**February 1, 2021: Regular Council Meeting**

The Argonia City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on March 1, 2021 at the Argonia City Building. Those present, Council members Bob Randall, Don Phillips, Scott Jones, Felisha Noland and Terina McCurley. Also present were Tara Pierce-City Clerk, Robert Dolley-Maintenance Supervisor, Michelle-Leidy Franklin and Lesley Thompson.

**A quorum was present.**

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

* **Agenda**

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

* **Minutes**

February 1, 2021 regular meeting minutes were presented**. Jones made a motion, seconded by McCurley to approve the regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0.**

February 24, 2021 special meeting minutes were presented. **Jones made a motion, seconded by McCurley to approve the regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0.**

* **Bills**

January 2021 bills were presented**. Randall made a motion, Phillips seconded to approve January bills in the amount of $77,715.06. Motion carried 5-0.**

**OPEN FORUM** – Lesley Thompson told Council that her current contract that was to expire and told Council that in previous conversations with Council she was told as long as she stayed at current price that she could have first option to renew her lease. Council agreed to renew her lease and adding in wording to the contract stating her option to renew at same said price of current lease. If Thompson decides to not renew a lease she would need to notify Council by March 1st.

**DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS**

* **FIRE – None**
* **POOL – None**
* **MAINTENANCE –** Dolley presented Council with a bill from Apac in the amount of $566.40 for rock. Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to pay the bill as presented. Motion carried 5-0. Dolley told Council about an issue that they have been having at the Water Treatment Plant. The cell service during the hard freeze caused issues with the communication between the water tower, wells and water treatment plant. Dolley updated Council with two pool bids on the repainting of the pool. He said that we will make it through one more year and do necessary repairs to get through another season if needed. The cost is going to be approximately $50,000.00 for sandblasting and repainting of the necessary process to fix the existing paint on the pool.

**Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to enter into executive session at 7:30 p.m. for 15 minutes with Robert Dolley to remain to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried 5-0.** Council came out of executive session at 7:45 stating no binding action taken. **Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to enter into executive session at 7:45 p.m. for 15 minutes with Robert Dolley to remain to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried 5-0.** Council came out of executive session at 8:00 stating no binding action taken.

**Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to enter into executive session at 8:00 p.m. for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried 5-0.** Council came out of executive session at 8:10 stating no binding action taken.

**Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to enter into executive session at 8:10 p.m. for 10 minutes with Tara Pierce to remain to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried 5-0.** Council came out of executive session at 8:20 stating no binding action taken.

**Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to enter into executive session at 8:20 p.m. for 5 minutes with Robert Dolley to remain to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried 5-0.** Council came out of executive session at 8:25 stating no binding action taken. **Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to enter into executive session at 8:25 p.m. for 10 minutes with Tara Pierce to remain to discuss non-elected personnel.**

**Motion by Phillips, seconded by Jones to give pay raises as discussed to Tara Pierce, Robert Dolley and Karyn Taton as discussed. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Motion carried 5-0.** Council came out of executive session at 8:35 stating no binding action taken. **Motion by Noland, seconded by McCurley to enter into executive session at 8:35 p.m. for 40 minutes with City Attorney Robert Almanza via phone conference to consult on matters that would be deemed privileged in an attorney-client relationship. Motion carried 5-0.** Council came out of executive session at 9:15 stating no binding action taken.

* **CLERK** – Pierce presented a bill from Robert Almanza in the amount of $1,073.00 for attorney fees. **Motion by Noland, seconded by Phillips to approve the bill as presented. Motion carried 5-0.** Pierce gave an update on the Rodeo that was to be held this Spring. Due to the lack of interest and volunteers to have someone to do both the Spring and Fall Rodeo, Kraft Rodeo pulled out of the 2021 year to move their rodeo to Conway Springs where they already have the necessary personnel and equipment to accommodate their schedule.Pierce updated Council with information on the current EMC policy on the increase for 2021 upcoming renewal. Pierce advised Council about the current update on the Gas Projections for the upcoming March bill that will be affecting our community from KMGA. Pierce had presented Council with a letter. This letter was drafted by both Pierce and Taton to the State of Kansas, Office of the Attorney General in regards to the investigation of Natural Gas Pricing during State of Disaster Emergency. The letter contained information from the City of the effect that would occur to the City Budget, what affect it could have on our community and its businesses and residents. Pierce along with Council will work diligently, along with KMGA, KCC and any other entity to focus on what we can do to come to the best solution to make sure our City and Community will be able to best resolve a financial hardship.
* **ADJOURNMENT – Council member Noland moved to adjourn the meeting**. **Council member Randall seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0. President Scott Jones declared the meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.**

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Tara Pierce Rick Dolley

City Clerk Mayor