

**NEW SHARON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday February 15, 2023**

**These are draft minutes and have not been approved by
The City Council prior to publication.**

The New Sharon City Council met in regular session on Wednesday February 15, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. Meeting called to order with Mayor Long and the following members answering roll call: Larry Applegate, Tom German, Ron Wyatt, and Ben Hansen. Others in attendance were Margaret Ratcliff, Elizabeth Wehrle, Linda DeHoedt, Bryan VanderMeiden, Lyle VanderMeiden, Bryon Bellinger, Miriah Boender, Mark and Valerie Brandt, Matt Boender, Brandon Husmann, Brittany VanderBeek, Kevin Lamberson and Lisa Munn. Justin Stout was absent.

1. Roll Call answered by: Applegate, German, Wyatt, Hansen

2. Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Wyatt and seconded by Hansen to approve the following consent agenda items.

02/01/2023 minutes

02/15/2023 agenda

02/15/2023 distributions pending

AYES: German, Wyatt, Hansen, Applegate

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

3. Public Comments: None

4. Requests from the Community: None

5. Public Hearings:

A. Motion made by Hansen and seconded by German to open public hearing for building permit for Josh VanderLinden, 406 E. Market, 2 sheds and handicap ramp at 6:01 p.m.

AYES: German, Wyatt, Applegate, Hansen

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

No one present and no written comments.

B. Motion made by German and seconded by Hansen to close public hearing for building permit for Josh VanderLinden, 406 E. Market, 2 sheds and handicap ramp at 6:04 p.m.

AYES: Hansen, Applegate, German, Wyatt

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

6. Resolutions and Motions

A. Open sealed bids for property at 209 N. Pine St. Bids received were Miriah Boender bid of \$3000.00; Bryan VanderMeiden bid of \$1750.00; Mark Brandt

bid of \$1500.00; Linda DeHoedt bid of \$4000.00. Bid from Brad VanderLinden was withdrawn by Brad yesterday afternoon.

Council agreed to allow each person to raise their bids one time. It was asked if anyone wanted to raise their bid. Linda DeHoedt and also Bryan VanderMeiden said they would like to. They each wrote bid on paper and mayor read the bids. Bryan VanderMeiden bid \$5001.00 and Linda DeHoedt bid \$5579.00 so Linda DeHoedt was granted the bid for the property at 209 N. Pine. A contract will be written up and after the property is clean and buildings demolished and cleared then a deed will be signed for the property.

- B.** Motion made by German and seconded by Wyatt to approve bid of \$5579.00 from Linda DeHoedt for property at 209 N. Pine.

AYES: German, Hansen, Applegate, Wyatt

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

- C.** Discussion with Margaret Ratcliff of Ratcliff and Blake Insurance regarding insurance renewal.

Margaret said our claims experience was perfect. Feb 7th we had our first safety control visit since 2015. Everything looked very good. Margaret said a shout out for the upgrades and maintenance on our facilities. She thanked Clay, Doug and Brad Latcham for taking time off to come up and help show them around and answer any questions. Margaret said new item from EMC is that any roof on commercial building is not covered for cosmetic damage. This is a change from just metal roofs. Our premiums only increased by 14% which Margaret said is good since some cities did increase by 25-33% this year.

- D.** Motion made by Wyatt and seconded by German to approve paying for Fox Trucking to haul rock.

AYES: Hansen, Applegate, German, Wyatt

NAYES: none

ABSTENTIONS: None

- E.** Motion made by Wyatt and seconded by Applegate to approve liquor license for Cheema Gas and Liquors.

AYES: Applegate, Wyatt

NAYES: German, Hansen

ABSTENTIONS: None

This did not pass.

- F.** Motion made by German and seconded by Wyatt to approve Resolution 021523 setting wages for FY2024.

AYES: Wyatt, German, Applegate, Hansen

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

- G.** Both Clay and Doug have been asked if the school can borrow 3 sets of bleachers for prom on April 22nd. Discussion was held and it was determined that the school would need to pick the bleachers up and also to return them. We will want something signed stating these are on loan and any damages would be paid by the school. Also the city is not responsible for any injuries

while the bleachers are on loan to the school These would need to be returned to the city on Monday April 24th by school personnel.

- H. Motion** made by German and seconded by Wyatt to approve loaning 3 sets of bleachers to the school for prom on April 22nd.

AYES: German, Hansen, Applegate, Wyatt

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

7. Ordinances: None

8. Department Reports

A. Water Report- none

B. Sewer Report- none

C. Street Report- emergency snow ordinance goes into effect tomorrow at 5:00 a.m.

D. Park Report- PEO asked to use the city park building for monthly meeting first Tuesday of each month for free or a reduced price. Discussion was held since we allow the Methodist Church, Legion, Library, and blood drive to use the building for free that we would not charge the PEO. However, if someone wants to rent the building during one of those dates the paid rental will come first.

Motion made by Hansen and seconded by Applegate to allow PEO to use city park building free of charge.

AYES: Hansen, Applegate, German, Wyatt

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

E. Police Report- in packet, computer docking station is still not here.

F. Mahaska Sheriff Report- Brandon said they had hired some jail staff

G. Cemetery Report- 5 plots sold. People are noticing the cemetery site and have called with spelling changes.

H. City Clerk Report- budget was sent for publishing on 2/9, Brittany is finishing up grants.

I. City Attorney Report – Jeff and Dustin met with Sneed's. Fenton's are taking over the Coffee Closet but Sneed's are continuing to own the property, therefore grant will not need to be repaid as long as they continue to own the property for 10 years per the contract.

J. Fire Department Report- we are going to be dispatched at the same as Barnes City to help at this time.

K. Library Report- Elizabeth, Bryon and Valerie were at the meeting to answer any questions regarding their revised budget. Lisa stated that we could not revise the budget at this time since it was already sent for publishing. The city did include the pay raises for library on the Resolution. Elizabeth gave a signed letter asking for the same raises as the other city employees at 8.5% increase.

9. Departmental Requests: None

10. City council Information:

A. Discuss planning and zoning committee- We received 7 interested individuals names so it was decided to include all 7 for the zoning board. Discussion was held on how to handle violations of the fire code in the fire zone. Dustin is handling one of these violations at this time. Zoning committee will need to write some bylaws and then they will come to the council with suggestions for a final decision from the council.

11. Mayor Information:

A. EMA/911- Jeff said the manpower will stay as is right now. The city of New Sharon will be charged \$56,757.27 for 911 and for EMA will be an additional county wide special levy of .18 per 1000 valuation. Jeff will keep us informed.

12. Adjournment:

There being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Wyatt and seconded by German to adjourn at 7.05 p.m. All in favor, Meeting adjourned.

Lisa Munn
Certified Municipal City Clerk

Jeff Long
Mayor