

CITY OF IDA GROVE COUNCIL MEETING

CITY HALL

March 6, 2017

Meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Devlun Whiteing. Council members present: Jeff Buehler, Paul Cates, Ryan Goodman, and Scott Tomlinson. Absent: Doug Clough. Others present were: Jared Schulte, Patty Haack, Marlo Schoer, and City Attorney Peter Goldsmith.

A motion was made by Jeff Buehler to approve the agenda. Seconded by Ryan Goodman. Motion by Paul Cates to amend agenda to include Sheriff's report. Seconded by Ryan Goodman. Motion to approve agenda, as amended, passed unanimously.

Mayor opened public hearing on FY 2018 budget. No written comments. No oral comments from audience. Mayor held hearing open.

Appearance by Patty Haack to discuss community partners/downtown beautification. She discussed trash can covers/sleeves, bike racks and benches downtown. This has been scaled back from lamp posts and trees. Estimated cost is about \$14,000 for current project. Have \$500 now, applied for \$7,000 grant. Would benches be mobile, so could be moved during snow removal? Not decided yet. Committee wants to coordinate with new street signs that City is considering. Motion by Jeff Buehler, subject to receiving plans, to approve concept. Seconded by Paul Cates. Approved unanimously.

Sheriff's Report. Reported on persons recently sentenced to prison out of Ida County and recent Ida County arrests. Started DARE classes for all 5th grade students in Ida County. In process of installing a second work station in communication center. This is needed for major events, such as the floods a couple of years ago. Received about \$35,000 worth of free dispatch center furniture from Buena Vista County.

6:20 Mayor asked again for comments on budget – no comments. Mayor closed hearing.

Jeff Buehler moved to approve FY 2018 budget. Seconded by Paul Cates. Motion passed unanimously.

Godbersen Smith Construction is requesting payment for work completed on bridge projects. Paul Cates will invite Kim Triggs to next meeting and ask if Triggs can identify items completed for which he is requesting payment.

Downtown revitalization update. Paul Cates reported there still is a question from Mark Brenner about scratched glass. Discussion on final payment to RDG. Questions remain about doors for Selections and Farm Bureau. Motion by Jeff Buehler to not approve final payment and Paul Cates will ask RDG to come meet with council. Seconded by Scott Tomlinson. Motion passed unanimously.

King Theater Update. Major donor fundraising has begun. Doing really well. Will then move forward with general public fundraising. Will start working on deconstruction. Target is \$400,000 before construction begins.

Verizon Lease. Peter Goldsmith reported he still is waiting on a response from Verizon. Everything is set, except amount of monthly payments. Goldsmith will contact Verizon again.

Iowa Municipal Benefits Plan. Would be a new health insurance and other employee benefit plan. Marlo will call and ask for more information.

Pool Replastering. Contractor wanted to increase price by \$2,000. Mayor negotiated and contractor agrees to stay with original lower price. Mayor signed contract. Contractor will do the work this spring.

Airport Crack Repair. Marlo will follow up on this.

Motion by Jeff Buehler to discontinue fuel sales and have city sell existing fuel. Seconded by Paul Cates. Motion passed unanimously.

Pleasant Valley Trail Crack Repair. Scott Tomlinson will contact SIMPCO to see if they can write a grant for this.

New Mower Purchase. Already approved, pending determining if there was money in depreciation schedule. There is sufficient money in account. Paul Cates moved to approve purchase of mower. Scott Tomlinson seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Flood Map Revision. Ryan Goodman reported everything complete, except railroad area. There still is at least an 18 month waiting period. Ryan Goodman will continue pushing this.

Enforcement of Solicitor's License. City attorney will draft revision to ordinance.

Review of Noise Ordinance. City will send letters to persons within a block of a contemplated graduation party, to see if there are any objections.

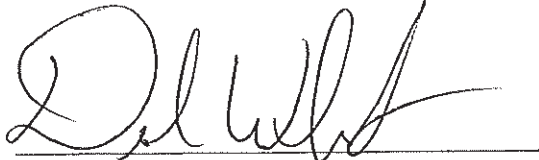
Motion by Jeff Buehler, seconded by Scott Tomlinson, to pay Chelsea Gross six weeks maternity leave and allow her to use two weeks of personal time/vacation. This is a unique situation, because she was promised this by the former City Clerk. This does not set a precedent for future maternity leave. New City Clerk will be asked to develop a comprehensive personnel policy, to include a possible maternity leave provision. Motion approved unanimously.

Jeff Buehler will call Landis.


Paul Cates will meet with Heather about another letter to homeowner that has a car in violation of city ordinance. Will include in letter municipal infraction civil penalty of \$750 for first offense.

Will post in paper and other places that Jeff Buehler's position will be vacant when he moves. The notice will invite persons in Ward 1 to attend the March 20, 2017 council meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Ryan Goodman and seconded by Scott Tomlinson. Motion passed unanimously.



Devlun Whiteing, Mayor



Peter Goldsmith, Interim Secretary