**December 2, 2024: Regular Council Meeting**

The Argonia City Council met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on December 2nd, 2024 at Argonia City Hall.

**Roll call was taken:** Those present were Mayor Rick Dolley, Council members Scott Jones, Casey Love, Felisha Noland, Tim Scott and Wayne Peterson. Also present at the meeting were: Tara Pierce-City Clerk, Karyn Taton-Treasurer and Kevin Lanier-Police Officer.

Mayor Dolley called the November regular council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

* **Agenda**

**Motion by Noland, seconded by Scott to accept the December agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.**

* **Minutes**

November 4th regular meeting minutes were presented**. Love made a motion, seconded by Noland to approve the November regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0.**

* **Special Meeting Minutes**

November 13th special meeting minutes were presented. **Motion by Scott, seconded by Jones to approve the November 13th special meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0.**

* **Bills -** November bills were presented**. Jones made a motion, Noland seconded to approve November bills in the amount of $50,082.61 as presented. Motion carried 5-0.**

**OPEN FORUM** – Jan Steen from K-State Research and Extension. Jan presented a “First Impressions” Report on an assessment of our community. It was a great presentation to help the Council know how others view our community.

**DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS**

* **FIRE DEPT** – Pierce said the annual Equipment loan payment through the Fire’s Relief Fund was due the end of December in the amount of $8,227.96. The City has received the payment from the Dixon Township for the payment and Pierce asked for approval of the Council to make the payment. **Motion by Jones, seconded by Scott to make a check payable to the Argonia Fireman’s Relief Fund in the amount of $8,337.96. Motion carried 5-0.**
* **POLICE –** Lanier gave a police report to Council. Lanier said he was working with the rail master of BNSF to get the crosswalk fixed. Estimated time frame would be this Spring. Lanier updated Council on case reports. Council gave Officer Lanier permission to drive the police car home so that he could have maintenance done to the police car.
* **CLERK** – Pierce asked Council if they would like to renew the Wellington Area Chamber of Commerce Membership for $100.00. Council determined that at this time they would not renew. Pierce presented the cost of a new laptop. **Motion by Noland, seconded by Love to have Pierce purchase a new laptop to replace the broken one for the City Clerk and not to exceed $800.00. Motion carried 5-0.** Pierce presented an invoice from Black Hills Energy for repairs to 308-310 N. Main from a hit riser in the amount of $8,665.20. **Motion by Noland, seconded by Love to approve the bill to Black Hills in the amount of $8,665.20. Motion carried 5-0.** Council had a discussion on a meter that was hit in the alley behind 205 N. Main Street by Jake Towne. The City incurred a cost of $705.25 when the inlet meter was hit when back into. Council agreed to pass the cost along to Towne and agreed for him to arrange a payment plan to pay the cost back. The City Clerk will send an invoice to Towne. Pierce presented an unpaid utility bill to the Council. Council agreed for Pierce to send over to the City Attorney for collection. Pierce presented a Volunteer Waiver Form. Council agreed to use the Waiver for volunteers doing work within the City. Pierce presented new pricing from Waste Connections. Pierce will have a new Ordinance drawn up for the February Council meeting for it to be adopted. Council opened the bids for the Rodeo Arena Demolition. Steve Kraft won the bid at $3,000.00. Pierce will get with Kraft to work out all the details for the demolition and the time frame. Pierce presented the following invoices to be approved by Council: Sumner County 2024 Real Estate-$1,848.24 & $224.74, Sarah Janes-$312.00, Atlas Electric-$1,280.00, Grant Co. Taxes-$35.00, Kansas Rural Water-$250.40, Ricke’s-$74.53, One-Call-$2.40, MKC-$221.58. **Motion by Jones, seconded by Noland to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 5-0.** Ox Bar Grill CMB License was presented for on premises and off premises licensing. **Motion by Noland, seconded by Peterson to approve the licenses. Motion carried 5-0.**

Motion by Noland, seconded by Scott to enter into executive session at 9:20 p.m. for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. **Motion carried 5-0. Council came out of executive session at 9:30 p.m. stating no-binding action taken.** Council approved the Christmas Bonuses as discussed.

Pierce spoke to Council about the Gas Loan from Storm Uri. She asked Council to make a lump sum payment to the loan at the end of the year if the budget has the authority to do so. She asked for them to approve up to $50,000.00. **Motion by Noland, seconded by Love to approve the expenditure up to $50,000.00 to the Kansas State Treasury. Motion carried 5-0.**

* **ADJOURNMENT – Council member Noland moved to adjourn the meeting**. **Council member Love seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0. Mayor Dolley declared the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.**

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Tara Pierce Rick Dolley

City Clerk Mayor