

EMMONS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: March 10, 2025

Time: 7:02 pm

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order by the Mayor, Dave Bosma at 7:00 pm

Attendance:

Council Members: Neal Honsey, Jerome Wuerflein, Eleanor Bauman, Paul Lair; City Clerk: Lorry Zasada; Resident: Gary Sorbo; ISG Engineer: Bryan Petzel; County Commissioner: Nicole Eckstrom; Guests: John Holt & Shari Sprague, Albert Lea Chamber of Commerce

Approval of Mar 10th Agenda - Motion made by Lair, seconded by Wuerflein to approve the agenda; motion carried 4/0

Approve February Minutes – motion made by Wuerflein to approve minutes from the February council meeting, seconded by Bauman, motion carried 4/0

Financial Reports were reviewed for all funds. Total Savings \$717,242.40; Checking Balances: \$615,846.60 Total Receipts \$37,157.61: \$32,956.97 Utility Billing; \$2,000 donations; \$2010 Fire Calls; \$190.34 Interest. Motion made by Lair, seconded by Honsey to approve the February Financial Reports. Motion carried 4/0.

Claims for Payment - Council reviewed claims to be paid of \$13,242.15, motion made by Wuerflein, seconded by Bauman to pay the bills. Motion carried 4/0.

Old Business:

Councilman Wuerflein reported back to council regarding the Folven shed request. Location and boundary distance is within city ordinance zoning regulations. Motion was made by Honsey and Lair to approve the request with a condition that the old shed and junk cleaned must be cleaned up/moved within 60 days of the approval. Motion seconded by Wuerflein, carried 4/0

The clerk will be attending a conference from March 18 – March 20, motion made by Honsey to have Julie Schewe back up the clerk during her absence, paying a rate of \$15/hr., seconded by Wuerflein, carried 4/0

New Business:

Thompson Sanitation is schedule for Saturday, May 3rd for the annual City Clean-up. Notice will be put in the April 1st billing.

John Holt and Shari Sprague shared with the council the various services available through the Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber of Commerce. They surveyed citizens in the county asking what is the of most concern to people and staying in home as they age was key. People needing assistance or having questions on what the Chamber can help with are urged to call them at 507-373-3938. A flyer is in the city office window and the Emmons Senior Center displaying some of their services.

The crosswalk on Hwy 69 was discussed after a concerned citizen asked the city for help in getting signs and getting the crosswalk painted to slow down traffic before an accident happens. The mayor will reach out to the county and state to encourage them to address the problem.

Council voted to approve the annual quote from Wigham Trucking to sweep the city streets in the Spring for \$1098. Motion made by Lair, seconded by Wuerflein, carried 4/0

Bryan Petzel from ISG made the city aware of a couple additional grants to be applied for to assist with the Lead Service Line Inventory identification and replacement. City will apply for the Technical Assistance grant now, and the Replacement Funding Grant will be discussed at the next meeting for the May deadline.

City was notified they have been approved for the UDSA Search Grant and will receive the final documents for signatures soon so funds can be released.

Council approved 2 quotes from Minnesota Pump Works to refurbish the 2 pumps that broke down on Arrowhead Rd. Refurbishment is approx. \$900/ea, where new is \$4000/ea. This will give the city 2 back up pumps for a future failure. Motion made by Wuerflein, seconded by Lair, carried 4/0

Councilman Lair received a request to grant the Senior Center refund for their credit balance. Motion made by Honsey, seconded by Wuerflein, carried 4/0

Recognition of Service plaques are to be ordered for Paul Henschel and Imogene Opdahl for their 28 years of service to the City. A Luncheon will be held on April 26th at the American Legion Post 317 from 2-4pm in their honor, residents are invited to attend. An announcement will be included with the April utility bills. Motion made by Lair, seconded by Honsey, carried 4/0

Nicole Eckstrom updated the council regarding meetings be held at the County. 1) Freeborn has finalized a Cannabis Registration Ordinance, Emmons has a Resolution allowing the county to handle registration and regulation for our city. 2) The county is trying to achieve an agreement with the DNR regarding the Shell Rock Watershed. 3) County is working on a grant for a bike trail from Albert Lea to Hartland coordinating with Waseca County. 4) Gov. Walz is proposing to shift expenses for Health and Human Service to the County, the state senate and house are not on board with this arrangement, if approve property taxes will rise.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Lair to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Wuerflein. Motion Carried 4/0. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m. Next meeting to be held Monday, April 14th, 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Lorry Zasada, Clerk/Treasurer