

Harvard City Council Minutes  
June 27, 2023

The regular meeting of the Harvard City Council was held at the Harvard Community Room on the above date. Notice of the meeting had been given by publication in the Clay County News. Roll call showed the following to be present: Council Members: Misty Pair, Dean Winchell, Nate Brown, Frank VanCampen, Leann Wessels and Mayor Keith Ljunggren.

Mayor Ljunggren called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. stating the Open Meetings Law Poster is on the Southeast wall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Winchell, seconded by Brown to approve the Consent Agenda which consisted of claims and previous meeting minutes. Roll call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

American Legal/Code Book	\$2,110.13
Aqua-Chem/Pool	\$140.00
Arnold Motor/Parts	\$81.86
BCBS/Health Ins	\$7,172.26
Boyd McCartney/Park Light Repair	\$1,000.00
Chemsearch/Sewer Maint	\$2,021.85
Cornerstone Bank/Street Bond Pymt	\$21,010.00
Delta Dental/Emp Ins	\$325.65
Duff Roofing/Library Roof Repair	\$580.00
Friesen Chevrolet/Truck Repair	\$6.70
Harvard Fire Department/Fuel	\$502.78
Iowa Pump Works/Sewer Upgrade	\$75,774.00
Madison National/Life Ins	\$31.95
Menards/Cutting Wheels	\$14.61
Municipal Supply/Pool Parts	\$121.76
NE Public Health Env. Lab/Water Testing	\$237.00
Nutrien/Weed Spray	\$969.92
SCPPD/Light Bill	\$3,760.35
Sunbelt Rentals/Pool Vac	\$372.92
Village Cleaners/Mat Exchange	\$95.58
Walmart/Pool Supplies	\$771.04

Public Comment: None

After a vote by ballot from the council, Mayor Ljunggren appointed Sharon Ryan to fill the Ward 1 Vacancy. Motion by VanCampen Seconded by Brown to accept Mayor Ljunggren's appointment. Roll call: Ayes, Pair, Winchell, Brown, VanCampen and Wessels. Nays, none. Motion carried. Sharon Ryan read the Oath of Office.

Kenny Reutzel asked the city council to approve the parade route for July 29th, which begins in the Harvard School parking lot, South on Airport Rd, West on Walnut, North on Kearney, East on 7th by the nursing home, ending at the school. Kenny also asked if the Police could help keep the route free of parked cars during the parade. The council approved.

Mary Hamburger addressed the council with concerns about 316 N. Harvard Ave., that is located next to her. She is seeing wild animals going in and out of the house because the windows are open. The grass is growing tall and she thinks it is a nuisance and would like something to be done. The council asked Chief Alley to look into it.

Brett Klein with Flatwater wealth gave an update on the employee retirement fund and how it compares with surrounding communities. Brett spoke of how the city retirement account changed from a Simple IRA to a 457 which opens up the employer match to be more than the 3% that it had been capped at with the Simple IRA account and raising the match amount could be part of the raise given to employees in October. Currently Harvard is 3.5% below what Clay County matches.

Council Member Dean Winchell gave an update on what is being put in the dumpsters at the dump and stated that Harvard Residents are not the only people using our dump. This is an issue and he asked why Harvard is the only town in Clay County that does not charge to dump items in the dumpster and asked why Harvard is taking on the burden of Clay County's country dumping problem by not charging dump fees. He does not think raising the sanitation fee on the water bill is a solution because it would not cover the costs and residents should not have to pay for out-of-town people dumping. He suggested possibly putting in a mobile scale to charge so much per lb. Dean talked about passing an ordinance to have residents get their own dumpster if they are working on their properties. He does not think all residents should have to cover that cost. After much discussion it was decided the Landfill Committee will meet again to discuss different solutions and report back to the council.

Maintenance Report by Ben Mattley

Police Report by Chief Alley

Mayor Comments: The mayor asked the council which ad they would like to see in the Clay County News for the 150th Celebration and they chose the full-page color ad for \$425.00.

Committee Comments: The Landfill Committee shared some of what they had talked about at their last meeting. They talked about better signage and the right to refuse service to anyone. They will be talking to employees to get their insight on some issues.

As there was no further business Mayor Ljunggren adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m. The next meeting will be July 11th, 2023.

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Keith Ljunggren, Mayor

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Cheryl Walker, City Clerk