

Regular Meeting of the Olds, Iowa City Council
January 8th, 2020

Mayor Raymond Meth called the meeting to order at the Olds City Hall at 6:30 p.m. with council members Theresa Willey, Candice Curry, Ben Fear, Fred Roth and Jason Waterhouse present. Absent: None. Others present: Russell Conrad, Brittany Davis and Cory and Heather Reusch.

Motion by Waterhouse, seconded by Curry to approve the agenda, the minutes of the meeting of December 4th, 2019, the Treasurer's report for the month of December 2019 and the following list of bills. Carried.

WATER FUND:

Russell Conrad (wages, water turn on, Supplies, returned check)-----	639.63
Dale Mullin (wages)-----	204.22
Brittany Davis (wages, office supplies)---	374.10
Raymond Meth (wages, per diem)-----	94.63
Candice Curry (per diem)-----	41.52
Ben Fear (per diem)-----	41.56
Jason Waterhouse (per diem)-----	41.56
Fred Roth (per diem)-----	41.56
Timothy Faller (per diem)-----	41.56
Internal Revenue Service (social security, medicare, federal withholding)-----	278.85
IPERS (IPERS)-----	227.97
Alliant Energy (electricity)-----	51.95
Farmers and Merchants (internet)-----	85.30
Rathbun Regional Water Assoc. (water)-----	1,449.00
Treasurer - State of IA (withholding)-----	126.00
Treasurer - State of IA (sales tax)-----	1,160.56
Hygienic Laboratory (testing)-----	13.00
Ann Conrad (mileage)-----	28.80
4-M Plumbing & Heating (repairs)-----	408.34
Total-----\$	5,350.11

CITY FUND:

Olds Fire Department (fire protection)----\$	680.00
WEMIGA (garbage collection)-----	1,916.70
Brittany Davis (wages, supplies, postage)---	395.44
Raymond Meth (wages, per diem)-----	94.63
Candice Curry (per diem)-----	41.52
Ben Fear (per diem)-----	41.56
Jason Waterhouse (per diem)-----	41.56
Fred Roth (per diem, pothole patch)-----	87.88
Timothy Faller (per diem)-----	41.56
Internal Revenue Service (social security, medicare, federal withholding)-----	104.39
IPERS (IPERS)-----	83.56
Alliant Energy (electricity)-----	594.62
Windstream (telephone)-----	67.97
The Winfield Beacon (publishing)-----	38.10
Treasurer - State of IA (withholding)-----	60.00
Whitfield & Eddy (legal services)-----	1,054.54

Henry County Auditor (election expense)---	593.94
Lorri Conrad (cleaning city hall)-----	30.00
Total-----\$	<u>5,967.97</u>

Sewer Fund:

Russell Conrad(wages)-----\$	371.46
Brittany Davis(wages,office supplies)-----	373.66
Raymond Meth(wages, per diem)-----	94.63
Candice Curry (per diem)-----	41.52
Ben Fear (per diem)-----	41.56
Jason Waterhouse (per diem)-----	41.56
Fred Roth (per diem)-----	41.56
Timothy Faller (per diem)-----	41.56
Internal Revenue Service(social security, medicare, federal withholding)-----	207.78
IPERS(IPERS)-----	160.05
Alliant Energy(electricity)-----	51.81
Treasurer - State of IA (withholding)-----	114.00
Treasurer - State of IA (sales tax)-----	140.26
Hygienic Laboratory(testing)-----	132.50
Total-----\$	<u>1,853.91</u>

Total receipts for the month of December 2019 were: City Funds \$11,710.35; Water Funds \$6,355.73; Sewer Funds \$3,663.47.

Cory & Heather Reusch attended the meeting to discuss the drainage issue surrounding their house at 101 South Smith Street in Olds. They stated they have lived there for over 5 years and never had any issues until 2019 when their basement flooded twice. They stated that they have two sump pumps that are pumping non-stop. Cory noted that Agri-Center did some excavating to the north of Reusch's property back in 2018 and ever since then the Resuch family have been having issues getting the water to drain away from their house. The council is planning on getting a couple inlets installed early spring to help with this issue, but we believe there is more going on here that we need to investigate further. Brittany will contact Agri-Center of Henry County and find out what exactly they did in 2018. It was also noted that the tree line just north of Railroad Avenue also was not draining at all last year. We will see what we find out with Agri-Center and continue discussion on this issue at our next month's meeting.

Russell went over the late charge report and the list of water meters that need repaired. Victory Lane Apartments currently have three that are not working. Brittany contacted David Schlatter this past month and the main meters he wanted to put in at each of the three apartment buildings he does not want to do now. He wants to keep each individual water meter separate in case of any water leaks in the future. The council discussed this and decided since David was the one who wanted the meters for the buildings he needs to be sent a bill for the three meters. The three meters cost us \$722.00 back in 2018. Brittany will get the bill put together and sent to David. Included in this bill Brittany will also put the repairs that are needed to the north apartment building meters. To replace these meters David will have to drain his hot water heater and remove it so that Russell can get back there and replace the meters.

Russell also stated that David needs to get the manual meter readers placed at the two apartments to the south. To replace these meters in the south two apartments it will take a professional plumber to get this done. The wiring is a mess. David will have to contact McCoy's Plumbing & Heating, Miller & Son's Plumbing and Heating or 4-M Plumbing and heating to get these replaced. Russell also noted that he put a call into 4-M Plumbing to fix the curb stop at 304 W. 3rd Ave in Olds. He is waiting to hear back. Russell also stated that William Shampney's water meter needs to be replaced. Russell has tried contacting Shampney's multiple times to set-up a time for him to replace it and has had no luck. Russell will continue to try and make contact with them. Russell noted he did replace the meter at Bob Neff's. Russell stated the door at the old salt shack was still blown off. Fred Roth will take a look at this.

Russell went over the annual Water Usage Report with the council. The city purchased 7,861,000 gallons, sold 6,051,400 gallons and had an 18% water loss for the 2019 year. Russell also noted that the water tower was drained and inspected by Maguire Iron on 6/24/19.

Russell spoke with our water/sewer billing software provider (RVS) this past month about payment options for customers and tracking deposits. Russell will now start tracking deposits on the billing program instead of Brittany doing it on her Excel spreadsheet. Russell thinks this will allow better control over when deposits are refunded or when they are applied to account balances.

Pilot Grove Savings Bank and the RVS Software have the option of having automatic withdrawals from bank accounts (ACH Payments for customers). The cost for the upgrade for RVS to do this is \$350.00. This would require the customers who want their water/sewer bill automatically taken out of their account to fill out a sheet with their bank information on it and provide the city with a voided check. Brittany has also looked into getting the bill payment option set up on our city website. If we did this the water/sewer customers could go to our city website and push on bill pay and pay by credit card or e-check. With this option if the customer wants to pay their bill by credit card it would cost them 2.85% of their bill plus .40 cents per transaction. If the customer wanted to pay by e-check it would cost them a flat rate of \$2.95. This option would cost the city \$15 per month to have this service. Brittany will get a poll put together and post it at the post office to see what option is most popular and we will discuss at our next month's meeting.

Russell reported that there is a camper located at 203 East School Ave that is dumping into our sewer system illegally. This residence sewer pipe is also not properly vented and is spreading sewer gas which could be harming the neighborhood and possibly even the people inside the house. Brittany will send a letter stating they cannot dump their sewage from their camper into our sewer system, and they need to fix their sewer vent pipe.

Russell went over the Sewer Annual Intake and Discharge Report with the council. Russell stated we have a big issue. The amount that went into our sewer system in 2019 was 8,221,100 gallons. Our design flow is for 20,500 gallons per day (7,482,500 annually). We are way above this and had to discharge three times in 2019 because of this. When comparing the Water Annual Report against the Sewer Annual Report Russell stated we only bought 7,861,000 gallons in 2019. This means that there was 360,100

gallons that we took in that we didn't ever buy. We will need to get an engineer hired to investigate this situation. We will get in touch with SEIRPC to see what we have to do to get this investigation going. They can help us get grants and get us lined up with some engineers for this job. We will discuss again at next month's meeting. Russell is thinking there might be some houses that will need to be re-plumbed that are currently connected to our sewer system.

The discussion was brought up about getting a yard waste container from WEMIGA. The council thinks it would be a good idea to have one container for leaf pick-up instead of burning the leaves in town. It was also brought up the option to see if Wayland, Winfield or Washington would be willing to vacuum up the leaves if we had the residents put them on the side of the streets. Brittany will get some quotes from the surrounding communities for this and we will discuss again at next month's meeting.

Brittany did some research on dead and decaying trees. She was a little confused on what the council wanted the residents to do with these trees. Brittany will get a letter put together and bring to the next meeting for the council to review.

Brittany stated that she tried to place the order for the Christmas wreaths and they told her to call back after the new year when they go back on sale. Brittany will get these ordered before the end of the month!

Brittany has started working on getting the FYE 2021 budget figured out. Brittany asked what projects the council was trying to get completed. They are as follows: 1.) Expand city Park-and-Ride 2.) Fix the large concrete crack in the foundation at the shelter house at the city park 3.) All flag poles need painted 4.) Park benches on the east side of the park need to be replaced 5.) The shrubs around the City of Olds sign near the Park-and-Ride need to be taken out and re-landscaped 6.) The Drainage issues in town - Starting with Cory Reusch corner. Brittany will use this information to finish the first draft of the FYE 2021 city budget. We will review at next month's meeting.

Brittany got a few updates from our city attorney. We will need to increase the garbage rate by resolution. Brittany will get this put on our next month's agenda and the rate increase will take effect in March. We will continue to increase the garbage rate by \$1.00 every six months until we reach the breaking even point, which is \$17. Next rate increase will be September 2020.

In reviewing the ordinance that our attorney put together on the swimming pool fill ups in town, Brittany is going to have to get with Phil again. Brittany will try to have the revised and correct adjustment at the next meeting.

The attorney also gave the council some literature on sidewalks in town to read.

The council will wait to discuss the city maintenance employee job until the March meeting.

Motion by Waterhouse, seconded by Fear to approve the L.L. Pelling Co. materials prices for street repair. Carried.

Roth asked the council their thoughts on selling our city fork lift. The council discussed and agreed upon since we don't use it, that if Roth can sell it to go ahead and sell it.

Roth reported that the roof at the old fire station is falling apart,

along with the overhead garage door. Roth will get quotes for these repairs and bring them to the next council meeting for review.

It was brought to the council's attention that the wood burning stove located at 202 South Main Street needs to have the stack raised at least 20 feet. The smoke is currently disturbing the neighbors. Brittany will write a letter to the homeowners and see if we can get this issue resolved.

The next regular meeting is set for Wednesday February 5th, 2020 at the Olds City Hall at 6:30 P.M.

Motion by Waterhouse, seconded by Roth the meeting be adjourned.
Carried.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR