The City of Oregon Council met for regular session Monday, December 11th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall located at 106 S. Main St., Oregon. Present were Mayor Richard Wilson, Aldermen Rick Dozier, D.A. Greiner, Paxton Crumbaker, Kent Bohart was absent. City staff members present were Utility Superintendent Bill Prussman, Street Supervisor Steven Bradbury, Police Chief Joe Martin and City Clerk Tiffany French.

Aldermen Rick Dozier motioned to approve the minutes from the November 13th meeting. Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker made a motion to approve to pay the bills. Motion was seconded by Aldermen Rick Dozier. Motion carried.

**Public Participation with Council**

Ed Woolsey said he has been working at a piece of ground next to the cemetery. He noticed there are some nice walnut trees that could make money. There are about 11 trees that could be worth about $8,000.00, the market will not hold up for long and it is a good time for logging. Council tabled any decision as they would need to go out for bids also.

Brian Williams advised he had a leak and did not realize it until the line snapped in the middle of the road. He put new valves in and replaced everything. Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker motioned to cut the water bill in half and adjust $354.00. Motion was seconded by Aldermen Rick Dozier, all were in favor.

Jeana Sipes wanted a disconnect fee waived. She stated she was shut off twice in one month, once on the 15th and on the 26th. Council agreed to credit $30.00.

**Department Reports**

Utility Superintendent Bill Prussman advised they have been having lift station trouble. The city has 5 lift stations and 3 of them have new submersible pumps and controls. The lift station behind the nursing home is down. Fluid Equipment has a submersible pump for $9,400.00. Action Electric can do the control panel for under $10,000.00. They have someone coming tomorrow to take pictures underneath and all the pipes to see what it will take to install a submersible pump. If we have to rent a pump it would be the same company we rented from before. The new pump could take 4 to 6 weeks to get in. Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker made a motion to purchase the pump from Fluid Equipment and have the electrical done. Motion was seconded by Aldermen Rick Dozier. Vote 3-0.

Bill advised all the conduit is ran for the generator, switches are mounted and slab is level for concrete.

Street Supervisor Steve Bradbury said they are still waiting on parts for the red Ford truck at Hullman’s in Falls City. Blue Ford has been at McAfee Automotive and they think it is the cold packs that need replaced. One snow plow is down, need to get it in for repairs when one of the trucks is done.

Police Chief Joe Martin said he has been finishing up his annual training and will be taking vacation at the end of January and beginning of February.

City Clerk Tiffany French advised the cities MRX unit which reads the water meters had to be sent in for repairs and we have been using the City of Savannah’s. Neptune has sent information that they are moving away from their software and around June 2024 we will need to move to Neptune 360. Tiffany is still researching to see what is needed for the upgrade and will report at the next council meeting.

Tiffany advised Steve has 6 days of vacation that should have been taken off before December 16th. Due to short staffing and busy with lift stations the council advised to take it off before the end of the year.

The city received an invoice from G & M Trucking out of Forest City for rock that was accidently applied on Eisenhower Street instead of on the county road. Council agreed to pay the invoice for $395.64.

The Clean Water Engineering Grant application that was submitted has reached the next step and Tiffany has a meeting tomorrow with DNR for the additional paperwork that will be needed to see if the city can get approved for funding for the wastewater treatment plant for e-coli disinfection upgrades.

**Mayors Report**

Mayor Wilson received a letter from a citizen thanking city staff for their fast response in helping him with a sewer line that had been hit by construction workers working on installing fiber lines.

Richard advised the staff has been getting yelled at by citizens this last month due to delinquent water bill shut off’s. He would like to give staff the 26th of December off. Council agreed, staff can choose paid days off of either the 22nd or 26th of December.

**Council Discussion**

None

**Unfinished Business**

All of the required LMI surveys are done. The city does qualify to apply for the next CDBG grant cycle in mid spring of 2024 for street improvements.

**New Business**

 **Ordinance 332 Bill No. 2023-12**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 300 ENTITLED “TRAFFIC CODE” OF SCHEDULE III ENTITLED “PARKING RESTRICTIONS” OF THE CITY OF OREGON CITY CODE.**

Ordinance 332 Bill No. 2023-12 was read by title on the first reading by Mayor Richard Wilson. Copies of said Ordinance 332 were available for the public. Motion was made by Aldermen Rick Dozier and seconded by Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker to pass Ordinance 332 on the first reading. No Discussion. Motion was made by Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker and seconded by Aldermen Rick Dozier to suspend the rules and pass said bill on second reading by Roll Call vote. “Aye”: Aldermen: Crumbaker, Greiner and Dozier. “Nay”: None. Kent Bohart, absent.

 **Ordinance 333 Bill No. 2023-13**

**AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING USE OF CERTAIN ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES WHILE DRIVING.**

Ordinance 333 Bill No. 2023-13 was read by title on the first reading by Mayor Richard Wilson. Copies of said Ordinance 333 were available for the public. Motion was made by Aldermen Rick Dozier and seconded by Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker to pass Ordinance 333 on the first reading. No Discussion. Motion was made by Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker and seconded by Aldermen Rick Dozier to suspend the rules and pass said bill on second reading by Roll Call vote. “Aye”: Aldermen: Crumbaker, Greiner and Dozier. “Nay”: None. Kent Bohart, absent.

Mayor Wilson opened tree trimming bids. One bid was received by Get-R-Done tree service for $1,200.00 total for 8 hours of work. A motion was made by Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker and seconded by Aldermen Rick Dozier to accept the bid from Get-R-Done tree service for $1,200.00. Motion carried.

Mayor Wilson discussed the employee credit card and house charge account policy that was in each of the Aldermen’s council packet. A motion was made by Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker to accept the new policy. Motion was seconded by Aldermen Rick Dozier. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Aldermen Rick Dozier, seconded by Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.