

AMERY CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
June 2nd, 2021

The Amery City Council met on June 2nd, 2021 at City Hall and via Zoom. Mayor, Paul Isakson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Mayor, Paul Isakson led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Roll Call: City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer, Patty Bjorklund conducted Roll Call.

Present: Mayor, Paul Isakson. Council President, Rick Van Blaricom. Alderpersons, Sarah Flanum, Chad Leonard, and Eric Elkin.

Absent: Alderperson Tim Strohbusch.

Staff Present: City Administrator/City Clerk-Treasurer, Patty Bjorklund; Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Ben Jansen; Police Chief, Tom Marson; and Director of Public Works, Jeff Mahoney.

Others present: Eric Barclay – MSA; Erik Henningsgard – S.E.H; Craig Olson – Acme Junk; Nel Anderson and Julie Anderson – Amery Women’s Club; and Larry and Julie Riemenschneider.

Public Comment: Mayor Isakson began the public comment portion of the meeting with a presentation of a plaque to Julie Riemenschneider to thank her for her 39 combined years of service to the City of Amery. Julie had served as City Clerk, City Administrator, and then as an Alderperson during her time with the City.

Mayor Isakson then informed the public that a groundbreaking ceremony had taken place earlier in the day at the new City Center Building.

Members of the Women’s Club were present to talk about their upcoming Art Fair in North Park. They thanked the City for installing the new bathhouse in North Park as it will greatly help with the Fair.

Craig Olson of Acme Junk was present to express concerns with the new sidewalk grading that is being installed during the Keller Avenue Project. It is steeper than it previously was and could present trip/slip hazards.

Eric Barclay of MSA was present to address the concerns with the sidewalks and the detour signs outside of town. The sidewalks need to have this grade to maintain proper storm sewer drainage and to comply with the ADA. As for the detour signs, they have been done in absolute compliance with WisDOT standards and cannot be modified. He also gave updates on the milling of the other portions of SH-46.

Finally, Mayor Isakson asked if anyone had come up with ideas for the relocation of the recycling bins for Polk County. Alderperson, Flanum; stated that she thought the Senior Center Parking Lot was the best location presented so far.

Consent Agenda Items:

- 1. Minutes:** City Council (May 5th, 2021); Special City Council (May 18th, 2021); Committee of the Whole (May 18th, 2021).

Motion by Alderperson, Flanum; seconded by Council President, Leonard; to accept all minutes as written.

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

Motion Carried.

New Business

1. **Ordinance 09-2021: Mailboxes-** This ordinance was written to help the Public Works Department with its issues plowing near mailboxes during the winter. This would require all new mailboxes to be erected in accordance with USPS recommendations.

Motion by Council President, Leonard; seconded by Alderperson, Van Blaricom; to approve Ordinance 09-2021 as written.

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

Motion Carried.

2. **Resolutions 04-2021: Ambulance Service Merger and 05-2021: City Hall Certified Survey Map for Alley Dedication** – The first resolution is an exploratory resolution intended to gauge the interest of the different municipalities in the possible merger of their ambulance services. The second resolution is for the City to take control of the alley behind the current City Hall building and to secure an easement for the storm sewer located there.

Motion by Alderperson, Van Blaricom; seconded by Alderperson, Elkin; to approve Resolution 04-2021 in support of the Ambulance Service Merger.

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

Motion Carried.

Motion by Alderperson, Elkin; seconded by Alderperson, Van Blaricom; to approve Resolution 05-2021 as written.

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

Motion Carried.

3. **Erik Henningsgard – Industrial Park Road Update** – Erik Henningsgard of S.E.H. was present to provide an update on the Industrial Park Road Project. The EDA grant application for the project was not approved at the federal level meaning that currently no grant funding is being provided for this project. He stated that he would be meeting with City staff to explore other avenues of funding for eh project.
4. **Approval of Liquor, Cigarette, and Other Licensure** – The various licenses need to be approved on a yearly basis in accordance with State Law.

Motion by Alderperson, Flanum; seconded by Council President, Leonard; to approve the various licenses as presented.

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

Motion Carried.

Motion by Alderperson, Flanum; seconded by Council President, Leonard; to go into closed session at 5:35 P.M. under Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(c) – Full Time Police Officer. Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

Ayes: Van Blaricom, Flanum, Leonard, Elkin.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Motion by Council President, Leonard; seconded by Alderperson, Elkin to reconvene into open session at 5:48 P.M.

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

Motion Carried.

Motion by Alderperson, Fl anum; seconded by Council President, Leonard; to approve the hiring of Paul Houx for the position of Full Time Police Officer at the 3-year step in the police contract at a wage of \$27.34 an hour, accrual of 9.61 hours per pay period; and a beginning bank of 36 PTO hours.

Ayes – 4

Nays - 0

Motion by Council President, Leonard; seconded by Alderperson, Fl anum; to adjourn at 5:50 P.M

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Jansen, MPA
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
June 3rd, 2021