

The Sheffield City Council Regular Session was called to order at Sheffield City Hall by Mayor Scott Sanders, at 7:00PM on Monday, December 11th, 2023. Council Members in attendance were Dave Smit, Julia Showalter, Ryan Kruger, Brad Mulford and Becky Moellers. Also, in attendance was Pat Nuehring, Public Works Director, Eric Meyer, Public Works Assistant, and Andrew O'Connor, Police Chief.

Mayor Sanders led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moellers made a motion to approve the agenda. Mulford seconded it; it was approved.

Mayor Sanders announced that it was the time and place for the public comment. There was no public comment.

Moellers motioned to approve the consent agenda, Kruger seconded the motion and it was approved. Those items approved in the consent agenda were: 11/14/23 Regular Session Minutes, December 2023 Bills, and November 2023 Finance Report.

Mayor Sanders asked the department heads to give brief updates to the council. The Public Works Director said they received two bids to cut down trees in the park. One locus tree and two ash trees were removed along with the stumps and the bush stumps. They will look into removing the dead evergreen in the cemetery once the ground is frozen. They are working on quotes for budget season. The valve in the pumphouse did not get fixed when they tried, so this will need to be done in the summer in the early morning hours. The Police Chief passed his PT testing this morning and will be going into the academy January. Things have been more low keys, with normal patrol and quite a few medical calls. Cameras will be installed starting 12/12/23. The City Clerk stated she is ready to start working with departments to prep for budget season. She also thanked the mayor and council members for their service on the table.

New Business

- Mulford motioned to approve Courtney Larson's tax abatement at her home, 1131 West Gilman St. Moellers seconded it, it was approved.
- Zoning Administrator, John Columbo, stated with the extra interest that was received from residents to join the Planning and Zoning Board, that maybe Council should look at bringing that back up to five members. This will come to the next meeting for further discussion/approval. Kruger motioned to approve John McNealy to fill the vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mulford seconded it, it was approved.
- Smit motioned to approve the Resolution authorizing and approving the Hampton Chronicle as the official newspaper of the City of Sheffield. Mulford seconded it and roll call was as follows, Ayes: Smit, Showalter, Kruger, Mulford, Moellers. Mayor Sanders declared the resolution approved, adopted and numbered 24-11.
- Moellers motioned to not approve Atura Architecture's request to split MidAmerican's cost for the new service line out to Bin Town Daycare. Kruger seconded it, it was passed.
- Mayor Sanders announced it was the time for the public hearing for the FY2024 budget amendment #1. The public hearing started at 7:21 and ended at 7:22; with no public comment.
- Smit motioned to approve the Resolution approving the FY25 Budget Amendment #1. Kruger seconded it and roll call was as follows, Ayes: Smit, Showalter, Kruger, Mulford, Moellers. Mayor Sanders declared the resolution approved, adopted and numbered 24-15.
- Kruger motioned to approve the Resolution approving the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocation. Showalter seconded it and roll call was as follows, Ayes: Smit, Showalter, Kruger, Mulford, Moellers. Mayor Sanders declared the resolution approved, adopted and numbered 24-13.
- Smit motioned to approve the Resolution authorizing approving the transfer of funds from ARPA to the cemetery fund for purchase of a columbarium. Kruger seconded it and roll call was as follows, Ayes: Smit, Showalter, Kruger, Mulford, Moellers. Mayor Sanders declared the resolution approved, adopted and numbered 24-12.

- There was discussion on police Chief O'Connor's request of increasing his wage to the new wage of \$26.50/hr. Chief O'Connor feels he has surpassed the council's expectations and exceeded his own expectations. He has had many of hard cases that he has had to work. He did pass the PT testing on 12/11 to get into the academy. There was great discussion of Chief being gone 4 months to the academy and his overtime will be high when he is back on weekends. There was talk about doing the extra pay for the four months to be paid at the end of the academy as a bonus pay. Mulford motioned to approve Police Chief O'Connor's wage increase from \$21.50 to \$26.50 effective December 15, 2023. Kruger seconded it, it was approved as follows, Ayes: Kruger, Mulford, Moellers and Nays: Smit, Showalter.
- Smit motioned to approve the purchase of PD Spot light from Electronic Engineering, for \$1,537.00. Showalter seconded it, it was approved.
- Moellers motioned to approve the advertising for a City Hall Cleaner. Mulford seconded it, it was approved.
- Moellers motioned to approve the Resolution approving the new handbook policy for working from home. Kruger seconded it and roll call was as follows, Ayes: Smit, Showalter, Kruger, Mulford, Moellers. Mayor Sanders declared the resolution approved, adopted and numbered 24-14.
- The City Clerk reached out to other towns for examples of ordinances in regards to accessory buildings/garages on residential property. Some examples shown to the council were from the cities of Wheatland, Corydon, Wayland, and Logan. Discussion was on what could be practical to one person may not be practical to another person. They also discussed that shed's do increase property tax value over empty lots and add to home property values too. Some suggestions were to limit sidewalls, percentage of the size of accessory building to your house/property size but need to allow for campers or taller/bigger vehicles also. Zoning Administrator Columbo recommendations is to do a percentage ratio of the house to accessory building or limiting sidewall height. This will come back to the next meeting for more discussion.
- Discussion of future city goals: n/a
- Mayor Sanders swore in 2024's new council members Sherri McGuire, James Robbins, and Becky Moellers, along with 2024's new Mayor Brad Mulford.

Council Comments – n/a.

Smit motioned to adjourn, Mulford seconded the motion and it passed. Adjournment at 8:17p.m.

Ashley L. Francis, City Clerk

Scott Sanders, Mayor