



CITY OF NEW HOLSTEIN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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Wednesday, December 20, 2023

6:30 PM

City Hall

The regular monthly meeting of the Common Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Snelson, presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Council members Gene Woelfel, Bob Schermetzler, Norman Propson, Brad Hess, Fran Schmitz (via Phone), Eric Mayer, Becca Mosier, and Steve Abrams were present at roll call. Others present were City Administrator Cullen Peltier, Fire Chief Denis Mayer, Police Chief Eric Fisher, Police Captain Chuck Schroeder, Public Works Director Jason Meyer, Emergency Management Director Russ Thiel, and Judge Sippel.

Others in attendance: Mark Sherry, Ken Irwin, Craig Carey, Keith Price, Travis Price, Vickey Anhalt

It was noted that the meeting was properly announced.

A motion was made by Woelfel, seconded by Mosier, and carried to approve the agenda.

A motion was made by Abrams, seconded by Propson, and carried to approve the minutes of the November 15th, Common Council meeting. This action was subsequently rescinded on motion by Abrams, seconded by Woelfel. Minutes will be distributed for action at a later meeting.

A Public Hearing on the petition for the Annexation of the Right of Way on Highway 32/57 was held. Mayor Snelson opened the Public Hearing with a description of the action requested and then asked for public comment. Asking for three separate times and receiving no public comment the Public Hearing was adjourned and the Council meeting continued.

The Mayor asked for a motion in regard to the Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Mosier, seconded by Woelfel, and carried to approve items 1 through 3 of the Consent Agenda. The remaining items were opened for discussion by the Council.

Chief Fisher reported that Captain Schroeder attended the FBI-LEEDA Trilogy Leadership Institute. He reported that Winter Parking enforcement started on December 1st. Chief Fisher said they had 2 major incidents this period. The first involved the report of stabbing that was proved false, but drug were noted at the residence, a warrant was issued, and one subject was transported to jail.

Judge Sippel reported they had 11 juvenile and 27 adult appearances for initial and pre-trial in October and 2 juvenile and 38 adult appearances for November. They had one trial scheduled. The individual didn't show up and was found guilty by default.

A motion was made Hess, seconded by Schmitz, and carried to approve consent agenda items 4 a through h with the amendment of item 4h. Item 4 h to reflect the attendance of Hess at the Plan Commission meeting.

Financial Reports were presented and approved as part of the Consent Agenda approving the invoices totaling \$217,769.81 as of November 30, 2023

Approval of Park Use and Special Event Applications: After discussion the Council approved the application for the Spring Fling Craft & Vendor Show on May 11, 2024.

Reports of Departments and Committees: the Council received reports showing Police Department Petty Cash - \$17.28; Building Permits \$50,475.00; Library Receipt Report \$701.52. Municipal Court \$1877.80.

Minutes: Committee of the Whole Nov 15, 2023. Police and Fire Commission Nov 14, 2023; Utilities Commission November 28, 2023; Sanitary Sewer Commission November 28, 2023, were accepted and placed on file.

A motion was made by Mayer, seconded by Propson, and carried to approve Ordinance No. 675– An Ordinance Annexing Right of Way on Highway 32/57. Upon a call of the vote the vote passed with Mayer, Schermetzler, Mosier, Propson, Hess, Schmitz, Abrams, Woelfel voting aye.

A motion was made by Mayer, seconded by Woelfel, and carried to approve Resolution 1547 – A resolution to Adopt the 2024 Schedule of Fees. Upon a call of the vote, the vote passed with Mayer, Schermetzler, Mosier, Propson, Hess, Schmitz, Abrams, and Woelfel voting aye.

A motion was made by Schmitz, seconded by Propson, and carried to approve the Police Department purchasing a speed/message board.

A motion was made by Schermetzler, seconded by Woelfel, and carried to send out a Request for Qualifications for a New Holstein Fire Department Review and Needs Analysis, upon call of the motion, the motion carried with Schermetzler, Woelfel, Abrams, Propson, and Mosier voting aye, Mayer and Hess voting Nay, with Schmitz abstaining.

A motion was made by Hess, seconded by Mosier, and carried to approve a Conditional Use Permit to install a rooftop solar system at 1702 Eisenhower Street.

A motion was made by Propson, seconded by Mayer, and carried to approve the bid from Excel Engineering for engineering service for the Jordan Avenue, LRIP Construction Project.

Peltier informed the Council that the next COW meeting will be held on January 4th, with a special Council, Meeting to follow.

A motion was made by Abrams, seconded by Schermetzler, and carried to appoint the following Election Officials and Inspectors for the 2024-2025 term: Lori Beck, Sandy Blatz, Sandy Burg, Greg Hageman, Wendy Rolbiecki, Lindsay Schultz, Katherine Thede, Wendy Wieser, Ann Wusterbarth, Jill Sippel, Mary Ann Lueders, Tim Bonde, Jayne Meyer.

Under Miscellaneous Business, Chief Mayer submitted his formal letter of resignation and discussed the circumstances behind this decision to resign from the position of Chief while remaining on the force as a volunteer firefighter.

Public Works Director Meyer provided an update for the Council. In November they completed leaf collection and put the snowflakes up. Right now, 10 of the 61 flakes are LED and they are looking to transition to all LED in the future. You can see the difference in the lights near Railroad and Main Street. They also prepped the snow equipment and placed the sand barrels. In December, there was minimal snow removal, and they took down trees in Kiwanis Park and at the cemetery. They are in the process of cleaning up Jordan Creek (10 Ash Trees and numerous Buckthorn and Willows). Mark removed 3 leaking hydraulic pumps and they were rebuilt for \$4850. The cost to purchase new would have been \$13,500. Mark also rebuilt the white pull-behind leaf shucker.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Cullen Peltier
City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer