October 21, 2024

The Town Council of the Town of Fowler met at the Town Hall on the 21st day of October, 2024 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, Pat Claire, Jason Fisher, Mike Sanders, Lisa Sarault

Also Present: Lee Klemme, Blake Schoen

Budget Adoption

Sara Finley had Ordinance 2024-1021 for the 2025 Budget. Mike Sanders motions to approve the 2025 budget and Ordinance 2024-1021. Lisa Sarault seconds. Jason Fisher abstains. All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business

Blake Schoen was in attendance and discussed the 2025 Insurance with the Council.

Unfinished Business

Lee Klemme addressed the Council in regards to the new employee handbook. Lee and the Council discussed when he first became Chief, they approved him having compensation time. Linda stated that she would honor this and to put in the handbook that the police chief may receive comp time and to refer to his annual contract for more information. The Council stated that Lee will need a annual contract approved by the Council. Sara will work on this.

Lee also discussed the 25% buy back for vacation. He stated the old employee handbook had the 25% buy back for vacation for the total amount of time you receive for the year. The new handbook states you can buy back 25% of your time that is remaining. The new handbook does state an employee may submit a request to the Town Council to have grater than 25% of the employees remaining vacation benefits be paid out at the end of the year and it is up to the Council if the approve this or not. The Council decided to leave the new handbook the same on vacation time.

Sara Finley asked if the Council wants to keep the longevity the same. In the new handbook, it does not have a limit on the maximum amount received for years worked. The Council stated that it

should be the same as the old handbook and there needs to be a maximum amount of twenty years or more of employment. This will be changed to reflect the new handbook.

Sara had an invoice from Reith Riley for a total of \$725,509.13 with a retainage of \$80,612.26 for a total invoice of \$806,121.26. The Council discussed this and with the corrections that still need to be complete with the paving, Pat Claire motion to approve the \$725,509.13 and hold the retainage of \$80,612.13 until all corrections are complete and approved.

Blue Line construction is supposed to be starting repairs on the bridge at Golf Heights starting Monday, October 28.

Claims

Mike Sanders motions to approve the claims. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Adjournment

With no further business, Linda Brouillette motions to adjourn. Pat Claire seconds the motion. All in favor motion carried.

Approved:

Linda Brouillette, Council President

Attest:

Sara Finley, Clerk Treasurer