



IDA GROVE
City Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., February 5, 2018
City Hall

Mayor Whiteing called the meeting to order at 6:02pm. Council members Scott Tomlinson, Amanda Litchenberg, Gregor Ernst, Ryan Goodman and Paul Cates were present. Others present were, Rec Center Director Chelsea Gross, Public Works Foreman Gerrod Sholty, Deputy Administrator Heather Sweeden, Sheriff Wade Harriman, Nicole Peterson and Amanda Harper from SIMPCO.

Motion by City Council Member Goodman, seconded by City Council Member Tomlinson to approve the agenda.

Motion carries unanimously, 5-0.

Appearances, Petitions and Communications.

Rec Center Director Chelsea Gross discussing the Annual Report and overview of the Rec Center. Youth sports programs are the costliest to run for the Rec Center. The Rec Center is moving away from one large fund-raising event and moving to a fundraiser for each sport to defray the costs. The Rec Center is having classes, but is going to stream workouts to members who become VIP members. Discussion of membership levels. Trying to create an adult softball league. The Rec Center wants to have more tournaments at the facility. Council member Ernst discussing options for events. Council member Goodman talking about if the sports events/activities breaking almost even and how good it is that it is not deep into the red with those activities. Council member Ernst says the Rec Center is moving in the right direction.

Sheriff Harriman discussing the County Wide Law Report. The Sheriff is talking about incident reports, crime data and arrest events in Ida Grove. Discussing drug cases that are in the works. City Council Member Goodman discussing the ambulance and fire calls. Talking about arrest statistics; OWIs went down this year. Discussion of seizure and asset forfeiture funds. Talking about selling military vehicles. Discussion about the budget for next year. Staffing in the jail is lacking, because dispatchers are getting an increase in volume of calls, can't concentrate on the jail and dispatching at the same time. Inmate behavior is different, drug issues and mental health issues are primary. The State of Iowa is getting rid of the dispatch/jailer system, but right now it is in the discussion phase. Six counties in the state operate this way. Proposal to have the County pay for the 2nd position. The County Board agreed to pay 50% and the rest of the cities pay 50%. The budget increase would be 5.6%. Ida Grove would increase 3.98867% for \$1,461,050 for the total budget. Council member Ernst asking about the 27.3% Ida Grove pays, what is it based on? The Sheriff replied, there is no clear formula, nothing illegal about the formula. The term of the contract is 5 years. The City would not save as much money as they would expect with the County fully

funding the jail. Staffing increases in the future are going to come from the jail.
Council member Ernst asking about statistics on rural calls vs. urban calls.

Consent Agenda

- a. Claims List
- b. Financial Reports –
- c. Minutes – City Council Personnel Committee meeting October 2, 2017, City Council meeting October 16, 2017, Utility Committee meeting January 6, 2018, City Council Special Meeting and Budget Workshop January 17, 2018, City Council Special Meeting and Budget Workshop December 11, 2017, City Council Special Meeting and Budget Workshop December 12, 2017, City Council Special Meeting and Budget Workshop December 13, 2017, City Council Special Meeting and Budget Workshop December 14, 2017, City Council Special Meeting and Budget Workshop December 15, 2017, City Council Special Meeting and Budget Workshop December 18, 2017, City Council Special Meeting and Budget Workshop December 20, 2017, City Council Special Meeting and Budget Workshop 5pm December 20, 2017, City Council Special Meeting and Budget Workshop December 21, 2017, City Council Special Meeting and Budget Workshop 5pm December 21, 2017,
- d. Liquor License –

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

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

New Business

Discussion of the Bridge Inspection Contract with Calhoun-Burns.

Motion by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Tomlinson to approve the bridge inspection contract with Calhoun-Burns.

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

No discussion of a budget request from Ida County Economic Development. Delayed until the next City Council meeting.

Discussion of Rachel Shoumaker as a custodial position at \$9/hour. The Rec Center would like to have another custodial position, she is a receptionist, but will do both positions. Council member Ernst talking about issues at the Rec Center including the adult to child ratio after school.

Motion by Council Member Cates, seconded by Council Member Tomlinson to approve Rachel Shoumaker as a custodial position at \$9 per hour.

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

Discussion of making custodial raises the same as receptionists, so it is consistent. Talking about the difference between custodial pay and receptionist pay. Council Member Ernst asking if custodians would be near an increase in pay if changed to the receptionist pay.

Motion by Council Member Ernst, seconded by Council Member Goodman to approve the custodial raises to mirror the receptionist raises as hours worked.

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

Discussion of the City of Ida Grove as a Fiscal Sponsor for the Ida Grove Rec Center for an Ida County Betterment Grant.

Motion by Council Member Tomlinson, seconded by Council Member Ernst to approve of the City of Ida Grove as a fiscal sponsor for the Ida Grove Rec Center for an Ida County Betterment grant.

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

Discussion of SIMPCO's request for funds for the Housing Trust Fund. Talking about funding of the housing trust fund by the city. Discussing applications and a waiting list. First come, first served. Discussing Ida Grove community housing.

Motion by Council Member Goodman, seconded by Council Member Tomlinson to approve \$2,032 for the Housing Trust Fund.

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

Discussion of City Hall architecture proposal. Jerry Purdy of Design Alliance was contacted by Mayor Whiteing to look at the Ida Grove City Hall as he worked on the Denison City Hall. Handing out information and observation he has on the City Hall. Discussion of space of the building, space needs of the city and possible designs as well as space used upstairs. Council member Goodman discussing an elevator and costs. Didn't do anything with Community Hall, will wait on that discussion for later. Talking about a stairwell. Council member Goodman asking about moving the council chambers and office space. Discussion of a two-prong approach. Talking about possible costs. Council members Goodman and Ernst discussing the building, possible designs, possible projects, costs and alternatives for the building. Talking about a priority list, phases and pieces of the project. Discussion of council brainstorming and walking around the building. Talking about meeting later to discuss the issue more in-depth.

Discussion of the City Council audio recording equipment. Talking about placing this issue into the City Hall improvement project.

Discussion of Verizon Wireless antenna contract. Talking about contract negotiations. Discussing reaching out to US Cellular to see if they want to upgrade their antennas to the water tower.

Motion by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Ernst to approve the Verizon Wireless antenna contract.

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

No discussion of David Wieling's request to re-zone his property from R-3 Residential to Agriculture. Mr. Wieling did not appear for the discussion. Postponed to the next meeting.

Other Business

- No discussion of Moorehead Avenue Bridge
- No discussion of Fireworks Ordinance
- No discussion of Development Proposal by Jan Hewitt
- No discussion of Trees and Plantings Policy for the City
- Discussion of the Zobel Addition Pipe Failure project. The plan specifications and contracts are almost ready to be sent to the contractors so they may bid on the project. Bids are due March 2nd and will be opened at the March 5th City Council meeting
- No discussion of Hangar Rent and Contracts
- No discussion of a Test Well
- Discussion of Bob Bendixon from Extreme Air Wireless Internet Antenna Proposal. This other business item will be on the February 20th City Council agenda for the contract to be approved.
- No discussion of a City Administrator Job Description Ordinance
- Discussion a Cost Estimate of a Water Main Extension and Fire Hydrant Along Father Daily Drive Behind Midwest Inc. The latest proposal given to Jason Buns at Midwest will be discussed at the February 20th City Council meeting.
- No discussion of a Personnel Handbook
- Discussion of SIMPCO Proposal for City Zoning Map. The map will be wrapped into the Ida County GIS mapping plan as well as SIMPCO's GIS mapping plan of the Highway 20 corridor.
- City Council News and Notes: Council Member Tomlinson and WWTP Operator Shannon Hazelton went to Rock Valley to look at a sludge drying system there. Mayor Whiteing will be out from February 16th to 25th. Is looking forward to the Handbook being completed and moving forward on City Hall renovations.

Adjournment at 8:54pm by Council Member Goodman, seconded by Council Member Tomlinson.

Marc Dennison, City Administrator

Devlun Whiteing, Mayor