The City of Oregon Council met for regular session Monday, February 12th, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall located at 106 S. Main St., Oregon. Present were Mayor Richard Wilson, Aldermen Kent Bohart, Paxton Crumbaker, D.A. Greiner, Rick Dozier was absent. City Staff members present were Utility Superintendent Bill Prussman, Street Supervisor Steve Bradbury, Police Chief Joe Martin and City Clerk Tiffany French.

Aldermen Kent Bohart motioned to approve the minutes from the January 8th, 2024 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 Kent Bohart. Motion carried

**Public Participation with Council**

Doug House spoke on behalf of the Oregon Kiwanis. They would like to invite the council members to speak at their weekly meetings throughout the year.

Bryan Slusher said he received a high water bill. They were contacted by Steve who said they had a water leak. Bryan said they had no idea there was a leak until Steve told them and immediately found it and fixed the problem. A motion was made by Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker to cut the water bill in half and make the sewer bill the normal amount it has been of $21.00. The motion was seconded by Aldermen Kent Bohart. All were in favor.

Andy Macias with Snyder and Associates presented the final draft of the preliminary engineering report for the streets and drainage project. Total project is projected at $1,499,270.00. Due to inflation numbers could easily change. Andy noted that chip and seal is harder to get, not a lot of people do that any longer and there is more competition with asphalt companies. The City of Fairfax only received one bid from a contractor and they were out of Arkansas. Contractors are so busy it is hard to get any bids for new jobs. Andy left the council with the packet and advised once they vote to pass the final draft he will send it to Northwest Regional Council of Government so they city can apply for the CDBG grant once the application process opens up.

**Department Reports**

Utility Superintendent Bill Prussman said they have been having a lot of problems this last month with lift stations. They have been running the pump from Velocity behind the nursing home.

Bill noted that he would like to get part time help started. Bill will check to see if Keller’s has cold patch and will check into the differences between cold patch and winter patch. Council advised to advertise for a part time position for 2 weeks and Bill will interview applications and make a decision who to hire. A motion was made by Aldermen Kent Bohart to hire a part time employee at $15.00 an hour. Motion was seconded by Aldermen Paxton Crumbaker. Vote was unanimous.

Street Supervisor Steve Bradbury had nothing new to report other than the snow plow was taken to Jacksons in St. Joseph for repairs and they have the Red Ford Truck back from Hullman’s.

Police Chief Joe Martin had nothing to report.

City Clerk Tiffany French said there will be training for the new Neptune 360 this week. A new tablet will be around $400.00 and it will need data which will be about $15.00 a month added to the cities cell phone plan. Tiffany mentioned it might help catch leaks sooner since we have new software if meters are read every 2 weeks instead of just once a month. Council said to try it and see if it helps.

**Mayors Report**

Mayor Richard Wilson advised City Clerk Tiffany French has been discussing extending city halls office hours to 3:00 p.m. instead of closing the doors at 1:00 p.m. Council advised to try it out and see how it goes.

**Council discussion**

Aldermen D.A Greiner asked Bill Prussman if he checked on prices for connected City Hall to the TJ Hall Buildings generator. Bill said not yet but he will.

Aldermen Kent Bohart asked about the water plant generator. Bill said he still needs to get the concrete poured and get a hold of the gas company to run a larger gas line. Generator still is expected to come late spring or early summer. Kent also asked when Git-R-Done Tree Service will be going around town to trim tree limbs. Tiffany will check with Ed Woolsey and get a timeline. Kent also advised to see what Fiber would cost for the TJ Hall Building.

**Unfinished Business**

The council addressed the drainage issue at East Nodaway and South Madison on the north side of Nodaway. After discussion it was stated it is the property owner’s responsibility since there were no problems until after the concrete driveway was installed.

**New Business**

Mayor Wilson stated the final draft of the preliminary engineering report for the streets and drainage project will be looked over by the council and approved at the next council meeting.

Mayor Wilson discussed a sidewalk ordinance that was brought to the council’s attention by the city attorney. Tiffany will check on a few more things with the city attorney and report to the council at the next meeting.

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