

IDA GROVE
City Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., June 19, 2017
City Hall

Mayor Whiteing called the meeting to order with the following Council Members present: Scott Tomlinson, Doug Clough, Gregor Ernst, Devlun Whiteing, Ryan Goodman, and Paul Cates. Also in attendance: City Attorney Peter Goldsmith, City Administrator Marc Dennison, Bob Alborn, Grant Patera of the Hoffman Agency, Sheryl Goodenow, Brian Catus of Iowa DoT District 3, Streets Superintendent Gerrod Sholty, Parks Superintendent Bob Lorenzen, Deb Loger, Justin Georg of Ida County Sanitation, Anna Van Dusen, Russ from OMG-Midwest.

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

Anna Van Dusen discussing the 4-H Leadership Project to paint the fire hydrants. The club wants to paint the tops of the fire hydrants. Discussion of approving the project.

Motion by Council Member Cates, seconded by Council Member Clough to approve the 4-H Leadership Project to paint the fire hydrants and for the City to provide the paint. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Quick discussion of Zobel's block party on August 19th. Amanda Eason did not appear before the Council, she will appear at the next meeting.

Bob Alborn discussing the bench outside City Hall. Diane Alborn served 34 years as clerk with the City of Ida Grove. He would like to place a four foot bench, similar to the other bench around the corner of the building. Motion by Council Member Goodman, seconded by Council Member Tomlinson to approve the memorial bench to Diane Alborn outside of City Hall. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Justin Georg of Ida County Sanitation talking about the new garbage can system. There have been a few bumps in the road. Smaller cans are on order, he had 50 more requests. Mostly for senior citizens. Council Member Tomlinson asking if Justin is using the new truck. Justin says the process is more efficient now and saves a lot of time. Council Member Clough asking who has had issues? Smaller families and older citizens? Would there be any concerns to be addressed on the city web site? Justin says the people need to set the can out for alley pick up. The cans do not have to be full. He will be getting more cans in three to four weeks. The customer is responsible for damage, but if Justin breaks it, it is his responsibility. Council Member Clough asking what the cost of a smaller can is? Justin says it is \$70 and the resident can ask for more than one can. Council Member Tomlinson asking if there are any more on hand, Justin replying not yet. What if the citizen has oddly shaped items to dispose of? Justin says his guys will jump out of the truck and throw it in, but the citizen has to give him a couple days' notice of the oddly shaped on non-conforming items.

Grant Patera of the Hoffman Agency discussing the City's Insurance. Grant talking about the renewal of insurance and going over the packet provided to the City Council members. Discussion of ambulances covered by the City and the City gets reimbursed by the ambulance company. Talking about the Mod Factor going down. Discussing employee benefits liability and the 401k. Attorney Goldsmith asking what it is. Grant Patera saying it is included in the general liability.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Clough to approve the city insurance policy by the Hoffman Agency. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion of the airport runway and work done by OMG Midwest. Mayor Whiteing talking about the runway and the distances measured. Russ from OMG Midwest says he measured in March of 2016 and it went through another freeze/thaw event. Council Member Ernst asking what the additional charge was and if there are any future quotes, if it goes beyond 10% it would have to be approved by the Council. Questions regarding cost effectiveness of overlay on the runway. What would be the cost? \$150,000.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Ernst to pay the OMG Midwest runway repair bill. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

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

Old Business

City Administrator Dennison has no information to report on the Moorehead Avenue bridge project.

Discussion of the downtown revitalization project update and withholding the final payment to RDG for \$3,684.72. The City Administrator has met with some businesses and will get pictures and descriptions of the issues with the work and send that information to the administrator of the Community Development Block Grant.

Talking about the King Theatre. Attorney Goldsmith discussing his conversation with the League of Iowa Cities and the architect. Debating the issue of splitting into two projects; demolition vs. construction.

Nelson and Rock Contracting will start the rip rap project on Odebolt Creek after Heritage Days ends.

Discussion of the Pleasant Valley Trail. Superintendent of Streets Gerrod Sholty is getting Council Member Clough information for trail costs. Council Member Clough says the trail could do well in the grant competition as it is an older trail.

Discussion of the digitalization of the Code/Ordinance Book. The City Administrator is waiting for the companies to finish their proposals and give them to him to present to the City Council.

Discussion of the airport lease charges. The City Administrator will bring more information to the Council.

Talking about the fence repair/replacement for Badger Creek Park. The cost of the fence will be \$28.71 per foot at 8 foot sections. Discussion of park maintenance.

Motion by Council Member Clough, second by Council Member Cates to repair the 96 feet of fence suggested at Badger Creek Park. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion of a City Hall credit card and Library credit card. The City Administrator is getting the information to present to the City Council.

Talking about a City fireworks ordinance. Discussing options available to the city. Noise ordinances are still in effect. The City will go by State ordinance and local noise ordinances and see what happens. Council Member Ernst talking about a future timetable to make a decision and the open window of fireworks use described in the State ordinance. Attorney Goldsmith discussing places where people can light off fireworks, only on their property. Council Member Clough will put information on the City website.

Discussion of the City sponsoring raffles. The Fire Department is in favor of this policy. The Mayor discussing the cost of a year-long raffle permit and amount of raffles and size of raffles.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Scott Tomlinson to approve city sponsored raffles on a case by case basis. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion regarding Troy Hare and future sludge hauling. Talking about the possible cost of \$2,400 to spread the sludge. Debating if city property could be used to spread the sludge.

Discussion of the Ida County Sanitation contract and yard waste pick up proposal. Justin Georg looked into the leaf vacuum truck. He is interested, but needs to figure out a price and charging structure. Talking about yard waste pickup. Discussion of different carts and Justin may offer that service. Could not avoid big sticks, a grinder could come in, usually at \$600 per hour. Council Member Clough wants to have Justin Georg draw up a plan on how to handle it and his suggestions/proposal by August 1st. Council Member Goodman talking about offering options through the City or Justin by each household.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Cates to approve the Ida County Sanitation Contract. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

New Business

Discussion of adjusting Katie Chisholm's utility bill due to damage to her front yard.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Tomlinson to approve adjusting Katie Chisholm's utility bill due to damage to her front yard. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion of purchasing 16" pedestrian inserts for the LED crosswalk lights for \$1550. Superintendent of Streets Gerrod Sholty discussing lighting and how the bulbs were burned out when the excavation company hit the power lines.

Motion by City Council Goodman, second by City Council Tomlinson to approve the estimate of \$1,550 and bill the amount back to the company that did the damage. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion of releasing the contractor retainage for the 5th and 7th Street Bridge Projects. Brian Catus of the Iowa Department of Transportation talking about the implementation of the Project End Date policy and if the City incurred any costs after the Project End Date, the city would suffer this cost. He is asking the City to release retainage funds, reverse the process and get it done before the audit has been completed. No major discrepancy, gradations and have deducted the costs by Godbersen-Smith. He wants to get the City as much federal aid as possible. The City may get \$400,000 of Federal aid reimbursement. \$800,000 has already been reimbursed. The City may have to pay for engineering/consulting costs if incurred after June 30th.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Cates to approve the releasing of the contractor retainage for the 5th and 7th Street bridge projects. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion of purchasing a lawn mower. Parks Superintendent Bob Lorenzen talking about the situation with the lawn mower and the different bids and prices he received for it. Discussion of budget room for the purchase of a mower. Bob says the new mower would help him do a better job mowing.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Clough to approve the \$4,895 bid from Vetter's. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion of Heritage Days money request of \$600 for Chamber Bucks.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Clough to approve the Heritage Days money request of \$600 for Chamber Bucks and approve \$600 from the Heritage Days account for petty cash. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion of vacating the alley near 707 Elm Street. Stanley Chisholm has lived at his residence for 37 years and nobody has driven through. His wife's daycare is located there and Stanley wants to have more space. He has mowed the third street dead end. Talking about similar issues of vacating alleys. Attorney Goldsmith discussing all of the issues involved in vacating the alley. Talking about the process leading up to the vacation. Stan Chisholm is fine with paying the legal fees regarding the vacation.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Clough to move forward on the process of vacating the alley next to Stan Chisholm's property. Motion carries 4 (four) yes (Council Members Tomlinson, Clough, Ernst, and Goodman) to 1 (one) no (Council Member Cates).

Discussion of Godbersen Smith Invoice. Talking about the Moorehead Avenue street replacement and seeding of grass. Bob Lorenzen will do it in the fall.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Tomlinson to approve the Godbersen-Smith invoice for \$108,620 for the Moorehead Avenue street replacement. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion of Resolution 2017-9 for raises for City employee wages effective July 3rd:

Resolution Number 2017-9 Resolution for raises for City employee wages effective July 3rd, 2017

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Ida Grove, Iowa would like to raise wages 3% for most of the following City Employees.

WHEREAS, the City of Ida Grove Library Board has approved a higher wage rate increase than 3%, which is reflected in the below amounts.

IT WAS THEREFORE moved by council member Goodman and seconded by council member Ernst, that the Resolution set forth to approve raises for City employees including changes for the Library schedule for hours worked effective July 3rd, 2017.

a.)	Administrator	Marc Dennison	\$65,000/year
b.)	Rec Center Director	Chelsea Bengford	\$45,977.14/year
c.)	Street Superintendent	Gerrod Sholty	\$24.65/hour
d.)	Water Superintendent	Lon Schluter	\$25.31/hour
e.)	Parks Superintendent	Bob Lorenzen	\$20.23/hour
f.)	Public Works	Kris Taylor	\$19.64/hour
g.)	Deputy Administrator	Heather Sweeden	\$17.51/hour
h.)	Library Director	Angela Scales	\$16.34/hour
i.)	Library Assistant	Amber Newman	\$8.51/hour
j.)	Library Assistant	Lisa Hopkins	\$9.93/hour
k.)	Custodian	Kelly Young	\$9.18/hour

Said resolution is passed by the city council by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

Ayes – in favor of enactment of the resolution. Tomlinson, Clough, Cates, Goodman, and Ernst.

Nays – namely opposed to the enactment of the resolution. None.

IT WAS THEN MOVED by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Ernst that the second and third readings of the Resolution be waived so it could be effective as soon as it is published in the newspaper.

Ayes – in favor of the enactment of the resolution. Tomlinson, Clough, Ernst, Goodman, Cates.

Nays – namely opposed to the enactment of the resolution. None.

APPROVED by the City Council and Signed by the Mayor on the 20th day of June, 2017.

Devlun Whiteing, Mayor

ATTEST:

Marc Dennison, City Administrator

Discussion of 6th Street Repair Project. Talking about engineering for the street and the cost. Discussion of the quality of the road, it is past its prime. It is a farm to market road. The City Administrator will look into it for a project.

Discussion of Additional Modules for ACH Payment System and Receipt Management. Talking about inviting Steve Mosteller from Data Technologies Inc. to give a presentation to the council and see what other cities are doing.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Clough to invite Steve Mosteller to come in and discuss with the council as to what to buy. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion of a resolution to close inactive funds in the City budget.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Clough to close the inactive funds. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion of 7th Street Mowing. Parks Superintendent Bob Lorenzen has tried to mow as best he can as safely as he can. The drainage ditch could be the citizen's responsibility to mow.

Discussion of the sewer policy change. Talking about who pays for the second meter, the customer. Put something on the city web site and bill.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, second by Council Member Tomlinson to approve the sewer policy from the 6 month average to the one month sewer charge, effective August 1st. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Discussion of a memorial bench being placed at the ballfields halfway between the entrance and the fields. Talking about maintenance issues, can't go there and make it work. It is a good idea. Discussing possibly putting it near the fence or near the playground area. It might work there.

Other Business – Attorney Goldsmith asks if there can be signs alerting cars for cyclists and pedestrians. Talking about trimming trees and bushes near 5th street. Discussing yield signs to denote bikes/pedestrians. Talking about signage for rules and regulations at the ballfields. Council members discussing in the previous minutes regarding the sign and fence at Cenex and the trash must be enclosed in a fence. Council members talking about the front lawn parking ordinance. Discussion of the trees on Taylor Street and how bad of shape they are in. It will cost \$1,080 to cut down. The tree on 801 Maple Street is an issue as well as the trees near the Courier Building. Debating how deep a pool needs to be before it needs a fence and does it need a six foot fence? Discussing the burn pile issues. Everyone is trying to work it out.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, seconded by Council Member Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carries.

Marc Dennison, City Administrator

Devlun Whiteing, Mayor