

IDA GROVE
City Council Meeting
6:00pm, September 18, 2017
City Hall

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Whiteing.

Roll Call: Scott Tomlinson, Doug Clough, Gregor Ernst, Ryan Goodman and Paul Cates present.
Others Present: Grant Patera of the Hoffman Agency, Nicole Peterson of SIMPCO, Rick Roeder, Jared Schmidt, Jim Ericson, Bridget Durst of the Iowa DNR, Raymond Decy, Superintendent of Parks Bob Lorenzen, Jeff Williams of Ida County.

Motion by Council member Tomlinson, second by Council member Goodman to approve the agenda.

Motion carries unanimously.

Appearances, Petitions and Communications: Bridget Durst presenting on Iowa Source Water Protection. Talking about nitrates and amounts of nitrates in the water supply. Pointing out where water for the aquifer is coming from. Talking about a Source Water Protection Plan and about the steps in the plan and explaining some of the details. Discussing the opportunities available to the city and ways to protect the city's drinking water. Talking about the introduction letter and survey sent to farmers near the city. Do not want Ida Grove to spend money on a de-nitrification facility and keep costs down. Showing an example of Gilbertville Iowa. Ms. Durst contacted the Ida County NRCS. Talking about partnerships and funding sources that may be available to the city. Putting out a notice to invite community members. Council member Goodman asking about the aquifers the city uses, as well as working with the people who own the land above the aquifers regarding nitrates and heavy nitrate uses. Is a part of the plan to accommodate farmers so their yield does not go down, but also protects the aquifer. The project wants to make sure farmers' livelihood is not negatively affected. Discussing site selection of new wells and nitrate level for the area. Council member Ernst talking about farmers' adoption of best practices that would only help the citizens of Ida Grove and our drinking water. Council member Goodman discussing communication with farmers and the group's success rate of plan adoption.

Contract negotiations with AT&T via conference call with Richard Hatch will occur at a later time.

Nicole Peterson from SIMPCO discussing the city Comprehensive Plan. Talking about the timeline and process of the plan. A steering committee that would take over for the city council, which would include others from economic development. Council member Goodman questioning who would be invited on the steering committee. Discussion of the draft editions of the comprehensive plan. Council member Ernst wants to see some people from outside the council on the steering committee. Council member Goodman discussing having the employers in the area to send a representative. Discussion of the surveys and meetings. Have an online survey and a paper survey. Will have a public visioning meeting to introduce the plan and survey. Invite public to the next meeting. The next meeting will be held Monday October 2nd at 5:00pm for the Steering Committee/Council meeting number one. The public meeting – Visioning Session will be Wednesday November 15th at 7 to 9pm. Discussion of the plan outline. Talking about the community survey. Questions about the survey. Listing the parks, city buildings, facilities of Ida Grove. Talking about the Pleasant Valley Trail and other city assets. Nicole Peterson asking specific questions about the City Hall.

Motion by Council member Goodman, second by Council member Clough to approve the agenda.

Council member Tomlinson asking questions about Marlo Schoer being paid for her work. City Administrator Dennison replying he needed to talk to Marlo and be trained on certain items that come up, which are not monthly but year to year.

Motion carries unanimously.

Old Business

Discussion of the Downtown Revitalization project. Talking about Mark Brenner and if he is happy with the work. Discussion of resolving the issue by the next meeting. The City Council will hold the final payment of \$3,684.72 to RDG until the next meeting.

Discussion of the King Theater. The back wall was completed, need to do the braces for the back wall. Grant Patera says the insurance company will have the numbers soon.

Discussion of the airport lease charges and the airport lease policy. Council member Ernst talking about the lease changes and charge changes. Discussion of storage issues and possible waiting list. Want to get airplanes in first.

Motion by Council member Goodman, second by Council member Tomlinson to approve the hangar lease agreement rate schedule for the municipal airport.

Motion carries unanimously.

Discussion regarding future sludge hauling sites, acreage of the area between the Odebolt Creek and the airport. 9.6 acres is available. Is it enough to spread sludge on? How many times can the city use it? Discussion of crossing the runway. What is Schau willing to charge? City Attorney Goldsmith will talk with Lanny Cipperly to see if the city can spread on the land he plants on.

Skipping Resolution 2017-12 providing sale of the King Theater, Moorehead Avenue bridge, the Fireworks Ordinance, and the Back Yard Pool and Hot Tub Ordinance.

Discussion of the employee benefits package. Grant Patera talking about the options on the sheet given to the City Council. Council member Goodman discussing co-insurance, deductibles and copays. Council member Ernst saying if you increase the out of pocket costs, you decrease the deductible. Talking about the family insurance plan for the city. Council member Goodman debating with Council member Ernst regarding the family plan. Mr. Patera talking about rates, plans and deductibles. Council member Ernst says he wants to help families, but not detract from the individual plan. Council member Goodman discussing the Aetna family plan. Jerrod Schmidt and Jim Erickson talking about insurance information. Discussing different ideas, programs and plans that are self-funding plans and operate as a fully funded plan. Talking about renewal cost increases. Discussion on children and spouses being covered on the spouse's plan. Talking about the individual market and small group plan. Talking about the renewal time. Council member Goodman discussing the intent of the meeting to find out what is available to the city because the city wanted to have a new employee hire, but couldn't because the family plan made it too expensive. Talking about employee wants and needs, deductibles, premiums and out of pocket costs. Discussion of HSA vs. HRA.

Discussion of raising dog license fees and deadline fines for dog owners.

Discussion of a test well. Talking about Ronnie Bresnahan digging a test well.

New Business

Discussion of the tree trimming contract with Ratchet. He is half done with the project and will finish up next weekend. He highly recommends taking down an additional tree. Maybe use alternative funding to get more trees planted. Talking about topping out trees. Council member Ernst discussing the contract. Ratchet talking about trimming 50 some odd trees marked to be trimmed. Ratchet cutting the dead out of the trees. It takes a lot of time to get it done. Parks Superintendent Lorenzen discussing the trees, no damage to the park. Bob is good with the work.

Discussion of the picnic table policy at City Park.

Skipping the Ida Grove Recreation Valley, Online Asset Management System agenda items.

Discussion of a third party vendor for online bill pay. Talking about fees for paying with a credit card for online bill pay.

Motion by Council member Goodman, second by Council member Clough to go with Forte for the third party vendor for online bill pay.

Motion carries unanimously.

Discussion of storage of dirt and hauling from the highway 20 project. Talking about the amount of dirt needed for the West Access Project. Discussion of the amount of trucks needed to haul the amount of dirt. Talking about the cost, which would be more than \$200,000. Can't justify the cost, but can help them out and take the dirt.

Discussion of the City Hall improvement project. Scott Tomlinson says it will cost a lot of money to fix the inside of the building, more than \$150,000. Does not include painting the outside and tuck pointing the building as well as the leaking around the air conditioner. Discussion of the improvement of the office with new paint and doors possible. Debating renovation vs. purchasing a new building.

Skipping the city hazmat recycling/disposal policy and procedure agenda item.

Discussion of the Urban Renewal Joint Agreement with Ida County. Talking about the wording of the agreement. Discussing getting the correct language for the agreement and agreeing to the joint agreement in two weeks. When the agreement is sent to the City Administrator, he will pass it on to the City Attorney for review.

Motion by Council member Ernst, second by Council member Goodman to approve the Urban Renewal Joint Agreement with Ida County pending the review of the City Attorney.

Motion carries unanimously.

Skipping the capital improvement planning software agenda item.

Discussion of signs for the Pleasant Valley Trail. Talking about the different signs to be used in the different areas of the trail in the city. Debating having a friendly community for recreationalists as well as cyclists. Drivers must be aware of cyclists and yield to pedestrians at the crosswalks. Attorney Goldsmith discussing creating crosswalks where the trail crosses the street with signage and painted lines. Council member Clough will work on this issue.

Skipping trees and plantings policy for the city agenda item.

Discussion of approving the renewal of the city's CoD for 12 months at a rate of 1.25%.

Motion by Council member Goodman, second by Council member Ernst to approve the renewal of the city's CoD for 12 months at a rate of 1.25%.

Motion carries unanimously.

Skipping approval of the variance request for Stan Chisholm agenda item.

Discussion of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 payroll audit and audited premium schedule.

Motion by Council member Goodman, second by Council member Cates to approve the FY 2016-2017 payroll audit and audited premium schedule.

Motion carries unanimously.

Discussion of the replacement for the north approach for Zobel's bridge. City Administrator Dennison will work with Streets Superintendent Sholty to contact Godbersen-Smith and work with them to replace the approach to the bridge.

Motion by Council member Goodman, second by Council member Tomlinson to approve the replacement for Zobel's bridge.

Motion carries unanimously.

Other Business

Scott Tomlinson discussing the 5th and 7th street bridge projects and getting reimbursed for the project. Talking about Stan Chisholm's request for a vacation of the alley behind his house at 707 Elm Street.

Doug Clough talking about the CAT awards.

Gregor Ernst discussing the conditions at the tennis court in City Park. Talking about city taxes for utilities: what is it? Are we getting it? Where is it? Discussion of a plan to replant trees.

Devlun Whiteing discussing the Rec Center for wellness for employees, city crew and supervisor.

Deputy Administrator Heather Sweeden discussing the TV for the city council chambers donated by Kiwanis.

Motion by Council member Goodman, second by Council member Cates to adjourn at 9:20pm.