

# City Council Meeting

12/23/24, 7PM

## Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Mayor Brady Gragg, Ken Stringer, Grant Bowlin, Dan Ravenscraft & Kathryn Coleman  
**Absent:** Trent Clark

Others In Attendance: Officer Tom Moore, Andrew Hanna, Terry Ullum, Leon & Jennifer Bell, Scott Silkmitter, Tim Stanghor, and Jake Callstrom.

**7:15pm:** Mayor Brady Gragg calls the City Council Meeting to order.

**Bowlin motions to approve the agenda, Ravenscraft seconds. Ayes Carried: 7:15pm**

**Bowlin motions to approve the November Meeting Minutes as written, Ravenscraft seconds.**

**Ayes Carried: 7:16pm**

## Open to Public

- Skipped

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Vacate “alley” in front of 512 N. Main – Jennifer Bell, (handouts) 7:16pm:**

**Jennifer Bell** – In the process of selling their house and property it was brought to their attention that there is an area in front of their house and through their driveway that is still city owned due to previous allotments and sewer lines running through that area. Usually property has easements around their properties, however with ours that is not the case. All the history and previous vacated land for the property is present in the handouts. If you look on the map you can see on the west side of the property on block 5 and along sections A, B, C there is a 20' strip that runs over our property that the city has never addressed. It is not currently an easement, the city legally still owns this and technically is public property, so anyone can come on that section. There is no documentation of proofs of right-of-ways or access agreements for that strip in reference to the driveway which runs through that strip. So we are requesting that this strip be vacated with an easement or access agreement with the city for access because there is a sewer line that runs N-S through there. That is why we are here tonight. This just slipped through the cracks and has never been addressed by the City of Whitewater. We just assumed being a small town that this was our property with an easement, knowing that the sewer line was there. So that strip, alley, we just asked that you as a governing body to consider approving to vacate this strip with a right-of-way in order to access the utility, so there are no public issues with it.

**Ravenscraft** – Is it just north of the driveway?

**Bell** – Shows the long rectangle strip of land on the map which is the issue. It's just this little strip that fell through the cracks when everything else was vacated from the original city plans. Through the Title work that has been done for the sell of our property revealed this issue. Time is not on our side, we are looking to close on the 21st of January, in the contract we are to survey this property. We can't get the survey until the get an approval to vacate this area, it doesn't have to be officially vacated by then but I need a vote to approve to start to process. From there you can take the proper steps to officially vacate that area. The survey just asks for the approval, so he can have a resolution number and he can proceed with what he needs to do. I just need to the city to evaluate, look this over and hear my plea to approve to begin the process, so we have fulfilled our side of the contract with the current buyer. It's more of a matter of who owns it, we have been maintaining it all this time. There has been two sections already vacated, one we refer to ask Oak Street (east side) and the other was the 4th Street (south).

**Bowlin** – How do we get her the resolution number, is that something that can be done.

**Ullum** – Anne will be back on the 6th and can put a resolution number to the roll call vote.

-- Discussion on the property and speculation as to why it was not done before when other parts of the property were done with a utility easement already.

**Mayor Gragg** – From my understanding, the letter from Fidelity (page 2 of the packet), the second bullet item, “ An Order of Vacation was established in 2015, recorded on April, 1 2015 (see pg 2) wherein the City of Whitewater vacated that portion of land referred to as D Street on the plat described above. The vacated land was equally apportioned to the adjoining lots contained in Block 4 and Block 5”, is this pertaining to the same piece of property?

**Bell** – No that is not the part I’m talking about. In fact, if you look at the legal description found on the page labelled pg. 7, it’s noted that there is no reference to the 20ft alley.

**Mayor Gragg** – So it was a legal “misstep” if you will. It just didn’t make it on the paperwork.

**Bowlin** – Is there a specific way this needs to be worded? \*Ken Stringer joins the meeting.

**Ullum** – On the last page of the letter from Fidelity it reads, “Therefore, a request is being made for the Governing Body of the City of Whitewater to consider approving to vacate this 20 foot alley yet reserve a right of way for that same portion of land in order to access any utilities that may be present in that same 20 foot alley.” That could be your motion.

**Stringer** – I have an issue with it. I don’t want it to happen and I’ll tell you why, I went out there and looked at that and that house has a Main Street address but it really shouldn’t have been, but because of councils before us gave that street behind them away, and this is the alley between that and Main Street. It is turned the house towards Main to give it a Main Street address. Once we give that alley away, the way zoning laws are, whoever owns it can build something right over the top of that alley because they were also given the street to the south. There would be no restrictions for building on those areas. It’s already a mess up there. I don’t think we want any more.

**Bell** – So are you saying that I could build over that sewer line? Not with the city easement, sir.

**Stringer** – But we are giving that easement up.

**Bell** – No, you are not.

**Stringer** - I don’t think it will benefit the city.

**Bowlin** – We are by helping a citizen of the city.

**Bell** – How does it benefit the city if you don’t?

**Stringer** – Well that’s just my opinion.

**Bell** – Well, I have some facts here that this needs to be done, I have been maintaining this property all of these years, my driveway runs across a portion of the top of it, no one is able to build on it because of the utilities there. I have multiple utilities that run through my property that the city has access too, they have the right of way to that by law, I can’t do anything if the city has access through there. It is your right as the city. And I would be paying taxes on it if I own it.

**Mayor Gragg** – We understand that you are in a little bit of a pickle here, trying to sell by the end of January. This is something that would normally go through our zoning committee, who then would make a recommendation to the council. I understand that you want to move faster than that. As far as having your legal ducks in a row, you look good, the title company has provided what we can use for a resolution. I do feel for you here; my recommendation is that we have this go to the Zoning Committee prior to the council.

**Bowlin** – How often do they meet? Have they even met?

**Mayor Gragg** – They do meet regularly, but they went from monthly to quarterly?

**Stringer** – It’s as needed, and you pay \$100 because when I’ve done it, they always turn me down. But that is besides the point, costs \$100 and you have to send out notices to everyone within a certain amount of feet of the property, it’s a real process and it concerns their neighbors too.

**Bowlin** – But that is for rezoning. That’s not for vacating an area of land with utilities.

**Leon Bell** – What is your issue with vacating this 20 foot alley, sir? It’s 20 feet.

**Bowlin** – It doesn’t benefit him.

**Ravenscraft** – The city will still be able to go on there. Nobody would want to build a building over the utilities that are there. If they check with what they should, they wouldn’t be able to build over that

easement, it's still there. The city wouldn't approve of that building permit application. Why is that not okay? We are trying to understand where you are coming from.

**Stringer** – Well, I'm just one person. This has nothing to do with me personally. In the past I have built a garage on a situation just like this, and it cost me a small fortune because the city of Wichita screwed up; they issued a building permit where we could build this garage over that area, it was all marked out and came to find out that the clerk or whoever does the computer thing in Wichita did not realize they had turned it over to those people and there was a 4ft sewer line under there. They had the same type of writeup saying they had the right of way. So, I had to go before zoning in Wichita and what they finally decided was that it was their screw up, they issued a building permit where they shouldn't have. They were told if we must access that sewer, we will have to tear down the garage, but we will also have to rebuild it.

**L. Bell** – Right but you must put One Calls in to dig, right? Just like the shed I put up, I put a locate in and the city came out and looked at it and told me I couldn't put it here because of a water line, so I had to push it over.

**Stringer** – The city abandoned so much up on that north part of town. This is not personal.

**Bell** – We are currently the owners of all of that, and in the future if anyone tried to build on any part of our property, they would have to get permits through the city who could deny those builds. It would be silly to even try. We bought the lots A, B, and C so nobody would build a house essentially in our front yard.

**Ravenscraft** – Are there even utilities that run through the previously vacated streets?

**Hanna** – There are utilities which run on Oak Street North, water lines.

**Bell** – Those were vacated with city access. We can't build on that; the city has access. But we do pay the taxes because we own it and we maintain that ground. Just like we would do with this small sliver of ground.

**Stringer** – These guys have lived here all their lives; I'll go along with whatever they want to do.

**Ravenscraft** – We've done the same thing with the vacated streets. And if whoever tried to build on those areas had their ducks in a row, they would not be permitted to build over those areas.

**Mayor Gragg** – Well we aren't issuing a permit, and we won't on these areas as long as I'm mayor, we are also developing the proper committees who meet regularly to help establish proper procedures in hopes that issues like Mr. Stringer experienced doesn't happen. We will also have the City Attorney look over this, I think we can make a recommendation for approval if the council wants to do that, and they can move forward with the sale of their property. We can have the City Attorney advise one way or another from that point on once he looks over it.

**Bowlin** – For the survey to take place you need a resolution number that said we approved to proceed down this route.

**Bell** – ... right, and I know this won't be complete and all tidied up, I know this takes time.

**Ullum** – The request here is, "Therefore a request is being made...", "you can say the council approves the request of that sentence to start this whole thing into motion. Our attorney can look at it, the zoning people can look at it, but at least she's got the approval to move forward on her request. It will not be a resolution until the Attorney has made that resolution. We are just looking to officially move forward.

**Mayor Gragg** – Essentially, its YES we are going to look into this, or NO we are not.

**Bowlin** – So we have to wait on the resolution number for the zoning or attorney to look at it.

**Bowlin motions to consider to approve the process to vacate the 20 foot alley along the front of the property of 512 N. Main. Reserving a right of way for the same portion of land in order for the City of Whitewater to access any utilities that are present in that same 20 foot alley. Coleman seconds, Ayes carried. 7:42 PM**

**Bowlin** – Let the Zoning and City Attorney know that this is time sensitive?

**Mayor Gragg** – Things tend to free up a little bit after the holidays, thank you for coming in and addressing the council, but this is a process, gotta love the wheels of government. We are all here to serve

the citizens of Whitewater and I think we all have the best interest of the citizens of the city at heart. I appreciate you coming out and hope your move goes smoothly. Congrats on the new job.

## Open to Public

**Scott Silkknitter** – I made a complaint two months ago concerning the privacy fence needed at my neighbors pool. I was curious about the steps being taken to move forward. I had not heard of any progress.

**Officer Moore** – Could I answer this one? The letter was mailed, never got it, then a certified letter was mailed, never picked up, so I had it in my car, went to the address twice in Wichita and no contact was made. Gave the letter back to the city clerk, remailed, never picked up, got the letter back from the city clerk and by this time the lady had moved into the house on south main. I took it over there, banged on the door, she won't come to the door. I still have the letter but she won't answer the door for me to give it to her. We are trying.

**Mayor Gragg** – The city is having issues as well, it's becoming a legal matter. Apparently, water was on at this location for 2 years with no bills because it was documented as off in the office. We found this out because the city clerk asked city maintenance to make sure it was off after seeing a U-haul at the house over a weekend. They turned the water off, and she has now requested to reinstate the utilities.

**Hanna** – When Anne saw that it was "off" in her records, so she had us go make sure it was off and if it was on. The last meter reading was in 2022. I don't know if it was turned off and was turned back on at some point without the city's knowledge or if it was never turned off. I wasn't here back then. She has now reestablished her utilities via emails.

**Bowlin** – So has she paid the difference from 2022 when it was last read up to now?

**Mayor Gragg** – not to my knowledge. Do you (Hanna) happen to know a dollar amount, or usage?

**Hanna** – a lot, I don't have those numbers.

**Mayor Gragg** – Anne and I had some conversations about this late last week. So I know when she gets back we will be discussing this more. Unfortunately, it looks like theft of services.

**Bowlin** – has she owned it since 22? **Answer** – since 21, maybe?

**Officer Moore** – I just don't know where all the water came from because she hasn't been there?

**Mayor Gragg** – The last meter reading was in 2022, no matter how much has been used, there were no bills because it was set to off, from that meter reading to this recent reading when they went to check it, all that water is stolen water.

**Bowlin** – procedurally, when you (Hanna) go to shut water off do you lock it as well?

**Hanna** – I do not normally put a lock on it. I did not this time, usually we turn it off and we check it in a few days, if it's been tampered with, then we lock it. When I turn it off, we document it, date, time and signed. We try to document everything as clean and clear as possible.

**Officer Moore** – The way I look at it, I know what you (Mayor) are saying, but if you turn it off and it gets turned back on in those few days, it's easy to say who turned it back on then. But two years ago...

**Ravenscraft** – Is it hard to lock? Why don't you just lock it? Especially with her.

**Mayor Gragg** – But she has now requested services legally, with proper paperwork.

**Hanna** – Correct, she even got a trash can.

**Ravenscraft** – Don't we have to force them to pay back the water?

**Mayor Gragg** – Well, that is where we will need to get the attorney involved.

**Stringer** – What we have done in the past, because we did it to the lady with that garden place, what we did for her was made her pay minimum for every month that she had it on. So that would be the least we could do there. When she first got that house, she had so many leaks she had a plumber come fix the plumbing. That I know.

**Mayor Gragg** – Well, that's what is coming. It's probably going to be referred to the City Attorney and let him recommend the legal next steps. If we need to seek restitution, prosecution, what we need to do there. Okay, anyone else need to address the council from the public this evening?

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

### Meet Jake Callstrom, 7:56pm:

**Mayor Gragg** – Mr. Callstrom you were invited to attend by the council, could to tell us about your credentials a little bit and about your desire to help the City of Whitewater.

**Callstrom** – Yes sir, In the November newsletter you had talked about strays and a flea issue with those strays, as well as some code issues with some residents in the town. So, I came in and talked to Anne, I work at a very part-time job for a property manager down in Andover, it's a Homeowners Association that I work for, so I'm basically the liaison between the board and the homeowners. When the board sees something that needs to be addressed I will go to the homeowner and let them know the issue. I've done some trapping of muskrats, they have a beaver in the lake now and they hired a professional to take care of that. She asked me to provide a resume and then to come to this meeting if you have some questions for me.

**Mayor Gragg** – I think you are aware, but we have a lack of animal control officer here in town and we also do not have anyone investigating code violations, with regards to grass, abandon vehicles, those types of city code violations, that's just a generalization of those violations. The city is currently working on updating, codifying the existing codes we do have through a third-party as well as our city attorney to make sure we are in compliance with the State statutes to make sure we are in compliance because things have changed over time. The city council is looking to hire someone on a part-time basis primarily to handle animal control and then as we get up to speed with our code book we could possibly start the code enforcement side of it. Might be talking to residents about violations and what they can do to be proactive to get back in compliance, the city doesn't want to just write tickets and getting folks mad, that's not it at all. We are just trying to provide a safe and healthy environment for its citizens. Do you feel called to do the part-time HOA, something to do in your spare time?

**Callstrom** – I picked it up in 2001, I get emails or a phone call about certain issues; people leaving their boats on the lake and you can't do that for the winter, so I have to knock on doors and send out emails telling people to move their boats or they will be fined. Trailers are a big issue, another thing is cars parked on roads, so I talk with the Andover police a lot concerning the cars that need to be investigated, that way if it's a legal issue the police handle it, I just inform the property owners of the violations. If it is illegal the police take it from there but if it is legal I just inform the board of the complaint and that the police found it was legal.

**Bowlin** – We started looking into this because we haven't had someone for a while, I was animal control officer for a little while, we have started to get complaints, which the community is realizing that that is how this works, you must make complaints to put on file, ...

**Callstrom** - Yeah, you want everything documented, from A-Z.

**Bowlin** – Those are starting to happen. We haven't had any type of code enforcement ever, I don't think. So we don't want to go into that guns blazing and writing tickets left and right, it would be a lot of liaison and a lot of talking with people, providing first notices to help them know the codes as well.

**Ravenscraft** - There are houses that are collecting junk out front of their houses, stuff like that, parking motor homes in their yards, camping trailers, and then living in them, etc.

**Callstrom** – Right, Anne mentioned that she is working on the code book, wanted me to come talk to you guys. She was writing as fast as her little hands could write.

**Bowlin** – As far as the animal stuff, it seems to be going kind of stupid right now, there are quite a few instances that are going on right now that need to be dealt with.

**Ravenscraft** – Yeah, like the dog down over at Bell Automotive that got dumped. It has been there almost a week, its been skiddish whenever folks try to catch it, there is a lady down there that is trying to set up the means to trap train the dog, another tried to work their magic to help Jessica, but the problem is once we capture the animal we don't have a place to go with it. Even if we were to take it out, ... **Mayor Gragg** – I haven't reached out to them yet. ... to our local Vet out east of town, to Dr. Regier, in the past sometimes the city was able to use their place to hold dogs or cats for a certain amount of time, but even then so many of these places are so full.

**Callstrom** – That's why you have got to get your name down at these different humane societies and so on to bring in these animals.

**Ravenscraft** – Jessica is good about getting ahold of these other rescue groups. But I don't know if there is anything set up for this dog, I heard Ron Eck might be interested.

**Bowlin** – Did we talk about combining the stipend for both, I know we increased the animal control stipend. I think we are currently ready to just hire for animal control and then once we get our codes ready we can discuss that amount.

**Mayor Gragg** – Have you (Callstrom) any experience with catching animals ...

**Callstrom** – When me and my wife bought a house in Andover, the people before us had left their cats and fed strays so there were something like 12 cats waiting at the back door our first day there. Most of them were not friendly, I set up a trap and slowly caught one at a time and would run them over to the Humane Society.

**Bowlin** – We have a pole, one of those catch poles.

**Hanna** – Multiple live traps. The big one they are using to catch the dog with is the city's.

**Mayor Gragg** – Yes, Jessica Bell has offered to help with some training and to collaborate with, would animal control be something you would be interested in doing? That is probably our most pressing need right now.

**Callstrom** – Um, with the number of stray cats around my house, probably. There are quite a few, we haven't complained about it at all but ...

**Mayor Gragg** – Well we aren't prepared to make a job offer to you tonight but I thank you for coming out and letting us talk with you.

**Bowlin** – But you are interested? And it might be something that can start as animal control and be combined in the future for code enforcement.

**Callstrom** – right, so this is something that isn't a current position? That is how it was when I started at the Homeowners Association, I was the first outside hire and it kind of developed into what it is now. So I have experience with starting a new role or position. So I am comfortable with that.

**Bowlin** – we need to reestablish some things, like we used to have an agreement with the Regier's and need equipment, things like that.

**Callstrom** – I'll let you guys discuss it. – *takes his leave, Scott Silknitter left as well.*

**Mayor Gragg** – We can wait until next council meeting and hope all council members are present or if you would like me to proceed with negotiations to get him started, we've talked about \$300 a month stipend. Start getting him established, there might be some equipment he may need that the city will need to get for him to do his job safely. Do we need to set an initial equipment budget for any purchases that may need to be made?

**Bowlin** – The pole we had didn't work right and that is why I got bit, so equipment like a pole, thick gloves, kennel for the back of a truck, ... how to check for microchips.

**Ravenscraft** – There is training that can be done, proper training. Vaccinations. I think Ms. Bell talked about all that at the other meeting. Whoever does it should be properly trained. Probably some new traps. The City has a microchip reader, but the Regier's are probably the only ones around here who can access the information from the numbers.

**Bowlin** – I think we could just go through what we already have and figure out what he needs and just buy it from there.

**Ravenscraft** – I think there needs to be more conversation with him about the animal control side of it.  
-- discussion on previous hires lack of training in animal control.

**Mayor Gragg** – I will do some research on animal control training, if there are recommended vaccinations, this will be a good opportunity for me to talk with Dr. Regier and see if he has recommendations. I will do some follow up work on this in January and we will table this until the January 27th meeting.

**Ravenscraft** – In the minutes from last meeting Jessica mentioned that Dodge City is the Animal Control Headquarters of the US. So they might be able to find some guidelines from them. Yeah, we've got to

figure out the equipment, but there are times where animals get loose, and we wouldn't have to take it out to the Vet if we had some way to hold an animal until the owner gets home.

**Bowlin** – I wanted to build one when I first got on the city council. It was a resounding 'No'.

--- discussion on how to hold animals, kennels, cameras, locations, repairs on what we do have. etc.

## Financial Report – Terry Ullum, 8:28pm

Nothing special in November. We have had a few things as far as December expenses. A CD recently came due, \$160,000, we renewed a \$100,00 at 4.5% and the other part rolls into the money market started after the first of the year. And we also bought the lawnmower. Other than that fairly routine for December as well but that can be seen in the January report.

**Stringer** – The financials look good to me and we didn't have a late fee on the credit card these last few times.

**Stringer motions to accept the December Financial Report, second by Ravenscraft. Ayes Carried:**

**8:30pm**

## PERSONNEL REPORTS

### Maintenance Report – Andrew Hanna, 8:30pm

- The water tower is back up and running. The work went well, the tank trailer is going away tomorrow.
- We had a good Thanksgiving.
- Had water testing in Emporia, I passed my water certification test. (council claps approval)
- Because Brandon had taken the wastewater test 3 times he was not able to take it again this year. I was unaware of this, so he will try again this upcoming year.
- We have set up the town for Christmas, the tree lighting went well.
- The Hesston tractor is gone, it was finally shipped off.
- The trees at the COOP have been cut down and piled up on COOP property. The COOP cut them down. We had a little influence from Officer Moore to get that finally done.
- The leaf cleanup is still on going. We are still battling that.
- The new mower was picked up last Wednesday, it mows nice! We tried it out on the empty lot on N. Elm.
- We have fixed the water meter leak on S. Elm and Vine.
- We sold the old mower for \$1500. That goes into the Equipment Fund.
  - **Bowlin** – Where abouts was the harassment? **Officer Moore** – It wasn't them.
  - A report came out of Butler Co. saying that maintenance workers were getting chewed at here in Whitewater, it wasn't us. It was maybe Evergy or someone getting yelled at.

### Clerk's Report

- City Wide Cleanup is scheduled for March 22, 2025.

### Police Report – Tom Moore, 8:40pm

- Five traffic stops and 1 ticket.
- I don't know if its because it's around Christmas but hopefully things will slow down but there has been a lot of things going on at night around town. There just is a lot more going on at night here and in Potwin. Mostly Domestic Violence or Yelling and stuff, people are stressed and stuff.
- The neighbor called in the guy in who was yelling at those Evergy workers saying he was going to kill them, but I don't know who it was or anything. It was the neighbors that called it in not the workers.

- So I might have to come in some nights, if that is the case you won't see me during the daytime sometimes. To try to help folks to see me at night too and they decide to be better.
- I'll keep trying to get that lady her certified letter.
  - **Bowlin** – At what point can we get the County involved? Like to condemn a house? Surely, she is violating something that is county as well as the city ordinances.
  - **Mayor Gragg** – That is probably where we have to get the City Attorney more involved as well.

--- Officer Moore leaves the meeting.

## Mayor's Report – Brady Gragg, 8:50pm

- There is a letter here in your packet from the Loyd Group. It is that time of year again to start dealing with the 2024 Audit. Quick review of the letter.
  - **Stringer** – That's not cheap either. Max at \$12,750
  - **Ullum** – This last one, the 2023 was that much as well. That is pretty standard, there is not much cheaper anywhere else.
- reads the Resolution of Acceptance. If it is the will of the council.
  - **Stringer** – It's expensive but we are not near the trouble we were in a while back. With the treasurer that we have now, I don't think we will get all the way up to the \$12,000 fees for the Audit. We are required by the State to have an Audit.
  - **Ravenscraft** – We had a meeting with Scot Loyd for the Fire Board and he is just fantastic, he is just an honest and fair Christian person. Very knowledgeable.

***Ravenscraft makes a motion to accept the services provided by the Loyd Group for the 2024 City of Whitewater Audit. Coleman seconds, Ayes carried. 8:55pm - signed***

- The second item I have here is the Resolution adopting the 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan for the City of Whitewater.
  - **Ravenscraft** – we had to do that as a fire board as well, it's basically so if there is a disaster we can ask for money.

***Ravenscraft makes a motion for Resolution #12-23-2024, adopting the 2024 Kansas Homeland Security Region G Hazard Mitigation Plan as the Hazard Mitigation Plan for the City of Whitewater. Bowlin seconds. Coleman Ayes, Stringer Opposes, Ayes Carried. 9:00pm - signed***

## New/Unfinished Business

### Hydrant Replacement Costs, 9:00pm – Andrew Hanna (handout)

So we have some hydrants around town that are in various states of disrepair, there are a few worse than others. In the hand out it is color coded to reflect differences. The orange and blue represent the hydrants but costs from different places. So there are two different quotes for the same hydrant, which ever color. We have done a lot of work through Core & Main who would deliver to us with no shipping fee. The second to last page is from Core & Main concerning installing valves to isolate the hydrants from the main line, if and when repairs are needed in the future. All of these old town, 1961 model hydrants do not have those valves. Which was a cost they did not want to incur but it creates a disservice to the people of the town because we have to shut their water off if we need to do hydrant work. So I put off service work to the hydrants because of that. It's not conducive for repairs and maintenance. The last page is a list of our current big problems in town. Some of which do not appear to be repairable at this point because they don't even work. They don't turn on or off, they just leak. They cannot be serviced without shutting everyone in that quadrants water off. With the cold weather coming on us this is a major problem. We are going to try to insulate them and wrap them in trash bags best we can and hope they don't freeze on us. **Ravenscraft** – Are these anywhere near the models that we just replaced about 4 years ago? It would be nice to stay consistent by replacing with the same model as last time and would be good for parts, etc.



**Hanna** – Those were put in along Main street and they were the Blue highlighted model. The inside parts are the same, the difference comes with one being a 2-way or a 3-way model. The 2-way is ideal for a 4in line and the 3-way is more conducive with the 6in line.

**Stringer** – Is there anything from the State that says if a 2-way or 3-way is required for certain areas?

**Ravenscraft** – I think it depends the type of hookups to the hydrant. And the water tower.

**Hanna** – And the line that feeds into it. The Core & Main guy recommends that most of the time if it is a 4in line it hooks up to a 2-way hydrant. Because you don't want to collapse the line feeding the water. So if you eliminate the 3rd outlet on a 4in line it will be less suction and less likely to collapse the line. It adds up if you look at looking to add in the valves. I think all the ones in question on the last page are all on 4in lines. They would be the blue or 2-way hydrants.

**Stringer** – What would that come out of as far as budget?

**Ullum** – Do you have a total for dollars? **Hanna** – Roughly \$5000 per unit with the valve hardware.

**Stringer** – So your looking at 6 hydrants, so that's \$30,000.

**Hanna** – I have 3 on there that need to be replaced, the other ones if I can rebuild them that could be a possibility.

**Stringer** – okay so \$15,000 minimum.

**Bowlin** – Just parts, not labor.

**Ullum** – The water utility fund has about \$60,000 and it will be a little more than that by the end of December. That will carry over into the new year. We can say we will do half of them this quarter and the other half the next quarter, because we are getting revenue coming in from the water utility.

**Stringer** – I think the ones he is telling us about we just need to do that. There is no excuse for us not to provide working hydrants.

**Bowlin** – One's next to the school, we want that one working.

**Ullum** – And Andrew is good about not spending money just because he can be spending money. He usually comes in and asks if we can do it now or do we need to wait.

**Bowlin** – Who will do the install? **Answer** – Graber Backhoe at least for the first one, so I see how its done. I can dig it all up and they just come in and do the fitting possibly.

**Ravenscraft** – We need to get some bids for the labor. I'm curious to see if we ever got other bids from some other ones other than Graber Backhoe.

**Mayor Gragg** – Who would you ask? I'm sure we could get some recommendations from Young. Can we let him go ahead and get the hydrants and valves purchased and then get some bids for the work/install to be reviewed at the January meeting?

--- discussion on if parts are needed and 2 or 3-way hydrants. ---

**Stringer motions to spend around \$15,000 to get (3) of the 2-Way hydrants with 4in valves and hardware needed, second by Coleman. Ayes carried: 9:07pm**

## **Agenda Items for Jan. 27, 2025**

- Animal Control
- Bids for Hydrant Install
- Cost analysis for kennels with a run and where it might go.

**Bowlin motions to bring the December Council Meeting to an end, Second by Coleman. Ayes carried: 9:15pm**

**Meeting Adjourned, Merry Christmas – 9:15pm**