

Wellman City Council meeting 3-15-2021:

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Miller at 5:30. Present were Mayor Miller, Council members Evans, Fleming, Stutzman, Bontrager, McCain absent, also present was Cindy Thrapp, Tim Garrett (via zoom), Deputy Randy Tinnis, and John Butters.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the consent agenda was moved by Evans, seconded by Fleming and all voted Aye.

There were no questions from the public during the public forum.

Deputy Tinnis provided the Sheriff's report, stating that there were 22 calls last month including 1 arrest for domestic assault. The deputy testing has taken place and second interviews are being conducted to hire a new deputy this spring.

Discussion took place regarding the waterline relocation on 128<sup>th</sup> St with the County improvement of the adjacent culvert. Miller gave a description of the project and the reason to move our water line. Garrett talked about the line having to be 25-30 feet deep and our staff is unable to do that so it makes sense to include in the County's bid letting. Bontrager asked if Garrett will examine the line when it is replaced and he explained that he would be present to inspect at times during the project and prior to covering the line again. Evans moved to approve Resolution Number 21-10, Stutzman seconded and roll call resulted in 4 ayes with McCain absent, resolution approved.

Discussion took place on the water/sewer charges for the property located at 1002 2<sup>nd</sup> St, #9 belonging to James Shaffer. Thrapp explained that Shaffer bought the property a few months ago and has been working on it prior to moving in. During February as City staff was driving by they noticed water coming out of the service and flowing onto the ground. It was determined that the water line had frozen and burst between the trailer and the meter resulting in the meter reading a usage of over 90 thousand gallons. His utility bill will be approximately \$680 for the water that went through the meter and \$659 for his sewer portion. Resident could not be present at the meeting but requested that his sewer portion of the bill be adjusted so that he only pay the base fee for the month since he did not use any sewer services and the water leak resulted in the water being spread outside on the ground rather than go through the City sewer system. Discussion by Council agreed that with this case that it is readily apparent that the water did not go into the sewer system since there was no one living at the residence and it was clear the water spilled outside the home and this is a fair arrangement with the property owner. Fleming moved to waive the property owner's February sewer usage portion of his utility bill and just charge the base sewer fee for the month, seconded by Evans and all voted Aye (McCain absent).

Miller discussed that later this week there would be an article in the News regarding the natural gas fee increase for February. Thrapp reported that bills would be going out this week along with a letter explaining the February increase.

Miller stated that the skating rink hosted several parties with 30-50 people present. Thrapp reported that they have received calls asking when open skate would resume. Council will discuss at April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Miller updated the Council on the sidewalk in front of City Hall being repaired in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April.

Miller mentioned that Kalonial Lawn Care is scheduled to start grinding stumps at North Park as the weather allows. Approximately 41 trees were removed in the park.

Evans discussed the mud hole at the end of 5<sup>th</sup> St where Dollar General hooked into the water line, will address with City crew.

5:58 Bontrager moved to adjourn, second by Stutzman, all in favor.