4, 2024

The regular meeting of the city council was called to order by Mayor David Witucki. Council members present were Tom Boeck, KC Reuter, Tiffany Sevcik, and Gina Massop. Also present were Don Wolters, Chris Kruse, Patty Smith, Tamara Dicks, Bruce Ward, Peter Benton, Kris Ambuehl and Bryan Caffin – Bollig Engineering.

Everyone stood the recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Boeck to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting on October 8, 2024. Motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Boeck to approve the minutes from the closed meeting with attorney on October 28, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

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

City of Amboy	11786 – 11830 & EFT's 931E – 936E	\$110,366.70
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There were no additional bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing – Delinquent Utility Bills: The regular meeting was closed, and public hearing was opened. No comments from the public. A motion was made by Boeck and 2nd by Massop to put the 2 delinquent bills on the tax rolls. Motion carried unanimously. Public hearing was closed, and regular meeting was reopened.

Casey's – Tobacco & 3.2 License: A motion was made by Sevcik and 2nd by Reuter to approve the tobacco and 3.2 licenses for Casey's. Motion carried unanimously.

Bollig Engineers: Kris and Bryan presented the Needs and Funding Evaluation. Since our city does have lower/moderate income levels it allows us to be eligible for more grants such a Rural Development, PFA, Small City, and LCCMR-LRIP.

Water – our system is brand new and working. We may need a prefilter system; that is still being evaluated since we are less than one year with new RO system.

Water Tower – It has been maintained over the years, and currently is okay and there are not significant issues to having it replaced.

Water pipes – many of the pipes are 4" and new standards require 6". The pipes are made of cast iron and by the numerous water main breaks we have had, some areas need to be replaced. There are some hydrants and gate valves that need extra TLC and dead-end loops, which would be a fundable replacement. Bollig suggests replacing the water mains where issues have been and eventually replacing all the water mains. These projects have been discussed for over 10 years; council did not have the money to do this. Bollig said we could be eligible for USDA funding.

Sanitary Sewer – It consists of clay pipe. The city did line many of the pipes 15-20 years ago. Lining pipes is a temporary fix. This is a fundable project to help fix the I & I.

WWTP – RBCs from the 80's are being replaced at many facilities. Our EQ basin needs some TLC. Rehabilitating our current facility is a good possibility. Redo clarifiers, replace the RBCs with activated sludge. The facility itself is in decent shape, the equipment inside needs to be updated. The council would rather rehab and not a new facility. Bollig will look at costs of rehab and new, to see the difference in funding/costs.

Storm Water – There are a lot of unknowns; which is city, and which is county tile. Would need to update the maps; just televising the storm sewers would be expensive.

Streets – Some are good, we have been maintaining the streets and seal coating does help them last longer.

Task Order #2 – This proposal would give Bollig permission to do a preliminary engineering report and environmental report in accordance with Rural Development for infrastructure improvements. The total cost would be \$45,000.00 and the report would be done in Winter 2024/Spring 2025. There would be no additional costs to the city, even if it would take Bollig more time than expected to complete the reports. The council would approve the report before it is finalized. A motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Massop to split the payments with \$20,000.00 paid when report is completed and the balance of \$25,000.00 paid after funding is obtained. Motion carried unanimously. The billing for the \$20,000.00 will be split into 2 payments of \$10,000.00 each.

Preliminary work - Bollig also requested authorization to do preliminary work for South Street Extension and Storm Investigation up to \$15,000.00. This work would be done, so when we want to look for grant money, we know what type of work will be needed for those projects. A motion was made by Massop and 2nd by Boeck to authorize Bollig to do the preliminary work for South Street and Storm Investigation. Motion carried unanimously.

Development Agreement: A draft development agreement was given to council for input before giving it to Grover Trucking. Smith will clarify if it is 3 or 4 parcels and give it to Grover for input.

Zoning: Permit 636 for lean-to was tabled by Planning Commission, requesting measurements on plot plan. Permit 637, privacy fence at 213 North Street W; motion made by Boeck and 2nd by Reuter to approve the fence if all setbacks are met, motion carried unanimously. Permit 638, 3-season porch at 170 Reed Court; motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Massop to approve the 3-season porch, motion carried unanimously.

Reports: Dave requested public works to have estimates of a leaf sweeper and cost of building our own for the December meeting. Public works will have to wait to take more leaves from compost until it freezes as it is too muddy. Vehicles should be ready for winter/plowing. Sand/salt truck may be used if needed. We will get salt/sand from Blue Earth County as needed and keep at compost site. Curtains at WWTP need to be replaced next year. Public works will need to have different options for council to discuss such as replacing but having them go up instead of down as that accumulates water or having garage doors – Chris will have by December meeting.

Mutual Aid with Counties: A motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Boeck to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement with Blue Earth, Nicollet, and LeSueur Counties. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2024 – 16 Fire Department Turn Out Gear: A motion was made by Massop and 2nd by Sevcik to approve using the public safety money received from the State of \$23,280.00 towards new turnout gear for the fire department. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2024 – 17 Increase in Garbage/Recycling Rates 2025: A motion was made by Reuter and 2nd by Boeck to approve the 3.5% increase that LJP is raising the rates to in 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Comment: Ward wants the council to address the I & I issues on the Southeast end of city before Grover Trucking expands as their washing of trucks will increase the problems. He asked to have the engineering firm investigate it. Benton questioned why his permit was not approved. Smith explained the planning commission requested measurements on his plot plan. Ward (planning commission chair) will meet with Benton to clarify. Sevcik would like clarification if she should vote on any upcoming Grover Trucking, as her husband works and does not want it to be a conflict of interest – Smith will confirm with the League.

Miscellaneous: Voting is Tuesday, November 5. Special Council meeting to Canvass the votes will be on Thursday, November 14. Next regular council meeting will be December 2, 2024.

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

David Witucki, Mayor

Council

ATTEST:

Patty Smith, Administrator, Clerk-Treasurer