

**City of Ida Grove
City Council Meeting
December 3, 2018 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers**

Mayor Devlun Whiteing called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following Council Members present: Paul Cates, Ryan Goodman, Doug Clough and Scott Tomlinson. City Attorney, Peter Goldsmith was also in attendance. Councilman Gregor Ernst was absent.

Mayor Whiteing opened the meeting with a moment of silence to honor former president George H.W. Bush after his recent passing. Motion by Tomlinson to approve the agenda, second by Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Ida Grove Fire Department Chief, Scott VanDusen, was present to discuss the requested disposal of 507 Washington Street by means of burning by the Ida Grove Fire Department. VanDusen explained Brian Beck has purchased this property which is located next to the property Brian currently resides in and requested the department dispose of the home located on the property. VanDusen discussed DNR requirements and rules the department must handle to complete such a project, including approval from the local City Council. The department will also have to notify neighboring residents of the upcoming burn. Mayor Whiteing suggested City Hall staff would be able to assist with finding addresses for the neighboring properties. City Attorney Goldsmith and Mayor Whiteing inquired to VanDusen about another property the department was supposed to have disposed of by means of burning earlier this year. Mayor Whiteing asked if the other property in question, owned by James Schmidt, could be burned at the same time as the Beck property. Due to issues the current temperatures will pose with that specific property, the burning will be done at a later date. Motion by Cates to allow the fire department to burn at 507 Washington and at the property owned by James Schmidt on Rohwer Street, second by Goodman. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

VanDusen brought up another item not listed on the agenda. He was recently asked to approve by signature the temporary placement of propane tanks in the downtown area for a current building project. VanDusen feels as the fire chief he is only a volunteer and for liability purposes should not be the one to sign-off on matters such as this. Goodman suggested other ways we could go about having this type of situation approved in the future. City Attorney Goldsmith pointed out that the ordinance is written stating that the Fire Chief must be the one who approves this and if they want to change it the ordinance will have to be rewritten. Mayor Whiteing suggested he would speak to the State Fire Marshall for more information then get back to VanDusen.

Members of the Heritage Days Committee, Zanet and Ron Thies and Cory and Vicki Gorden were present to provide the council more information, as requested at the last November council meeting. Previously, the Thies' had gone before the Council to request approval to disburse all but \$3,000 of the total funds in the City's Heritage Days account. The Thies' had cited they would be stepping down from the committee but would like to pay the City back the initial \$3,000 in start-up funds provided to them then divide the remainder of said funds by donating to various community organizations. The

council had requested more time to consider the Thies' request and tabled the request, asking the Thies' provide more information on how they wanted to disburse the funds including more specific amounts and recipient organization names. Zanet Thies began her appearance addressing the council with a letter she had written. Thies felt upset with the way things had gone at the previous meeting and in the time following. Discussion between Thies, committee members, Mayor and Council ensued with Council Members and Mayor stating their feelings on the issue at hand. After much deliberation, the Mayor stated a motion would need to be made. City Attorney Goldsmith pointed out that the community organizations on the list Thies had presented contained groups various councilmen were involved in which made the request as-is a conflict of interest. After additional consideration, Councilmen Goodman requested to abstain from the vote due to his participation with the Ida grove Kiwanis and Councilmen Clough and Cates requested to strike the King Theater from the list of organizations so they would no longer have a conflict of interest and thus be able to vote. Councilmen Cates made a motion to approve the submitted disbursement request, second by Clough. Ayes: Clough, Cates. Nays: Tomlinson. Abstains: Goodman. Motion passes 2 to 1.

Larry Albrecht from the Ida Grove Public Library Board was present to give the council an update on recent library happenings, fundraisers and events. Albrecht presented the council with a pamphlet highlighting patron information for the library as well as the services they provide to the community. The council thanked Albrecht for coming.

Next, Reynold McLead, Ida Grove Planning and Zoning Chair, presented the commission's final version of two ordinances they have been working on. As requested, McLead had worked with Clerk Tomlinson and City Attorney Goldsmith to finalize the two ordinances that had been topics of consideration at the previous council meeting. Motion by Goodman to approve the first reading of both the Ordinance Regulating Recreational, Utility and Cargo Vehicle Parking for the City of Ida Grove and the Ordinance Governing Accessory Building for the City of Ida Grove.

Christie VanHouten appeared next. VanHouten was present due to a concern she has for the community regarding the council's recent decision to reinstate adding fluoride to the city's water. VanHouten stated her opinions and presented the council with various information. VanHouten is requesting how she can appeal the decision the council made or if there is anything she can do as she feels strongly about the removal of the fluoride. City Attorney Goldsmith will look into possible options, if any, for VanHouten based on local and state codes. Mayor Whiteing suggested VanHouten could start a petition as well if she would like the council to reconsider their vote. Mayor Whiteing explained to VanHouten that the council had not taken the decision lightly and had relied on the guidance of local professionals when making this decision.

Motion by Goodman to approve the consent agenda, second by Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Next on the Agenda was the request for approval for the City to sponsor the upcoming Ida Grove Kiwanis Christmas Ball. The organization was the one who had donated the Ida Grove Sports Complex to the City. Motion by Clough to approve sponsorship of the Christmas Ball, second by Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

In other business City Attorney Goldsmith requested to have on the next agenda, donation for the charge for the use of the Rec Center for the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast. Councilmen Cates brought up the issue of how to handle the issue of junk piles on curbs and next to garbage cans. Clerk Tomlinson suggested he submit information on any such properties to Clerk Young for further review.

Motion by Tomlinson to adjourn, second by Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Kandice Tomlinson, Clerk

Devlun Whiteing, Mayor