

**NEW SHARON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday January 17, 2024**

**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 January 17, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. Meeting called to order with Mayor Dustin Hite and the following members answering roll call: Ben Hansen, Linda Steel, Justin Stout, Keri Lamberson and Tom German. Others in attendance were Ken Lacey, Andrea Reed, Cheryl Holub, Russ VanRenterghem, Kevin Lamberson and Lisa Munn.

1. Roll Call answered by: Hansen, Lamberson, Steel, Stout, German

2. Consent Agenda:

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

01/03/2024 minutes

01/17/2024 agenda

01/17/2024 distributions pending

Motion passed unanimously

3. Public Comments: None

4. Requests from the Community: None

5. Public Hearings: None

6. Resolutions and Motions

A. Discuss potential employee pay for 2024-2025 fiscal year budget. Stout and Lamberson voiced they thought part time should stay the same with no increases. Stout thought we should plan on a 4% possible increase for full time at least for the budget purposes and talk again in the spring. Steel agreed she thought a 4% increase would be good for budget purposes.

B. Cheryl Holub to discuss cat rehoming efforts.

Cheryl Holub gave an update on the trap and release program for cats in town. She has them vaccinated and spayed or neutered before rehoming them. She has picked up 11 and rehomed to the same area on the north side of town. She is in need of barn homes for the younger cats. The older cats have to be rehomed to the same area as they will just travel back there. Cats 5 months and younger are the ones ideal for barn home rehoming. She has picked up 3 behind the post office and that is one of the hot spots in town. Cheryl has talked to the residents in that area and there are residents and businesses feeding those cats, which calls more cats to the area. Mahaska vet clinic has been a big help and opened over the weekend to help spay and neuter so Cheryl has a large group of them that will be done this weekend. Cheryl said she fundraises and writes grants for some of the help with vaccinating and surgeries. Rabies shots are about 10-12.00 per cat. Usually costs around \$100.00 per cat for vaccinations and surgeries. The animal shelter does not have money for the Trap and Release program. We have to control the existing population or it will continue to grow. Cheryl said she is in need of barn homes to rehome the young cats and also citizens to

control the feeding of cats. The cats in the downtown area are being adequately cared for so no one else needs to feed them!

7. Ordinances: None

8. Department Reports

A. Water Report- none

B. Sewer Report- none

C. Street Report- moving snow, Peterbilt truck stopped working today, Star Equipment said it needs a crank sensor which should be in tomorrow, Caleb Fox is helping move snow piles with a dump truck and driver.

D. Park Report- none

E. Police Report- on table, Kevin has been busy with a few cases the last couple of days, only issued one snow ticket, someone backed into the US Cellular building.

F. Mahaska Sheriff Report- Russ said with the snow they had 75-100 vehicles in the ditch, working on the budget process

G. Cemetery Report- none

H. City Clerk Report- finished 1099, W2, working on the budget, fire trustee report completed, meeting with Margaret Ratcliff on January 23rd regarding insurance

I. City Attorney Report- none

J. Fire Department Report- trustee report on table

K. Library Report- none

L. Zoning Committee- comprehensive plan committee next meeting January 29th.

9. Departmental Requests: none

10. City council Information:

11. Mayor Information:

12. Adjournment:

There being no further business to discuss, it was moved by German and seconded by Stout to adjourn at 6:42 p.m. All in favor, Meeting adjourned.

Lisa Munn
Certified Municipal City Clerk

Dustin Hite
Mayor