**City of Allison Council Meeting**

**Monday, January 14th, 2025**

Regular Meeting:

Mayor Henrichs opened the regular meeting at 5:15 P.M. and asked for a roll call. Council members present Bangasser, Galey, Henning, Heuer. Absent: Stirling. Also present: Trent Stirling, Coby Bangasser, Janis Cramer, Joey Endelman, Jamie Osterbuhr, Leona Shima, Joe Conlon, Deb McWhirter, City Engineer Zeb Stanbrough, City Financial Advisor Chip Schultz. Henning made a motion to approve the agenda with a second by Bangasser. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Open Forum:

Council Member Karen Galey let the rest of the council know that she attended the award ceremony for the Butler County Community Foundation Grant in which the city received $7,500.00 to put towards a new Welcome sign on Main Street. Karen said that she would work with the gentleman with the sign company to get updated quotes for the project so that it can be completed in the Spring.

Joey Endelman asked the Council a few questions regarding the bid notice for water meters that was published in the paper. He wanted to know who the responsibility fell on when it came to issues that could arise when putting in new meters. The Council let him know that whoever is installing the meters would let the City know if they ran into an issue and that the City would contact the homeowner to let them know that there was an issue that needed to be fixed and let them know that they would need to contact a plumber to fix it before the new meter could be installed. The Council stated that they would talk about possible rebates at the next Council meeting for issues that could come up as this was not the homeowner’s decision. Joey received Colton’s number with Ferguson Neptune, so that he could address some questions with them as well.

Public Works Director, Trent Stirling, let the council know that the water meter that was sent out to Ferguson Neptune from Council member Jon Heuer came back, and they found that it was 96% in the minimum range, reading 100% accurate in the intermediate range, and 100.1% in the maximum range.

City Engineer, Zeb Stanbrough, let the Council know that contracts have been sent out to Heartland for the street project and that they were okay with starting the project closer to the new fiscal year (July 2025).

The Council told Public Works that they could take the Christmas decorations down.

Deb McWhirter and Joe Conlon, representing the Park let the Council know that the Lodge at the park will be shut down for 2 weeks as they will be putting a new epoxy floor in. They are planning to do this with some of the funds from the memorial funds that were donated to the park. They also let the Council know that they are working on general maintenance around the park and one of the future projects may be different playground equipment.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Bangasser with a second by Heuer to approve the consent agenda which was as follows:

Approve Minutes from meeting on 12/23/2024.

Approve Treasurer’s Report.

Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

New Business:

Deb McWhirter representing the Park came and presented the Park budget. The total amount that this came to is $115,400, which is about a 4% increase from last year due to annual inflation increases. One of the changes that was made was adding more to the deposit refunds as last year there were more than normal due to the weather we had. Deb noted that last year’s total with debt payments came to $111,600.00 and $130,793.35 for revenue; however, projected receipts show $160,000.00 which leads to the park bringing in around $30,000.00 more. It was also noted that since the Park is bringing in more, there is not taxpayer dollars being used out at the park. The Council agreed with the presented budget and had no other suggestions.

Patty Hummel representing the library came and presented the library budget. They are asking to increase their budget by 3% to follow the annual inflation. That being said, their total proposed budget for FY 2026 is $91,711.00. The City amount is $79,011.00 and the additional funds come from grants and state aid to make the $91,711.00 total. Patty also let the Council know that there are 2 programs that she was able to bring in as the library was awarded a grant for these programs. The first program is called Jim Basketball Jones who is an inspirational/motivational speaker who will be coming into the North Butler and Clarksville Schools to help kick off the Library’s Summer Reading Program. The second program will take place over Allison Days in which the community room will transform into a saltwater Ocean tank. The Mississippi Museum will be bringing in Sting Rays for families to see, learn about, and will also give an opportunity for families to touch them. Patty pointed out with the budget that the memorial fund has been very helpful to the library and has allowed them more opportunities. Along with this, she pointed out that they are working hard to continue to maintain the quality of services that they have been doing at the library with their budget. The Council agreed with the presented budget and had no other suggestions.

The City Council set Tuesday February 18th as the Budget Workshop meeting. This will take place at 5:15 p.m. at the new City Hall location at 502 Locust Street.

Public Works Director, Trent Stirling, let the Council know that the water shed needs a new roof. He would like to have the current roof replaced with steel and asked to have this included in the upcoming budget for FY 2026. He also stated that the watershed could use tuck pointing which we will look at adding in the FY 2027 budget. The Council will work to have funds for the roof added to the FY 2026 budget.

Trent Stirling also asked the Council to consider purchasing a dissolved oxygen meter that they can use for the Lagoon as it checks for dissolved oxygen in wastewater. The meters he has looked at are anywhere from $1,500.00 - $1,800.00. He will continue to look into these and come back to the council with an amount for approval.

City Clerk, Alexis Wiegmann, talked to the Council about getting a City Hall sign and address numbers for the new City Hall building. The Council asked her to look into pricing on these and come back to Council to discuss so that we can work on getting a new sign.

Council Member Karen Galey talked with the Council about updating ordinances and possibly hiring a code enforcer to help the city keep up on the ordinances. The Council is looking at dividing the chapters of the ordinance book amongst them so that they can be reviewed and have suggestions brought to the meeting for any updates that could be needed before recodifying.

Motion by Bangasser with a second by Galey to approve Council Appointments to Committees for 2025.

Motion by Henning with a second by Heuer to approve the Bond Council engagement agreement for the issuance of not to exceed $605,000.00 GO Capital loan notes, series 2025B for the Fire Truck & the Street Project. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Heuer with a second by Galey to approve Resolution #25-01.1 – Resolution to approve Lincoln Savings Bank as the depository for funds of the City. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Henning with a second by Bangasser to approve Resolution #25-01.2 – Resolution approving Alexis Wiegmann to City Clerk/Finance Officer, Shane Carlson to Fire Chief and Bailey Johnson to Ambulance President. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Bangasser with a second by Heuer to approve Resolution #25-01.3 – Resolution to approve the Butler County Tribune as the official newspaper. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Resolution 25-01.4 – Resolution to approve Bruce Toenjes as City Attorney failed due to a lack of motion.

Motion by Bangasser with a second by Henning to approve Resolution #25-01.5 – Resolution to set the mileage reimbursement rate to be 0.70 cents/mile. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Bangasser with a second by Henning to approve Resolution #25-01.6 – Resolution renewing the Policy of City Investments. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Bangasser with a second by Heuer to approve Resolution #25-01.7 – Resolution to approve pay application #16 from Boomerang in the amount of $85,072.50. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Bangasser with a second by Galey to approve Resolution #25-01.8 – Resolution fixing the set date of January 27th, 2025, at 5:15 p.m., for a meeting on the authorization of a loan agreement and the issuance of not to exceed $385,000 General Obligation Capital Laon Notes of the City of Allison, State of Iowa (for essential corporate purposes), and providing for publication of notice thereof. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Financial Advisor Chip Schultz, Representing Northland Securities talked with the Council regarding water and sewer rates. After reviewing the City’s numbers, the city will need to increase water rates as there is more in expenses than revenue at this time. He is working to put together options for the Council to consider to help bring the water revenue up to match the expenses as there has not been a water increase done in years as only sewer increases have been added annually. Chip also stated that the sewer rates should be able to come down as the city will be getting forgiveness on the sewer loan. However, we are unsure of the amount as the project is not yet completed. More information will be available on this once the project comes to an end.

Adjournment:

Motion by Bangasser with a second by Henning to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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Scot Henrichs - Mayor

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Attest: Alexis Wiegmann – City Clerk