**December 4th, 2023: Regular Council Meeting**

The Argonia City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on December 4th, 2023 at the Argonia City Hall. Those present, Council members Felisha Noland, Wayne Peterson, Terina McCurley and Scott Jones. Also present were Tara Pierce-City Clerk, Jake Callaway-Maintenance Supervisor, Karyn Taton – Treasurer, Chris Schiller-Chief of Police, Kevin Lanier-Reserve Officer, Mysteri Wedman, Shay White, Shawn White and Rustin Clark-Superintendent of Argonia Public Schools.

**A quorum was present.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

* **Agenda**

**Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to accept the November agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.**

* **Minutes**

November 6th regular meeting minutes were presented**. McCurley made a motion, seconded by Peterson to approve the regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0.**

* **Bills**

November bills were presented**. Noland made a motion, Peterson seconded to approve November bills in the amount of $47,713.70 as presented. Motion carried 4-0.**

**OPEN FORUM** – Rustin Clark, Superintendent of Argonia Public Schools spoke to Council the possibilities of the School starting a Child Care Center. The school had a representative from the State look at several possibilities of where the center could be located. The center would be operated and licensed through the school. As of this date of the meeting a facility has not been chosen within the community yet but they have several facilities that has been looked at. More information would be looked at in future school board meetings but Clark is optimistic that the Center will be chosen soon so opening of the facility could happen before the next school year, hopefully by July 1, 2024. Clark said this would help bring in funding through grants for the school and help with the shortfall of daycare systems within the community. Clark said this was an attractive vision for our community and was just letting the Council know of their future plans.

**Scott Jones arrived at 7:30 p.m.**

**DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS**

* **MAINTENANCE –** Callaway reported to Council that the Cities 2008 Chevrolet Pickup was waiting on the insurance company to send a report on the estimate to have it fixed. Callaway presented a 4x4 side by side. Motion by Peterson, seconded by Jones to purchase the side by side for $4,300.00 from David Thatcher. Motion carried 4-0. Callaway presented the JCI Report for the lift station pump. The pump needs replaced or overhauled. Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to not exceed $5,000.00 for repairs. If the repairs would be more than $5,000.00 then the Council will meet to discuss the options. Motion carried 4-0. A contract from Thrasher to fix the sidewalk in front of the community building was discussed. Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to hire Thrasher to fix the sidewalk for $2,327.63. Motion carried 4-0. Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to reimburse Phil Harper for the towing of the City 2008 Truck from Anthony to Argonia in the amount of $150.00. Motion carried 4-0
* **POLICE CHIEF** – Schiller updated Council on the police report for the month of November. Bob Almanza arrived at 8:40 p.m. to discuss the new proposed dog ordinance. Some adjustments were made and it will be brought before the Council at the next meeting in January.

**Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to enter into executive session at 9:20 p.m. to discuss non-elected personal for 10 minutes with Schiller to remain. Motion carried 4-0.** Council came out of executive session at 9:30 p.m. stating no binding action taken.

**Motion by Jones, seconded by Noland to hire Kevin Lanier as the new Code Enforcement Officer. Officer Lanier will work 10 hours per week at the wage discussed. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to enter into executive session at 9:40 p.m. to discuss non-elected personal for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried 4-0.** Council came out of executive session at 9:55 p.m. stating no binding action taken.

**Motion by Noland, seconded by Jones to give City Employees and the Argonia Volunteer Fire Department Christmas bonuses as discussed. Motion carried. 4-0.**

* **CLERK** – Pierce presented three CMB License renewals. One for Quick Pick #8 for the selling of Cereal Malt Beverages in original and unopened containers and not for consumption on the licensed premises and two for Ox Bar & Grill, one being for not for consumption on the licensed premises and one for consumption on the premises. **Motion by Noland, seconded by Jones to approve all three licenses to both Quick Pick #8 and Ox Bar & Grill. Motion carried 4-0.** Pierce presented a “First Impressions” program through K-State Research and Extension. The City of Argonia and the City of Protection would asses and help develop opportunities and strategies for community improvement. Through the First Impressions programs communities can learn about existing strengths and weaknesses through the eyes of the first-time visitor. Council agreed to join the program and thought it would be a great opportunity for the community to be involved in. Pierce presented three invoices that needed approval. **A motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to pay an invoice to Bob Almanza for $290.00. Motion carried 4-0. Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to pay an invoice to Baysinger Uniform & Supply in the amount of $171.98. Motion carried 4-0. Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to pay Kansas One Call invoice in the amount of $3.60. Motion carried 4-0.**
* **ADJOURNMENT – Council member Noland moved to adjourn the meeting**. **Council member McCurley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. Mayor Dolley declared the meeting adjourned at 10:46 p.m.**

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Tara Pierce Rick Dolley

City Clerk Mayor