



**IDA GROVE
City Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., December 18, 2017
City Hall**

Mayor Whiteing called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. Council members Clough, Tomlinson, Cates, Ernst and Goodman in attendance with no council members absent. Others present at the meeting were; City Administrator Dennison, City Attorney Peter Goldsmith, Amanda Lichtenberg, Bob Bendixen of Xstream Air Wireless Internet, Cody Forch of JEO, Deb Loger of the Ida Courier and Deputy Administrator Heather Sweeden.

The oath of office was taken by, Mayor Devlun Whiteing, Council Member At Large Ryan Goodman and Council Member for Ward II Amanda Lichtenberg.

Motion by Ryan Goodman, seconded by Dough Clough to approve the appointment of Paul Cates as Mayor Pro Tem.

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

Motion by Doug Clough, seconded by Paul Cates to approve the agenda.

Motion carries unanimously, 5-0.

Appearances, Petitions and Communications

Presentation by Bob Bendixen from Xstream Air Wireless Internet. Mr. Bendixen has been offering service since before August 1st of this year. He has over 200 customers so far. Ryan Goodman discussing bandwidth of the system. Bob says his system provides 500mb and can go up to 1 gig of service with special equipment. Mr. Bendixen's system has redundancy so if one antenna goes down the system will roll over to another. By line of sight, the antenna can reach 20 miles. Gregor Ernst discussing the space on top of the water tower and rate to put them up there. Holstein is \$400/month for fees. Ryan Goodman asking how big a customer base is needed. Discussion of the antenna layout. Peter Goldsmith telling the council the city can put more antennas on the water tower. Discussion of an enclosure needed for equipment.

Motion by Ryan Goodman, seconded by Doug Clough to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carries unanimously, 5-0.

Motion by Ryan Goodman, seconded by Doug Clough to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carries unanimously, 5-0.

- a. Claims List
- b. Financial Reports
- c. Minutes – Board of Adjustment November 6, 2017, Board of Adjustment November 27, 2017, Transportation Committee November 9, 2017, Special City Council Meeting November 9, 2017
- d. Liquor License

New Business

Discussion of Cora Hansen hiring for lifeguard at the Rec Center for \$9 per hour.

Motion by Doug Clough, seconded by Scott Tomlinson to approve the Cora Hansen hiring for lifeguard at the Rec Center for \$9 per hour.

Discussion of Resolution 2017-10 providing sale of the King Theater property on January 2, 2018. Doug Clough talking about insurance and the process of selling the theater.

Motion by Scott Tomlinson, seconded by Doug Clough to approve Resolution 2017-10 providing for the sale of the King Theater property on January 2, 2018.

Motion carries unanimously, 5-0.

Discussion on the public hearing notice providing for the sale of the King Theater property on January 2, 2018.

Motion by Doug Clough, seconded by Ryan Goodman.

Motion carries unanimously, 5-0.

Discussion of the cost estimate of the water main extension and fire hydrant along Father Daily Drive behind Midwest. Cody Forch of JEO talking about revisions to the original plan. The revision will be 300 feet shorter saving the city \$10,000 on the project. Cody feels \$1,500 for an easement is a reasonable price. Mr. Forch would like to keep the water line within the city right of way. Costs of the water line includes permitting documents. Cody is looking at \$120,000 to loop the water main to Old Town or \$60,000 for easements and halfway behind the Midwest building.

Discussion of the Zobel's Addition pipe failure. Cody says there is no need for permits from the Army Corps of Engineers as the "levy system" is not their project. The city will contact local contractors to have them fix the pipe for around \$15,000. The issue needs to be addressed within 24 months or else the pipe failure will breach the levy.

Discussion of purchase of shell jackets for the Mayor, Administrator, Deputy Administrator and Council members. The Mayor discussing how it would be nice to have a jacket when staff and council members are at meetings to represent the city.

Motion by Ryan Goodman, seconded by Doug Clough.

Motion carries unanimously, 5-0.

Discussion of a 2017 bonus. The Mayor discussing the idea of giving a bonus to employees based on years of service. Doug Clough agreeing it is a good thing to do for staff that work hard for the city.

Motion by Doug Clough, seconded by Scott Tomlinson.

Motion carries unanimously, 5-0.

Discussion of the City Donating \$50 to the Iowa Rural Water Association Scholarship Fund. Talking about other scholarships and those who would be eligible for the IRWA scholarship.

Motion by Doug Clough, seconded by Gregor Ernst.

Motion carries unanimously, 5-0.

Discussion of the personnel handbook. Debating the issues of vacation and sick policies as well as carryover and Family Medical Leave Act. The Personnel Committee will meet next week for an hour to discuss the issues.

Discussion of a City Administrator job description ordinance. Mayor Whiteing discussing the need to write down what the Administrator is in charge of. The Personnel Committee will look at the job description created to advertise for the position and go off of that.

Discussion of a Public Works Foreman position. Mayor Whiteing talking about the issue and would recommend a promotion of one of the Public Works employees with a raise of \$2.00 per hour more for the position. Discussion of a training structure, roles and responsibilities. Talking about the reporting structure and the job description for the position. Ryan Goodman stating the city does not need a new high level position or employee.

Discussion of Mark Nielsen's reimbursement. Mark helped Gerrod Sholty with the Wastewater Treatment Plant operation and answered his questions. Discussion of a consultation agreement and being on call and not a set amount of hours. Talking about not wanting to jeopardize Mark's IPERS and the 90 day timeline.

Motion by Ryan Goodman, seconded by Doug Clough to approve \$500 to Mark Nielsen for consultation fees.

Motion carries unanimously, 5-0.

Discussion of a consultation fee for health insurance data gathering. Doug Clough is not in favor of the issue, but wants to hear from those that are in favor of it. Gregor

Ernst is in favor of the issue, it is wrong as a council having both insurance agencies come in at the same time. Discussion of work done to bring in new ideas for health insurance plans. Gregor does not want to deter future competition for contractors. Talking about not being more educated on health insurance and asks being different. Gregor Ernst stating he is abstaining from the vote as the company he is talking about is run by a friend of his and the city should look at making good on the work done.

Other Business

- Moorehead Avenue bridge
- Fireworks Ordinance: Doug Clough asking where the ordinance is at. The committee dealing with the ordinance is waiting for the New Year to pass to determine if a fireworks ordinance needs to have further restrictions on use of fireworks.
- Test Well: Lon Schluter will talk with Ronnie Bresnahan to decide where the test well will go.
- Dangerous Dog Ordinance
- Development by Jan Hewitt
- Verizon Wireless Antenna Contract
- AT&T Antenna Contract: Discussion of moving the issue to New Business for the next meeting. Peter Goldsmith and Gregor Ernst had looked over the contract and will present it to the council at the next meeting.
- Trees and Plantings Policy
- Harold Godbersen Drive and M-15 Road Projects

Other Business:

Mayor Whiteing congratulating Doug Clough on his service on the council. Gregor Ernst will miss Doug Clough going forward. Discussing TIF and the County's Rohr Street Project. The Mayor has attended many meetings and has a list of Id Grove projects the County is going to TIF for and discussing windmills. Ryan Goodman discussing the Budget Workshop process and will not miss Doug Clough as he will see him a lot already. Paul Cates thanks Doug Clough also and will see him a lot. They are almost ready to open up the alley behind the King Theater and will continue to do work inside the theater.

Motion to adjourn at 7:33pm by Doug Clough, seconded by Ryan Goodman.

Marc Dennison, City Administrator

Devlun Whiteing, Mayor