**January 6, 2020: Regular Council Meeting**

The Argonia City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on January 6, 2020. Those present were Mayor Rick Dolley, Council members Bob Randall, Don Phillips, Felisha Noland and Terina McCurley. Also present were Tara Pierce, City Clerk, Paul Conklin, Fire Chief, Shawnel Drouhard, Michelle Leidy-Franklin and Van Franklin.

**A quorum was present.**

Mayor Rick Dolley called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

* **Agenda**

**A motion by Randall, seconded by Noland to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.**

* **Minutes**

December regular meeting minutes were presented**. Randall made a motion, seconded by Noland to adopt the regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0**

* **Bills**

December bills were presented**. Randall made a motion, Noland seconded the motion to approve December bills as presented in the amount of $52,184.84. Motion carried 4-0.**

Scott Jones arrived at 7:08 p.m.

**OPEN FORUM**

Shawnel Drouhard spoke to Council regarding Ordinance 554 regarding utility services for rental properties. She asked Council to consider raising the deposit rates and also having a copy of the utility bills of her rental properties sent as normal to her renters and also include a copy to her so she can be fully aware of any past due account(s) of her properties. Pierce will look into the system to see if it will duplicate a bill to the landlord or if the office staff will just copy the bill and send it to Drouhard. Council did not make any decisions at this time to change the Ordinance to raise the amount of the deposits for rental property per the request of Drouhard. Per City Ordinance all renter(s) of any property within the City limits will not be able to have a letter of credit, they will be required to pay the deposit as stated per Ordinance #554.

**DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS**

* **FIRE DEPARTMENT –** Fire Chief Paul Conklin presented three bills to the Council. The first bill was to PC Designs for $370.00 for thirteen hoodies for the fire department, one to Plaff Signs, LLC in the amount of $127.50 for emergency vehicle graphics for the fire trucks and also a bill for $7,761.88 for sixteen Carbon Fiber Cylinders. **Motion by Randall, seconded by McCurley to approve all three bills as presented. Motion carried 5-0.** The Council told Chief Conklin that they appreciated the volunteers of the fire department and all that they do for our community and the surrounding areas.
* **MAINTENANCE –** Pierce presented a plan for the 2020 year for street repairs and patching that needs to be completed. Pierce is working with South Central Sealing and Paving and would like to have Council look over the presentation so discussions and decisions can be made for this Spring to finalize the plan that fits the budget. Pierce updated Council on repairs to the pool and also the results of the pressure test on the lines to the baby pool that was done in December. Pierce updated Council on the KCC Audit and that all paperwork had been completed and answered per the KCC request regarding the gas system and public awareness program.
* **CLERK** – Pierce presented a bill from Significant Digits for the annual licensing fee for the SD Reader. Motion by Randall, seconded by Phillips to pay the bill in the amount of $550.00. Motion carried 5-0. Pierce discussed the options of the two rodeos that have been held for years in our community. The traditional Argonia Days Rodeo and Labor Day weekend rodeo that will all be coming up soon so planning needs to start. With the Plains Church stepping out of their current role the City needs to find someone willing to take on the event if possible. A group from Conway Springs may be interested in getting involved. Pierce is going to contact the group and see if they are interested in becoming the next group to run the rodeo and report back to Council. Pierce also discussed all the repairs that are also needed for the grounds and asked Council if we could move forward with the repairs. Council asked Pierce get prices on the issues that need addressed and report back at the next meeting. Pierce updated the Council on a list of customer accounts with utility deposits on their accounts. Council agreed that the 2019 interest rates are to be applied and issue a return of deposits to all those in good standing for at least one full year with no late payments. Pierce asked Council if they would like to move forward with Edward Jones taking over the retirement plan for the City. **Motion by McCurley, seconded by Jones to have Edward Jones (Wellington) handle the Simple IRA for the City. Motion carried 5-0.**
* **MAYOR – Motion by Jones, seconded by Noland to enter into executive session for fifteen minutes at 8:45 p.m. to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried 5-0.** Council came out of executive session at 9:00 p.m. stating no binding action taken. **Motion by Randall, seconded by Jones to present the City Employees with a Christmas Bonus as discussed effective at the earliest convenience next check run. Motion carried 5-0.** Council thanked the Employees for the dedication to the City and the community.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Council member Randall moved to adjourn the meeting**. **Council member Noland seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0. Mayor Dolley declared the meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.**

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Tara Pierce Rick Dolley

City Clerk Mayor