

Wall City Council Meeting
Community Center Meeting Room
March 7, 2024 6:30pm

Members present:

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

Others present:

Carolynn Anderson - Finance Officer
Garrett Bryan – Public Works
Katie Bruce - Chamber Director
Kendall Nelson – WEDC Director
Deputy Austin – Penn. Co. Sheriff’s Dept
Travis Hirschey – Mead & Hunt
Tim Hartmann – KLJ Engineering
Fred Folsom, Bruce, Dunker, Gary Amos
Liliya Stone, John Diedrichs, Dar Haerer

(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.

Deputy Austin updated the council on the February police report. There were 26 calls to Prairie Village for various reasons. He requested the school be addressed regarding the west side doors being left unlocked at night resulting in the officer needing to clear the building alone. Two new officers will be coming to Wall once their training is completed. Finance Officer (FO) Anderson commented that she mentioned the unlocked door issue at the Wall School Board meeting and the new door locking system the school will be installing soon will have an automatic locking system that should remedy the issue.

Motion by S Anderson, second by Hauk to approve the minutes of 2/15/2024 city council meeting. Motion carried.

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

Reviewed:

- On-call schedule/Employee OT-sick-Vac report
- Ambulance District December 2023 and January 2024 minutes and financials
- Fire Department minutes – 1/9/2024 and 1/21/2024
- Golf Course financial report
- Water usage report
- Sales Tax report
- Budget Reports

Fred Folsom came before the council to introduce himself as the owner of Sanders Sanitation and has interest in the Wall Municipal waste contract that is coming up for bid. He has been operating in this area for the past four years and has established an office in Quinn. He has two Wall residents as employees and is looking forward to investing in the Wall community. He commented competition is a good thing as it provides the best service for the customer at the best price. He is excited to bring options to the city of Wall.

Tim Hartmann with KLJ Engineering reported the 4th Avenue pre-construction meeting was Monday with the contractor, Hulstein Excavating. They are planning to mobilize next week and

planning an aggressive completion schedule. The contract is for the bid amount and will be adjusted with a change order for a reduction that was agreed upon. Motion by Husted, second by S Anderson to approve the Notice to Proceed and sign the construction contract. Motion carried.

Hartman indicated Echo Valley is complete and closed out. Tim thanked Carolynn and Garrett for their help during finalization. The incorrect street names will be fixed. There are a few items at the industrial park that are still being finished up and then that project will be closed out.

Travis Hirschey, with Mead & Hunt, reported on the airport project. The AGIS contract is for Mead & Hunt to complete the Aeronautical As Built Survey as required by the FAA. The City will receive a new aerial photo of the airport from the study. The funding for the study is secured and the city's contribution of the local funding is \$5,300. Motion by S Anderson, second by Morgan to approve the agreement for professional services with Mead & Hunt. Motion carried. The runway is operational. They plan to seed and mulch next week and make lighting adjustments. Hopefully, finalization of the project will be in April or May. The SD Airport Conference is April 10 & 11 in Deadwood and would be beneficial for a representative from the city to attend.

Liliya Stone reminded the Council of the Wall Ambulance Annual Meeting on March 12th at 6pm in the Wall Community Center. There will be no election as Zack Hoffmann is running unopposed.

Motion by S Anderson, second by Hauk to approve a building permit for Dar and Lisa Haerer to build a house in Echo Valley subdivision. Motion carried. The council agreed Haerer could place two sheds on the lot during construction. When construction is complete the material storage shed will be removed.

Motion by S Anderson, second by Hauk to approve applying the fee from John Diedrich's first building permit on his house that burned down, to his second permit reducing it from \$1500 to \$900. Motion carried.

Chamber Director Katie Bruce report:

- Community Center Monthly Use Report
- March 23rd is the Bring on Spring cornhole tournament and party with registration starting at 3pm and the tournament at 4pm.
- Chamber Luncheon is March 12th at the community center. Lunch will be provided. There will no longer be a drawing for \$100 Wall Bucks at the meeting for those attending, in lieu of a free lunch.
- The Wall Badlands Chamber Annual Meeting is April 17th starting at 5:30 with social hour. Petitions for the board of directors are available in the chamber office and need to be turned in by March 25th. There are three openings on the board.

Wall Economic Development Director Kendall Nelson report:

- The "*Lots Happening in Wall*" flyer went out in the Profit advertising the available Housing lots, Hanger lots, the Industrial Park lots and construction condominium spaces available.
- Started monthly business visits last week.
- Researching the idea of starting a local CDL class in Wall and a small business class through SDSU.
- Attended the Elevate Economic Summit in Rapid City. Listened to many interesting speakers and learned that Rapid City is the 36th fastest growing city in the country.

- Black Hills Energy will conduct a consultation to assist with responding to RFI's regarding the industrial park.
- Next WEDC Board Meeting will be March 27th @ 6pm, WCC.

The city/school combined election will be April 9th. Motion by Husted, second by S Anderson to approve \$250/day wages for the election board workers who are Cheryl Lester, Juanita Schroeder, Jerry Johannesen, Stacy Bielmaier and Doris Eisenbraun. Motion carried with Welsh abstaining.

Equalization meeting to hear property valuation appeals, will begin on March 18th, 2024. Appeals are due in the Wall Finance Office by 4:00pm on March 14th, 2024.

Motion by Morgan, second by Hauk to advertise and award the industrial park hay bid at the April 4th, 2024, council meeting. Motion carried.

FO Anderson report:

- Mayor Williams and FO Anderson are registered for the SDML District Meeting, March 27th in Hill City; no other council members asked to attend.
- We previously contracted propane at \$2 with Enning Propane. But they are billing the City at the lower current pricing as it has remained lower than expected.
- Wall FO Anderson is hosting the Black Hills Finance Officers quarterly meeting on March 14th from 10:00-2:00pm in the meeting room.
- Motion by S Anderson, second by Morgan to approve FO Anderson attending the SHRM Conference in Pierre 4/30-5/2. Motion carried.
- Motion by Husted, second by M Anderson to change May City Council dates to May 7th & May 21st. Motion carried.

Public Works report – Garrett Bryan:

- The new furnace has been installed in the shop and is working.
- Well #1 repairs will cost about \$8,000. Motion by M Anderson, second by Hauk to approve the repairs to Well #1. Motion carried.

Mayor Williams report:

- The third Governors' Home was delivered, and another will be delivered in April, which means all seven lots in Hansen Subdivision are filled. Cheyenne McGriff is working to find builders for Echo Valley. Two lots are sold and several in discussion status.
- Teresa from Badlands Observatory in Quinn asked if the City of Wall would recognize Dark Sky Week April 2-8th with a proclamation and display a banner. There was a consensus from the council to recognize Dark Sky Week.
- Pennington County Housing meeting was Feb 20th regarding concerns at Prairie Village. Objectives were set and they will be meeting again next week. Garrett shared he responded to two fire alarms there over the weekend; the first for burnt food and the second call they did not find a reason for the alarm go off. The fire department notified Pennington County Housing Authority that they will no longer re-set the alarm system as they do not want the liability.
- Airport Steering Committee meeting will be March 8 at 10AM.
- Pre-construction meeting for 4th Avenue was on Monday and work will be starting soon. The Reed agreement is signed. Carolyn has a verbal commitment with First Interstate Bank for a short-term loan to bridge the funding if needed.
- Planning & Zoning met for a request to rezone; however, after meeting with the Black Hills Local Government consultant it was learned that the city did not take the proper

steps for notification for that zone request. The Hansen's have been notified that the action taken is null and void and they will need to re-submit the zone request again. The next Planning and Zoning meeting will be March 19th at 1pm to continue the zoning ordinance rewrite.

Next City Council meeting will be March 21st at 6:30pm.

Motion by Husted, second by Hauk, to move into executive session to discuss legal/personnel issues according to SDCL 1-25-2 at 7:54pm. Motion carried.

Mayor Williams declared the meeting out of executive session at 8:30pm.

Motion by Hauk, second by M Anderson to increase Ashton Swift wages to \$27/hr., retroactive to February 1, 2024. Motion carried.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Williams declared the meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.

Mary Williams, Mayor

Carolynn Anderson, Finance Officer

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