

**Wall City Council Meeting**  
**Community Center Meeting Room**  
January 23, 2024 6:30pm

Members present:

Mary Williams – Mayor  
Rick Hustead – Councilman  
Stan Anderson – Councilman  
Dan Hauk – Councilman  
Kelly Welsh – Councilwoman  
Jerry Morgan – Councilman  
Mike Anderson – Councilman

Others present:

Carolynn Anderson - Finance Officer  
Garrett Bryan – Public Works  
Katie Bruce - Chamber Director on Zoom  
Annette Bryant- Pennington County Treasurer  
Liliya Stone – Wall Ambulance Service

*(All action taken in the following minutes carried by unanimous vote unless otherwise states)*

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 6:30pm; roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Katie Bruce was present on Zoom for the purpose of taking minutes.

Motion by Hauk, second by Morgan to approve the minutes of 1/4/2024 city council meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by S Anderson, second by Welsh to approve claims for the City of Wall, Fire Department, & Library. Motion carried.

Reviewed:

- Ambulance District report
- Cash & MM Balance
- Budget Report

Annette Bryant, Pennington County Treasurer, shared information regarding the senior citizen property tax freeze deadline being April 1. Some of the requirements for the freeze are you must be 65 or older by January 1<sup>st</sup> and there are limits on income and home value. These amounts have increased recently so if you were not qualified in the past, it would be good to reevaluate. There are applications in the city office and website, satellite office, in the Rapid City or online.

A complaint from a Wall resident stated the city piles snow near their property while cleaning streets. Public Works Director (PWD) Bryan explained the area where they are piling snow is city property and when the resident expressed concern with the melting snow damaging their property, they were advised the snow would be removed before it melts. However, Public Works prioritizes moving snow by removing possible traffic hazards first, then piles they put on private property, with the piles they placed on city property being the last to be removed. If the resident still has concerns, they will need to develop drainage solutions on their own property.

Liliya Stone, Board of Directors President of the Wall Ambulance Service shared statistics for 2023. There were 159 calls total and 95 of those were transported and billed. Transported calls are the only calls the ambulance can bill. The locations of these calls were: City 60%, Country 25%, I-90 15%. Total 2023 revenue including donations was \$438,000. The 2023 payroll was \$280,000. Finances are looking better for this year, and they have 12 full- and part-time active staff with 3 volunteer drivers. The annual meeting is March 12<sup>th</sup>, and they have one position open on the board. They hope to have the director position filled in 2024.

Attorney Trask was not present to give a report.

Finance Officer (FO) Anderson explained the West River Electric Board of Directors approved a REED loan for the City of Wall for the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Project for \$2,000,000 and a resolution is needed to verify the council's approval of the loan. Motion by S Anderson, second by Morgan to approve Resolution 24-03: 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Project Loan. Motion carried.

Mayor Williams report:

- Met with law enforcement and received information on chain of command and how they are proceeding with filling the open deputy positions in Wall and how they are recruiting individuals who are likely to live and stay in Wall long term.
- The Prairie Village meeting was rescheduled to tomorrow at 10AM to address concerns such as fire alarms and street parking.
- Planning & Zoning meeting February 5th at 8AM for a rezone request.
- There is another house being built Hansen subdivision and possibly the arrival of the governor's home soon.

FO Anderson report:

- The SDML Legislator Rib Supper is February 6<sup>th</sup> in Pierre. FO Anderson asked if there was interest from the council to attend. Mayor Williams and FO Anderson will be attending.
- Yearend duties are being completed.
- Utility training on the new software is still underway.
- Petitions for the three council positions can be circulated starting 1/26.

PWD Bryan report:

- Bryan researched why the Wall exit signs only have the street names listed and not the town as a follow up from the previous council meeting. Prior to getting to the off ramps there is a "Wall Next 2 Exits" sign and this is how it is for any town that has more than one exit off the interstate.
- Another source of heat is needed in the fire hall/city shop as not all the heaters are working and what is working is not keeping up with the demand. Hauk commented that the current heaters are from 1978. Bryan would like to install a fuel oil heater and the cost would be \$5,200/installed and De's Oil has a tank for the fuel oil. The cost of the heater, tank and fuel will be shared 50/50 with the City and Fire Department. The fire department has approved their half of the cost.
- Public Works employees, Trevor and Gary are attending classes this week for certifications.

Kristopher Cudmore from Game, Fish & Parks called, and they would like to grade and put some gravel down to improve the Old Wall Dam Road. PWD Bryan commented they could help with the grading, as the city has done some maintenance of the road in the past. It was a consensus of the council for Public Works to move forward and work with Game, Fish, & Parks to improve the road.

Next City Council meeting will be February 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm.

Motion by Hustead, second by Welsh, to move into executive session to discuss legal/personnel issues according to SDCL 1-25-2 at 7:27pm. Motion carried.

Mayor Williams declared the meeting out of executive session at 8:33pm.

Motion by Hauk, second by Welsh, to send a letter to attorney Hagg thanking him for his service, and that the city will no longer need him since the litigation has concluded. Motion carried.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Williams declared the meeting adjourned at 8:34pm.

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Mary Williams, Mayor

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Carolynn Anderson, Finance Officer

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