

IDA GROVE
City Council Meeting
6:15pm, November 6, 2017
City Hall

The meeting was called to order at 6:16pm by Mayor Whiteing.

Roll Call: Scott Tomlinson, Gregor Ernst, Ryan Goodman and Paul Cates present. Doug Clough not present.

Others Present: Cathy Johnson, Anne Thornbill, Nicole Peterson of SIMPCO, Larry Albrecht, Sheriff Harriman, Rita Frahm of Ida County Economic Development.

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

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

Appearances, Petitions and Communications:

Mike Triplett discussing the Street Parking Ordinance. Needs clarification on parking in front of the home or park beside the house. Rents a house that has a tiny garage in back in the alley and can park a car by about 6 inches off the alley. Burns is a narrow road, across the street neighbor has a large truck parked on the street. Mr. Triplett was parking in the yard and was told by a neighbor he couldn't park in the yard. Can he cross the parking strip or not. Council member Ernst talking about keeping Ida Grove nice, talking about intent of the ordinance. Talking about snowfall event and plowing. Council member Ernst talking about curb cuts and parking and driveways.

Sheriff Harriman discussing the Sheriff's Report. Friday November 10th at the Assessment Center. Discussion of the promotion of two sergeant positions. County is paying for the assessment form fees received from citations. Discussion of firearms training as well as other training exercises including precision driving. The department releases arrests to the newspaper and county website. Questions from citizens; what are the things you see as the most – drugs and alcohol violations. Driving on barred or suspended licenses has increased. Booked in over 220 inmates, 55 citations were given in the city of Ida Grove. Discussion of the reserve officer program. Council member Ernst discussing the RN employed by the Sheriff's department. Talking about the Department of Health at the County courthouse.

Larry Albrecht discussing the Library Report. The Library had a pretty good year. Discussed what to do to promote the Library. The Library has put ads in the newspaper to get people in, sometimes attendance was good, sometimes it was bad. Discussion of insurance increase and costs for the Library. Talking about the digitization old newspapers. Over 10% of the budget is donations. Looking for ideas on how to enhance communication and participation in the Library. Discussion of sign out front of the Library, replace or repair.

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

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

Discussing the hangar lease of Don Poggensee and reimbursement. Talking about a revenue report for the library and budgeting for property taxes.

Motion carries unanimously 4-0.

Old Business

Discussion of the King Theater. MidAmerican will move the gas line and then the volunteers will put the tin on and the concrete.

No discussion of the Resolution 2017-12 Providing for Sale of the King Theater.

No discussion of the gambling license application.

No discussion of the Moorehead Avenue bridge. Will meet with JEO, DoT on November 9th.

No discussion of the Fireworks Ordinance.

Discussion of the back yard pool and hot tube ordinance #551. Talking about the ordinance and lockable hard cover for a hot tub.

Discussion of the employee benefits package. Grant Patera of the Hoffman Agency talking about insurance options. Debating copays, deductibles and HRAs and paying upfront. Discussion of savings with different options. Talking about having a meeting to work out the specifics of a plan. Council member Goodman would like to let Shannon Hazelton to know what the city is planning with health insurance. Discussion of the waiting period.

Discussion of amending ordinance #557 raising cat and dog license fees.

Motion by Council member Goodman, second by Paul Cates to approve amending ordinance #557 raising cat and dog license fees.

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

Discussion of a test well. Ronnie Bresnahan is very busy. Superintendent of Water Department Lon Schluter and Mr. Bresnahan are talking back and forth about the test well.

No discussion of the Urban Renewal Joint Agreement with Ida County.

No discussion of signs for the Pleasant Valley Trail. Will wait for Council member Clough.

New Business

No discussion of hiring a part time snowplower. Will discuss the issue at a later time.

Discussion of a Turkey Trot Run/Walk on the Pleasant Valley Trail.

Motion by Council member Goodman, second by Council member Tomlinson to approve a permit for a Turkey Trot Run/Walk on the Pleasant Valley Trail.

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

Discussion of the placement of a fire hydrant behind Midwest Inc. Talking about water mains in the area and the history of the issue.

Discussion of the Holiday streetlights for the city. Talking about changing the lights to LED lights, need 30 new plug adapters. Discussion whether to do it now or wait.

Discussion of the SIMPCO survey and flyer by Nicole Peterson. Talking about survey question wording and the amount of questions. Discussion of economic development. Talking about surveys being distributed online at the library and at city hall. Discussion of the electric company. Talking about the collection method via the city website.

Motion by Council member Cates, second by Council member Goodman to accept the survey with the questions amended.

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

Discussion of an agreement to accept yard waste at the Ida County Citizens Convenience Center.

Motion by Council member Goodman, second by Council member Tomlinson to accept the Yard Waste at the Ida County Citizens Convenience Center.

Motion carries unanimously, 4-0.

Discussion of amending the dangerous dog ordinance of the City of Ida Grove. Talking about taking specific breeds from the ordinance. Mrs. Johnson thinks specific breed ordinances are a thing of the past. Council member Goodman discussing the what ifs of removing the restriction and people letting their dogs run at large. Discussion of dangerous dogs and being reactive. Council member Ernst talking about the muzzeling concept for dogs. Mrs. Johnson will bring in AKC information.

Discussion of raises for part time Rec Center staff. Council member Goodman describing the new rate schedule for part time Rec Center staff. Council member Cates wanting employees to do more to get paid more. Council member Ernst asking if the employees can do more to be successful at it. Council member Tomlinson talking about retainage of employees through pay. Want them to be more involved in city projects.

Motion by Council member Goodman, second by Council member Tomlinson to approve raises for part time Rec Center staff.

Motion carries, 3-1. Ayes: Council members Goodman, Tomlinson, Ernst. Nays: Council member Cates.

Discussion of the development proposal by Jan Hewitt. Talking about JEO looking at the proposal designs. Council member Cates discussing the Fleener deal. Council member Tomlinson talking about

snow plowing and cul-du-sacs. Need to monetize the development and then decide what the deal can be. Discussion of costs, tax amounts and recouping costs from taxes to pay for infrastructure.

Discussion of the Verizon Wireless antenna contract. City Attorney Goldsmith will keep talking to them. They have not responded to him. Justin Owen is the 3rd party contractor.

Discussion of the AT&T antenna contract. Peter Goldsmith will talk to the AT&T 3rd party contractor and send Council member Ernst's red line document to him for a decision.

No discussion of trees and plantings policy for the city.

No discussion of floodplain issues.

No discussion of the Personnel Handbook.

Other Business:

Discussion of 500 Burns Street and 508 Moorehead Street. Talking about contacting Marc Schwanz to see if he will take down the houses on Moorehead Avenue.

Motion by Council member Tomlinson, second by Council member Cates to adjourn at 8:50pm.

Marc Dennison, Administrator

Devlun Whiteing, Mayor