

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 7, 2020

The Montezuma City Council met in regular session at Montezuma City Hall on December 7, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor J. Bolen presiding.

PRESENT: Willrich, Eichenberger, Watts & C. Bolen (via phone)

ABSENT: Webb

ALSO, PRESENT: Christy Sanger, Bret Warden, Abby Hubbard & Mark Ewing

The City received the insurance payment to cover the parts and materials that were damaged when the brush pile fire jumped the ditch. The EMC check was in the amount of \$121,300.00 taking into consideration the City's \$1,000 deductible. A check was then cut to send to Boomerang in the amount of \$122,300. Councilmember C. Bolen made the motion to approve this claim. A second was made by Councilmember Watts. Ayes: C. Bolen, Eichenberger and Watts. Councilmember Willrich abstained from the vote affirming his distaste for the Boomerang Company.

Councilmember Willrich made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the following:

- Minutes from November 16th, meeting
- Claims
- Tax Abatement – Rick Warden 109 Forest Home Road

A second was made by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

A motion to reappoint Keith Hudnut to the Montezuma Light and Power Board was made by Councilmember Willrich and seconded by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

Sanger presented a request from the Montique Treasure Seekers that their cleaning deposit for the Memorial Hall be returned after their recent use of the hall for a garage sale November 12-14, 2020. It was explained to the Council that all renters and users are given a rental agreement and cleaning checklist where it states on both items that all cleaning must be done in order to receive their cleaning deposit back. When Sanger went in to check the hall, she swept the floor and provided a picture of the residue left from the event. It was also determined that the floor had not been mopped. Mayor J. Bolen explained that there are several not-for-profit community groups that use the Memorial Hall and the City does not charge them any rental fees, only a cleaning deposit is required. With no rental fees being collected, the City ends up covering all utility charges and paying some one to manage the hall with nothing to offset these expenses. The Council decided against giving the deposit back as the floor was not cleaned according to the hall instructions. Councilmember Watts made the motion to retain the cleaning deposit for the Montique Treasure Seekers. A second was made by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

Sanger stated that there have been multiple offers to help purchase the school's gym floor cleaner by the Lions Club, American Legion, Montezuma Community Boosters and the Pythians. The floor cleaner would be used to for the Memorial Hall floor. Councilmember Eichenberger made the motion for the City to pay the remaining \$650 to acquire the floor cleaning machine and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Willrich. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

The Mayor and Council reviewed the easement submitted on behalf of Willard McDonald for the use of City Property to gain access his lot located at 534 N Front Street. The Council asked Sanger to talk to the City Attorney to make sure the wording in the easement is sufficient enough and explains that the property owned by the City is not to be used to park any of their equipment or rentals upon. Sanger will report back at the next meeting.

Several bids were received for the City's seal-coating equipment that was listed for sale. Sealed bids were being accepted as of Friday, December 4th at 4:00 p.m. The bidders were asked to specify which piece of equipment they were bidding on followed by the amount of their bid. The following bids were received:

Mark Ewing	\$52 Oiler #1
Mark Ewing	\$52 Primer #4
Alan Gregory	\$1200 IH 560 Tractor
Keith Kiefer	\$691.01 IH 560 Tractor
Eldon Snook	\$850.00 IH 560 Tractor
Don Wauters	\$400 Wheel Packer
Dave Bru	\$2,250 No Equipment Specified

The bid received by Bru did not detail an amount for any one piece of equipment, just a total for all. This resulted in the Council deciding to go ahead and award the other bidders that provided precise bid amounts for their choice of equipment. Bru will be given the option to bid on the remaining two items left for purchase. A motion to approve Mark Ewing the winning bidder of the #1 oiler and #4 primer in the amount of \$52 each, Alan Gregory's \$1200 bid on the IH 560 tractor and Don Wauters' bid of \$400 on the wheel packer was made by Councilmember Watts and a second was made by Councilmember Willrich. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

A motion to table the amendment for federal funds until more information can be obtained from the city attorney was made by Councilmember C. Bolen and seconded by Councilmember Watts. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

The FY20 audit is complete and Sanger offered the Mayor and Council a letter from the auditors explaining their findings plus a copy of the audit for review.

Hubbard gave the Council worksheets on the Capital Improvement Plan in order to coordinate any necessary funding changes with the upcoming budget.

Mayor J. Bolen wanted the Council to be aware that there has been some graffiti spray-painted on some City streets and parts of the Memorial Hall. She asked that they be aware and report any information they may have to the Poweshiek County Sheriff.

Councilmember Watts made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. with a second from Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR