

City of Ida Grove  
City Hall  
April 17, 2017

Mayor Whiteing called the meeting to order with the following Council Members present: Paul Cates, Scott Tomlinson, Doug Clough and Ryan Goodman. Others present were Deputy Clerk Heather Sweeden, Attorney Peter Goldsmith, Marlo Schoer, Ross Ladwig, Gregor Ernst, Deb Loger, Jerry Bendixen, George Weir, Mark and Beth Euchner, and Rec Center Director Chelsea Gross. Jeff Buehler was absent.

Motion by Council Member Clough to approve the agenda, second by Council Member Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Council Member Jeff Buehler submitted his resignation to Mayor Whiteing and the Council due to moving outside of his ward. Motion by Council Member Tomlinson to accept Buehler's resignation, second by Council Member Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Prior to appointing a citizen to the ward I vacancy, Mayor Whiteing noted that the position will be up for election in November. Gregor Ernst and Ross Ladwig were present as interested candidates for the vacancy. Dave Larson and Duane Swenson were also interested but not present. Motion by Council Member Goodman to appoint Gregor Ernst as Ward I Councilman, seconded by Council Member Tomlinson. Ayes: Goodman, Clough, Tomlinson. Nays: Cates. Cates noted his confidence in Ladwig, but expressed Ernst will do a great job as well. Motion passed.

Mayor Whiteing presented the Oath of Office to Ernst and Ernst joined the meeting.

Jerry Bendixen was present to discuss covenants for Schmidts Addition and to request permission to build a garage on his property on Riverview Lane. Attorney Goldsmith noted the Council is unable to make changes to the covenants regarding Schimidts addition and that it is actually the neighbors who enforce covenants. Bendixen wants to know what he has to do to be able to build a garage on his property, like several of his neighbors have. After discussion, council advised he file a building permit at City Hall and proceed from there. Goldsmith also noted that the City could approve the building permit, but it is still possible that his neighbors could sue him.

Motion by Council Member Cates to approve the employee list for the 2017 Outdoor Pool season, seconded by Council Member Goodman. Ayes: Cates, Goodman, Tomlinson, Ernst. Clough abstained from voting due to a family member on the list.

Motion by Council Member Goodman to approve Slide Pros to inspect, clean, scale, polish, wax, and shine the outdoor pool slides for \$5,186.00, seconded by Council Member Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried. Council suggested that Gross should pursue pricing for a yearly maintenance contract.

Council discussed a list of rules they would like displayed at the ballfields. They include: No smoking, no alcohol, no dogs, no skateboards, bikes, golf carts, mopeds, electric scooters, no climbing on the fences, and to throw trash away. Also, no hitting balls into the fence, good sportsmanship is required, and "we reserve the right to ask you to leave". Motion by Council Member Goodman to purchase 12 signs to be

displayed at the entrance and around the 3 fields, seconded by Council Member Ernst. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Motion by Council Member Tomlinson to make the final payment to SonSeeker for the pool replastering in the amount of \$42,892.00, second by Council Member Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Council Member Goodman informed the Council of the possibility of Lon Buse, current Public Works Director with Lake View, coming to work as the new Wastewater Superintendent. Buse has expressed his interest in retiring from his current position and is interested in working for the City of Ida Grove.

Motion by Council Member Goodman to approve the consent agenda consisting of the claims list, financial reports, April 3<sup>rd</sup> minutes, Rec Center, Library, and Fire Department financial reports, and a Class C liquor license with Sunday sales for Mi Rancho, second by Council Member Cates. On a unanimous vote motion carried.

Council Member Cates reported on the ongoing issues with the downtown project. Red Oak Glass will contact the glass manufacturer to look at the flawed glass at Mark Brenner's building. Cornerstone will be coming to check the leak in the ceiling, also at Brenner's building. Council will continue to hold the final payment to RDG until all issues are resolved.

Councilman Clough reported on the King Theatre. They are awaiting approval of three grants totaling over \$160,000.00. He also reported they are still looking for volunteers to help with the deconstruction phase on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:15 to 7:00 P.M.

SIMPCO is continuing to check for any possible grants to help with repairing the cracks along the Pleasant Valley Trail. Sweeden will check with Street Superintendent Sholty to get pricing on mudjacking the section of the trail which is currently closed off near the hospital.

John Callen from JEO has been approved to meet with the railroad crew to complete their survey.

Council plans to have Marc Dennison initiate the process of codifying and digitalizing the ordinance books after he starts work.

There is an upcoming workshop on June 1<sup>st</sup> in Aurelia regarding nuisance properties. Motion by Council Member Goodman to approve any City employee to attend the workshop at \$40.00 per person, second by Council Member Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Attorney Goldsmith noted there were no issues with the Iowa DOT permit, submitted by Oak Hill Consulting for Long Lines to place fiber optic cable under Highway 59/175 from Washington Avenue to MidAmerican Energy. Council asked City Hall to research what type of fees other City's may charge for the drilling and boring. Tabled until future meeting.

In other business, Council discussed rocking the allies on Valley View Drive and Moorehead Avenue. Council will talk to Landus Cooperative to get a tentative timeline for fixing the Railroad tracks by the old Courier building. Marlo plans to start working on the City's budget Amendments. The new City Administrator, Marc Dennison, is set to start work on Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Council also plans to get the transportation committee together to discuss vehicles parking on the City right-of-way.

Motion by Council Member Tomlinson to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Clough. On a unanimous vote motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Heather Sweeden, Deputy Clerk

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Devlun Whiteing, Mayor