The Council met at 6:30 pm for the review of Tiffany Parr. Tiffany was given a $2/hr raise. It has been decided to wait until next year to start PTO.

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Brent Switzer, Vickie Whitehouse, Sheldon Johnson, Chris Ketchmark, and Art Underhill

**Others Present:**  City Clerk Tiffany Parr, Utility Billing Clerk Kathleen Bennett, Water and Sewer Operator John Mikrot, Fire Chief Gerard Bennett, Planning Commission Chair Dave Prachar, and various members of public.

**Call to Order:** Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the meeting was called to order with the pledge of allegiance at 7:00 pm by Mayor Switzer.

**Consent Agenda:** The consent agenda which includes the minutes of the October regular city council meeting, the disbursements and financial reports, and accounts payable was submitted for approval. The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

V. Whitehouse made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by C. Ketchmark. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

**Petitions, Requests, and/or Complaints:**

* New owners/liquor license for Squirrel Cage: Background check has already gone through Pine County Sheriff, no issues.

V. Whitehouse made a motion to approve the liquor license for the new owners of the Squirrel Cage, seconded by S. Johnson. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

* Chicken ordinance: It has been discovered that someone in town has a chicken coop. Shaine Parr brought up reasons he disagrees with the ordinance against chickens. The coop in question has one chicken that the owners consider more of a pet than a farm animal. Some discussion about whether or not to amend the ordinance to allow for chickens. It has been decided to allow Paul another month with the chicken, and council will review the ordinance at the next meeting.

**Gerard Bennett, Fire Chief:**  Runs to date: 28 fire, 109 ems, 2 other, 139 total. Three truck replacements all in the works. Marquee sign is here. Sign has been tested. Will be putting up shortly. Pump tests were done – both passed. Trucks are ready for cold weather. New grants: will be applying to federated propane.for help with the new truck change overs. FEMA PPE grant and radio grant still in the works. Rumor that FEMA is running out of money with the hurricane in Florida. Don’t know what will happen with that. Public relations: Fire Prevention Week was in October. One day at the school and one at the fire hall for that. Escort the track team. Trick or Treat at the fire hall. Will be escorting for the football team. Tree Lighting coming up. Gobble Wobble. And gun raffle. Recruitment: always in the works. Donations received: one from Laura Wyatt for $25. Misc.: Bollards will be in the spring. Door codes: in contact with Keith but have not settle anything yet.

**Dave Prachar, Planning Commission Update:** No update.

**John Mikrot, Water and Sewer Operator:** Started lowering the tower for winter. Fixed a couple curb boxes. Will hammer a steel post by them to help prevent future damage. Took three Christmas lights to be welded. Had a request to hang Christmas lights a week earlier. Council ok with that. Plan on going to Ferguson to pick up some parts. Looking for an allowance amount. Mentioned that the patches look good, but only one patch got done on Church St. There were two cut outs done there. Still need the second one patched.

Underhill made a motion to give John up to $1000 allowance to spend on parts at Ferguson, seconded by V. Whitehouse. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

**Kathleen Bennett, Utility Billing Clerk:** Sent out 154 bills, 33 email, 122 mail for a total of $9,479.35. No shut offs.

**Sheldon Johnson, Zoning:** One permit for solar panels.

**Old Business**

**Repairing Walters Road:**  No updates. This project is being held off until next year. Sheldon and Danny walked that road and could not find a culvert. Art will check with Chaz regarding the culvert that Kettle River Township had wanted replaced with the road work.

**Repairing Roads in Town:** Doe St. and Church St. got repaired. Will still need another repair on Church St.

**Door Codes:** Gerard mentioned this during his update.

**Public Nuisance Ordinance:** After some discussion regarding the blight/public nuisance ordinance, it was mentioned that maybe we could separate the blight and the public nuisance parts of the ordinance.

**Petition for Annexation:** Some discussion regarding the annexation. Danny has a structure that is too close to the river for permitting in the township. By annexing into the city, he is able to keep the structure. Art voiced some concerns regarding what benefit annexing the property brings to the city.

C. Ketchmark made a motion to approve the annexation, seconded by S. Johnson. Motion carried with majority of members voting in favor.

C. Ketchmark – Yes

S. Johnson – Yes

V. Whitehouse – Yes

A. Underhill - No

**Christmas lights for tree/pavilion:** No new discussion.

**New Business**

**Assessment of Delinquent water/sewer bills:** Delinquent water/sewer bills were presented to the council for approval to send to the county.

V. Whitehouse made a motion to accept the assessment amounts, seconded by C. Ketchmark. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

**Canvassing Board:** Canvassing board meeting will need to be held next week to confirm the election results. Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 17th at 5:20pm.

**Board of Appeal and Equalization:** Meeting for Willow River is scheduled for April 20th at 6pm at City Hall. Vickie and Sheldon have already taken the training.

**Movie Project Request:**  Poverty Row Pictures would like to film a scene for a movie in January of 2023 at the city hall.

**Water issue on Doe St.:** Art brought up directional boring plans to take care of the water build up along Doe St.

**Water Tower Keys:** John Mikrot found some water tower keys that had been left behind in our water tower. Concerned with the fact that if these keys get left somewhere else, others could potentially have access to our water tower.

**Adjournment**

C. Ketchmark made a motion to adjourn, seconded by S. Johnson. Motion carried with all members voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm.

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Tiffany Parr, City Clerk

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Brent Switzer, Mayor