

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Consideration of a resolution reestablishing the Oelwein Dispatch Center

WHEREAS, the City of Oelwein shut down their 911 and dispatch center in July of 2021; and

WHEREAS, the city worked with Fayette County to transition 911 and dispatch to the County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, Fayette County requested a fee of \$125,000 annually for dispatch services once they understood the workload of Oelwein after promising they would have no issues; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oelwein and Fayette County began negotiations; and

WHEREAS, Fayette County failed to answer basic questions to the City of Oelwein and stopped negotiations in April of 2023; and

WHEREAS, Fayette County is requiring Oelwein to pay \$140,000 annually which is more than any other entity within the county based on population; and

WHEREAS, Fayette County is improperly using calls for service to justify high charges; and

WHEREAS, Fayette County used one county as a model and failed to see several counties in Iowa who do not charge dispatching fees to their communities; and

WHEREAS, Fayette County has provided no reassurance their fee will not increase; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oelwein can provide 24 hour dispatch coverage which meets the needs for the community at a price comparable and potentially less than Fayette County; and

WHEREAS, at any time the City of Oelwein is open for a larger discussion on dispatch and 911 with a consolidated service model; and

WHEREAS, the merging of dispatch will remain for emergency calls and transmissions, as the county provides this service to all communities at no additional cost beyond current taxation and 911 subscriber fees; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oelwein did not intend for this outcome, but was forced by Fayette County to start dispatching again as the only affordable alternative for the taxpayers of Oelwein; and

WHEREAS, the Oelwein Dispatch Center will have four full time employees and part time employees as needed; and

WHEREAS, any equipment upgrades for radios will be required regardless of having a dispatch center; and

WHEREAS, the city will strive to provide a service which keeps all community members safe and served;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Oelwein, Iowa reestablishes the Oelwein Dispatch Center

Passed and approved this 22nd day of May 2023.

Attest:

Dylan Mulfinger, City Administrator

Recorded May 23, 2023.

City Administrator

Brett DeVore, Mayor

It was moved by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Resolution as read be adopted, and upon roll call there were:

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Stewart
Weber
Lenz
Garrigus
Seeders
Payne