

City of Ida Grove
City Hall
November 21, 2016

Mayor Morris Hurd called the meeting to order with the following Council Members present: Jeff Buehler, Ryan Goodman, Paul Cates, Scott Tomlinson, and Doug Clough. Others present were City Clerk Edie Ball, Utility Billing Clerk Heather Sweeden, Chance Sweeden, Tony Bennet, Kiwanis, Doug Schmidt, Kiwanis, Dennis Clausen, Kiwanis, Ronnie E. Ladwig, Verdean Kruse, and Bethany Jones.

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

The Council discussed issues with ATV's and snowmobiles on the city flood control levies. All agreed vehicular traffic needs to stop. A gate was suggested, but a drawback would be the liability to the City if someone got hurt if they crashed into the gate. The City Clerk will check on signage.

Tony Bennet, Kiwanis, addressed the Council to request consideration of a multi-year financial commitment from the City to help the Kiwanis Foundation with paying their current debt on the ballfields and also assist in getting additional lighting for the third ballfield, extra seating and picnic tables, and putting in playground equipment. Bennet also indicated the City has not financially supported activities for kids and had gotten by without any ballfields as the Summer Rec program prior to the ballfields being built had to use ballfields in Battle Creek and Odebolt. He noted the Kiwanis have always run the concession stand in the past and would give the profits to the Summer Rec program. He asked requested consideration of \$150,000.00 over a 6-year period. The Council explained the reserves are low at this time and they would take the request under consideration as they begin working the FY2018 budget and the City's 5-year plan.

Motion by Council Member Buehler to approve the consent agenda consisting of the claims list, City Clerk's report, financial reports, the October 17th minutes, and financial reports from the Fire Department, Rec Center, and Library, second by Council Member Clough. On a unanimous vote motion carried.

Council Member Cates asked Dennis Clausen about security at the ballfields regarding a trail camera and deadbolts on doors to stop intruders breaking into the concession stand. Clausen commented that lights are now reset to turn on from dusk to dawn which is helping. Also, it was suggested we contact the sheriff about a system that would sound an alarm at the sheriff's office.

Council Member Clough reported roof is finished on the King Theatre. At their next meeting the architect will be attending to review plans and drawings with the theatre board.

Mayor Hurd reported the 28-E Agreement for County Wide Law is up for renewal and Sheriff Harriman hopes to have it finalized this month. The City of Ida Grove pays 27% toward law enforcement in Ida Grove. It was noted it would be appropriate to have the jail budget included in the County budget and take it out of the 28-E Agreement.

The Council discussed the Downtown Revitalization project noting it will soon be finished. They also discussed the interior window breaking at 601 2nd Street owned by

Mark Brenner. They noted the contractor is generous to offer at no charge labor to put in the window. City Clerk Ball will contact the architect on any window warranties.

Motion by Council Member Buehler to approve paying Godbersen Smith Construction Partial Payment #12 totaling \$182,717.59, second by Council Member Cates. On a unanimous vote motion carried.

Motion by Council Member Goodman to approve the FY2016 Annual Financial Report, second by Council Member Buehler. On a unanimous vote motion carried.

Motion by Council Member Goodman to approve the FY2016 Annual Urban Renewal Report, second by Council Member Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote motion carried.

Council Member Clough reported the Personnel Committee that included the City Clerk, Wastewater Superintendent Mark Nielsen and Rec Center Director Chelsea Gross had interviewed four candidates. Their recommendation is Utility Clerk Heather Sweeden, who has 5-months experience working for the City and since the end of September has also been doing the other duties of the Payroll Clerk. Sweeden agrees to additional training and attending City Clerk Institute classes. The classes are over a 3-year period in the summer. The Committee recommends salary be set at \$15.76 per hour with an additional \$1.00 added after finishing the Institute classes. Motion by Council Member Cates to approve promoting Heather Sweeden to Deputy Clerk paying \$15.76 per hour, second by Council Member Clough. On a unanimous vote motion carried.

Verdean Kruse discussed the vagrant in town is stealing pop cans almost on a nightly basis. Kruse has intervened at times to stop him, and has contacted the Sheriff's office to complain. The pop cans are now managed by the Kiwanis for a fundraiser. The Council did not know the vagrant was stealing and would discuss it with the sheriff.

Motion by Council Member Clough to resign, second by Council Member Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Morris C. Hurd, Mayor

Edith Ann Ball, City Clerk