

**October 7, 2024**

The Town Council of the Town of Fowler met at the Town Hall on the 7<sup>th</sup> 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, Lisa Sarault**

**Absent: Mike Sanders**

**Also Present: John Budreau, Bill Burton, Laura Fisher, Ken Smith, Brandon Clawson (MCC Fiber Metro), Gordon Sheffield**

### **Adoption Hearing**

Linda Brouillette asked if there were any public comments regarding the adoption hearing for the 2025 Budget. No public comments were made. Linda closed the public comments for the 2025 budget hearing.

### **Disconnect Hearing**

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

### **Approval of Prior Minutes**

Lisa Sarault motions to approve the September 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting minutes. Pat Claire seconds. Pat Claire motion to approve the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, Lisa Sarault seconds. Pat Claire motions to approve the September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jason Fisher seconds. Pat Claire motions to approve the Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor of all four meetings minutes. Motions carried.

### **Miscellaneous Business**

Jud Barce was present and stated that MCC Network Services had a request for exception of Ordinance 2024-0805 (the use of steel conduit for buried fiber optic lines). Brandon Clawson was present to represent MCC Network Services. Brandon brought an industry standard conduit, a HDPE conduit with armored fiber inside. Single armor, single jacket underground fiber that they install. The armor jacket is locatable. In some cases, they also add tracer wire.

Pat Claire asked for John Budreau's opinion on this. John stated it is more for the Utility Superintendent that he brought this up because companies come in and put them over our utilities, and make it difficult for the utilities to be worked on. There are no uniform depths, John has called for a two day locate and they need more time to locate or it is unlocatable. This makes it hard for the Town employees to do their jobs. After a discussion with John, Brandon and the Council, Pat Claire motions to approve the permit with the approval of Nate Besse, the water superintendent. There will also be an agreement between MCC Network and the Town that MCC use HDPE conduit and it shall contain a tracer locator wire. Within 90 days of installation, MCC shall provide as built locator maps showing the location and depth of the lines. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jud was also here to discuss the unsafe building order at 809 E 5<sup>th</sup> St. Gordon Sheffield was present to discuss his property with the Council. Sheffield noted that he has made many of the repairs that are stated on the unsafe building order, but is not finished with them yet. He stated there is no entrance into the house for animals and has checked all the doors and windows. He does state there is a lot more to do. He does have someone who is interested in buying the property. He asks the Council to give him more time to complete what needs to be done. The Council discussed this and stated that Brad and Gordon would have to set a date for Brad to look at the property. Gordon needs to work on the weeds and vegetation. Lisa Sarault motions to extend the unsafe building order and get an update at the November 4 meeting. Pat Claire seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jud discussed with the Council about the annexation and town property. Jud also discussed Atlas.

Ken Smith was in attendance to discuss the paving project and Rieth Riley. There were several issues. Ken had made a punch list for Rieth Riley to address. Some of the issues were debris left in yards, complaints on new sidewalks not properly done, milling and the paving on some of the streets have not been properly done, water standing in places that shouldn't. John Budreau has been monitoring the project closely to make sure the issues are corrected.

Ken also discussed the meter pit at the park. Hamstra is working on the new water lines for the restrooms and realized the meter pit needs replaced. For meter and meter pit estimate with labor would be \$37,000. Jason Fisher motions to approve new meter and meter pit for the park. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **Department Heads**

Laura Fisher discussed the street market. She had 39 vendors, music and ran two ads. She also did picnic in the park and fishing in the dark, purchased bottled water and need to reimburse Tyson Villinski for fishing prizes. Halloween business trick or treating will be Friday, October 25 from 3-5:30 then have a candy walk, costume contest at the Monarch Commons. Thursday, October 31 will be residential trick or treating from 6-8pm. Laura also discussed she will be working on the Christmas Stroll that is set for Saturday, Dec. 7. Pat Claire motions to approve \$1,000 toward Fright Night and \$1,000 for the Christmas Stroll. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Bill Burton addressed the Council with a list of items he would like to purchase for the Fire Dept. Items included are a new laptop, porta tank, nozzle, wye, smoke ejector, fan, helmet, two sets of gear and a rescue cutter. Total for all items estimate at \$30,000. Pat Claire motions to approve the items. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

John Budreau a quote from Morton Salt. It would be for 40 ton at \$86.41 a ton. John also mentioned that he used all the crack seal and would like to get more for \$5,000. Jason Fisher motions to approve the salt quote and to purchase new crack seal. Pat Claire seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sara Finley had two quotes for setting up recording and streaming for Council meetings. Brand Tech quote is for \$4,370 and quote from Granicus is for \$7,100 with new subscription annual fees of \$4,453.20. Pat Claire motions to approve Brand Tech for \$4,370. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sara Finley had the final draft of the new employee handbook. Pat Claire motions to approve the final draft of the handbook. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **Claims**

Pat Claire motioned to accept the claims. Lisa Sarault 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

Linda Brouillette, Council President

Attest:

Sara Finley

Sara Finley, Clerk Treasurer