

City of Ida Grove  
City Hall  
May 1, 2017

Mayor Whiteing called the meeting to order with the following Council Members present: Paul Cates, Scott Tomlinson, Doug Clough, Gregor Ernst, and Ryan Goodman. Others present were Deputy Clerk Heather Sweeden, Marlo Schoer, Wastewater Superintendent Mark Nielsen, Water Superintendent Lon Schluter, Street Superintendent Gerrod Sholty, Parks Superintendent Bob Lorenzen, Rec Center Director Chelsea Gross, City Administrator Marc Dennison, Bethany Jones, and Sheriff Wade Harriman.

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

Gerrod Sholty discussed the backfill that was put in at 608 and 611 Quimby St. as a result of the 7<sup>th</sup> St. bridge construction. The backfill has a large amount of rocks in it making it difficult for property owners to maintain their yards. At 608 Quimby there is a tube that runs under the driveway and through what used to be a ditch. The ditch was filled in with dirt and seeded as part of the construction process, but water has found its way to the tube, creating a suction, and causing a hole to form. Councilman Cates will contact Jeff Fadden to see what they suggest for replacing the backfill dirt, however the tube is the property owner's responsibility to maintain.

Sholty also discussed the parking lot for the apartments on the 800 block of Valley View Drive. Residents have requested that the alley between the two apartments, which the City owns, have more rock put down due to pot holes. Sholty reported this work has been completed.

Sheriff Harriman reported that they have 3 vehicles coming up for sale by sealed bid. The money raised is utilized for equipment and training. Harriman also reported the Sheriff's Department has had some unanticipated medical expenses from inmates this year, and they are over budget. Harriman is doing a budget amendment for \$50,000.00. Ida Grove's portion of this is \$13,650.00. Other items that were over budget were from meals and the communication center.

Motion by Council Member Goodman to approve the consent agenda consisting of the claims list, financial reports, and April 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> minutes, second by Council Member Cates. On a unanimous vote motion carried.

Council will continue to hold the final payment to RDG until issues are resolved. At this time, no one from Cornerstone has come to look at Brenner's building and Farm Bureau has reported they have leaky windows and are unhappy with their door due to a gap and being able to see the insulation.

Councilman Clough reported he will be accepting the Ida County Betterment grant for the King Theatre on May 7<sup>th</sup> in Arthur. The DNR grant and the Enhance Iowa grant have been submitted. Clough will be presenting to the Enhance Iowa Grant board on Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Cates reported he has contacted TC Roofing about coming to look at the Theatre roof as there is a leak near the stage. Edsen Electric is working on a quote for electrical work that needs to be done. Clough also reported they are awaiting a quote on the audio/visual equipment.

Tomlinson stated he is still waiting to hear from SIMPCO representatives regarding the Pleasant Valley Trail, but will continue to try to get ahold of them. Sholty received a quote of \$3800.00 from Denco for mudjacking the 235 ft. section near the hospital/high school. They also suggest tiling along the trail to help prevent water from getting underneath. Denco quoted \$4,730.00 to fix an issue near Zobel Lane and Valley View Drive that will require them to drill holes and pump material in. Marvin Lorenzen's driveway in Zobel's Addition is also undermined and has tipped which will require a large section of street to be removed and repaired. Sholty also stated the box around an intake near Cenex is cracked and there is a void between the control joint. He would like to jet vac the storm sewer in order to inspect the pipe. Denco's quote for this project came to \$925.00. Council advised Sholty to obtain a second quote and proceed with the cheaper of the two. Motion by Council Member Goodman to approve the least costly company, second by Council Member Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Goodman reported JEO is finished with the final survey near the RR tracks.

Mayor Whiteing received a call from a citizen regarding former Clerk, Edie Ball, stating that she has spoken with Ball and Ball was in the process of recodifying the ordinance books. Sweeden will check with Iowa Codification to see where Ball was at in the process.

Airport Leases tabled, due to Goldsmith's absence.

Tomlinson, Cates, and Dennison expressed interest in attending the previously approved IA Small City Workshop coming up on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussion was held on getting a committee together to help enforce ordinances.

Motion by Council Member Clough to approve the Oak Hill Consulting Permit, second by Council Member Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Mayor Whiteing presented a watch to Mark Nielsen and Lon Schluter in appreciation of their 30+ years of service with the City of Ida Grove.

Nielsen discussed the creek sloughing at the Moorehead Avenue bridge. In the past, sheet piling was placed to prevent the forced main from being struck or damaged. Currently, the river bank is eroding in that area and if something isn't done, the sewer main will eventually be sticking out of the bank. Cates will call Nelson Rock to have them come take a look and give us some options/quotes.

The King Theatre applied for the Enhance Iowa Grant, which requires financial support from the County and the City. Council Member Clough explained that in order to meet ADA regulations, the current bathrooms at the Theatre will need to be moved downstairs and would cost roughly \$50,000.00 to complete the project. After discussion there was a motion by Council Member Cates to donate \$25,000 over 5 years to the King Theatre to replace one of the bathrooms at the Theatre, seconded by Council Member Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote, motion carried. Council also noted, that if the grant is not approved, the City will still donate the \$25,000 over a 5 year period.

Council will have Attorney Goldsmith create a waiver for all City volunteers to sign.

Motion by Council Member Cates to approve the 2017 Standing Committees, seconded by Council Member Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Discussion was held on the at-large animal ordinance. Currently, the City boards any at-large dogs for seven days, and if not claimed, the dog would be euthanized.

Recently the City captured a dog, who then gave birth to 9 puppies, and was never claimed. Rather than euthanizing, Sweeden contacted Noah's Hope Animal Rescue in Sioux City, IA who picked up the dog and puppies at no charge to the City and will eventually put them up for adoption. Council discussed using this method in the future instead of euthanizing. Council will have Attorney Goldsmith re-write the ordinance to add: if a dog is not claimed after seven days, City Hall will contact an animal shelter to take the dog before resulting in euthanization.

Motion by Council Member Goodman to change the Deputy Clerk title to Deputy City Administrator, seconded by Council Member Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried. Discussion was held on also changing the utility billing clerk title. Dennison will address that at a future meeting.

Motion by Council Member Cates to approve Resolution 2017-6 Outdoor Pool Salaries for 2017, seconded by Council Member Goodman. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Amending the Ida County Sanitation Refuse contract and discussion of antennas were tabled until Goldsmith is present.

Motion by Council Member Clough to approve Katey Krager as a Rec Center Receptionist at \$7.25/hour, seconded by Council Member Goodman. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

In other business, Council directed Dennison to get new letterhead for the City. Also, Council plans to hold a personnel committee meeting to discuss projects with Dennison and create a strategic plan. The transportation committee will also meet soon to discuss parking on City right-of-way.

Motion by Council Member Clough to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

---

Heather Sweeden, Deputy City Administrator

---

Devlun Whiteing, Mayor