Paullina City Council Minutes 08/18/2025

The Paullina City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 18th, 2025, at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 127 South Main St, Paullina, Iowa. Mayor Marlin Sjaarda called the meeting to order. Roll Call was taken. Council Members present: Dennis Werkmeister, John Funkhouser, Jean Unrau, Carol Honkomp and Nichole Jacobs. Staff present: Superintendent of Utilities Kelly Top, City Clerk Michelle Wilson, and Police Chief Nathan Bremer. Visitors: Sutherland Mayor Kay Gifford, Sutherland Police Chief Brent Koppie, and Dale Opdahl. Press: O’Brien County Bell-Times-Courier and Iowa Information.

Motion by Unrau, second by Honkomp to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Forum: No comments

City Announcements: Clerk Wilson reminded residents that the first day to file papers for the November 4th election is August 25th with the deadline being September 18th by 5:00 pm. The City has two Council positions open for election along with the Mayor’s position.

Wilson reminded the public that the City still has a Police Chief and Lineman position open. Wilson reminded residents to please not discharge grass clipping into the street or onto the sidewalk. Superintendent Top gave an update on the continued clean-up of tree branches.

Motion by Jacobs, second by Funkhouser to approve the Consent Agenda. All ayes. Motion carried. Consent Agenda: approve minutes from the 8-4-2024 Regular City Council meeting and approve claims.

Clerk Wilson stood with new Council member John Funkhouser as he took the oath of office.

Nichole Jacobs, representing the Chamber of Commerce, shared information on the Fall Festival with the Council. Fall Festival will be held on October 25th.

City Employee Josh Biery passed his sewer test. Motion by Honkomp, second by Unrau to approve resolution approving a $1.00 raise for Josh Biery. Roll call vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Sutherland Police Chief Brent Koppie presented the Council with a potential interim policing plan. Motion by Werkmeister, second by Unrau to utilize the services of Thor Klinker to draft a 28E agreement with Sutherland and Calumet. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reports: Superintendent Top updated the Council on the storm damage clean up and repair. Mayor Sjaarda attended a Grant Writing Workshop and will share the grant writing information with any Council member or other persons interested in grant writing. Sjaarda also mentioned an article on Osceola County contributing to the cost of emergency training for ambulance departments in their county and information will be passed along to our ambulance department.

Committee Reports: Honkomp attended the Library Board meeting and stated the meeting went well and that the new Library Director has good ideas.

Motion by Jacobs, second by Unrau to adjourn meeting at 6:20 pm. All ayes. Motion carried.

The meeting was followed by a reception for Police Chief Nate Bremer’s retirement.