

February 7, 2022

The Town Council of the Town of Fowler met at the Town Hall on the 7th day of February, 2022 at the hour of 6:00 P.M., for a meeting pursuant to call in accordance with the rules of the Council. The meeting was called to order by Linda Brouillette, Town Council President. On call of the roll of the members of the Council were shown to be present or absent as follows:

Present: Linda Brouillette, Steve Sorenson, Pat Claire, Jason Fisher, Mike Sanders

Also Present: John Budreau, Nate Besse, Brad Lane, Jud Barce, Bill Burton

Disconnect Hearing

No one was present for the disconnect hearing. Pat Claire motioned to proceed with disconnects. Jason Fisher seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Prior Minutes

Jason Fisher made the motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on January 18th and Special Meeting January 24th. Mike Sanders seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Several people were in attendance to discuss the property lines located at 1103 E 4th. John Gardner, Mary Gardner's son, spoke on her behalf. He was at the meeting mainly to listen and to inform Mary of the information provided. He is hopeful that an arrangement can be worked out. He also stated that Mary has lived in Fowler for 71 years and at this residence for 60 years. She is a pillar of the community and has volunteered for numerous things.

Linda Brouillette spoke and gave a summary of what the issue is on Mary Gardner's property. Mary Gardner's sewer line runs out by the back of her house and to Third Street. Her residence has a 4th St. address. Mary had an issue with her line on her property and has since had it repaired.

Vic Brouillette was present and helped Mary Gardner with this issue. Vic stated that at the time of the issue, Mary was in the hospital and her toilet overflowed. It continued to overflow and flooded her basement. Her line was plugged and Brouillette's Heating and Cooling fixed it. Vic stated that her line needed replaced. In doing this they debated on which would be the best way to take the line. If you run it to 3rd street, you have to go through the neighbor's yard. If you run it to 4th St. you need to have a lift station. He was under the impression that if they ran the line to 3rd Street, the neighbor verbally agreed to run it through his property.

After time and discussion, the neighbor decided not to have the line run through his property, as he may want to build a garage and there would not be room for it, if the line would run through his yard

The Council decided to get an estimate on what it would have cost the town to run the line that Bouillotte's just put in, as an option to run a new line to 4th St.

Further discussion of this issue will take place at the next meeting, Tuesday February 22.

Misc. Business

The Council discussed Jud Barce as being the Town Attorney for 2022. Pat Claire motioned to retain Jud Barce as the Town Attorney. Steve Sorenson seconds. All in favor, motion passed.

Arlene Carley was present to discuss parking issues at her place of business, Peaceful Awakenings, at 216 E 5th St. Since it had snowed, Arlene made sure that the sidewalk and surrounding area was cleaned off for her customers, but with limited parking and the weather, a couple of her customers had to cancel because they could not safely get to the building. Arlene stated that about 30% of her clientele is over 70 years of age. Arlene usually parks in the lot next to the Community Center, but it had not been cleaned off. John Budreau said he had not cleaned it because it is gravel and sand, but he would try to see what he could do to help.

Paul Jackson was present to introduce to the Council his replacement as Benton County Economic Development Director Angie Taylor. Welcome Angie!

Sara Finley had the NPDES renewal permit. Steve Sorenson motions to renew. Pat Claire seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

Department Heads

Bill Burton wanted to thank the Town for all the hard work plowing the streets. They did a great job! Bill also said the Fowler Fire Dept was graciously awarded a grant from the Benton Community Foundation. It's a matching grant of \$10,000. Bill would like to purchase 7 sets of gear for the fireman. He suggested to use the matching funds out of the Lit-Public Safety fund. Mike Sanders motion to approve the funds out of Lit-Public Safety. Pat Claire seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

Sara Finley had an email from Laura Burton. She discussed the Easter Egg Hunt, which she had a date set for April 16th and was going to stick with the budget of \$1000, as it usually is. Laura had attached an invoice for ABC storage for \$456 for a storage unit for event decorations. Linda approved the storage unit and the invoice is under \$500.

Sara Finley had copies of resumes for the Council for the Code Enforcement Employee. Discussion was held and will wait for the next meeting, Tuesday February 22 to go over the resumes and discuss interviewing.

Sara Finley had a quote from Holiday Outdoor Décor to order more lights and garland needed for the Christmas decorations. Quote is for \$1,397.82 plus shipping. The Council agreed to the quote.

Sara Finley stated that the ILMCT conference will be held in March. She would like to attend the conference and have Kim Bratton attend as well. The conference fee and hotel will be around \$1700. Pat Claire motion to accept. Mike Sanders seconds. All in favor, motion passed.

Steve Sorenson made the motion that the 2022 Council meetings will be held on the first and third Mondays of each month with the exception of Holidays that fall on the regular scheduled Monday. Then the meeting will be on Tuesday. Mike Sanders seconds. All in favor, motion passed.

Claims

Mike Sanders made the motion to approve and pay all claims. Jason Fisher seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Adjournment

With no further business, Steve Sorenson motions to adjourn. Mike Sanders seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Approved:



Linda Brouillette, Council President

Attest:



Sara Finley, Clerk Treasurer