

**City of Ida Grove
City Council Meeting
January 21, 2019 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: Ryan Goodman, Paul Cates, Doug Clough, Gregor Ernst and Scott Tomlinson. City Attorney, Peter Goldsmith was also in attendance.

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

Motion by Goodman to approve the consent agenda consisting of the claims list, Budget, Treasurer, Revenue reports, and the 1/07/2019, 1/08/2019, 1/10/2019, 1/16/2019, 1/17/2019 minutes, second by Ernst. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Whiteing, Clough and City Clerk, Heather Sweeden, met with Kim Triggs and Grant Godbersen last week to discuss a proposal they are offering. GEC would like to acquire .04 - .06 acres of the City Park to expand their shop building. In return, Godbersen-Smith would repair sections of the trail that are in need throughout Ida Grove. Trigg's calculated approximately .62 miles of trail in need of repair which amounts to roughly \$150,000 if the City were to hire the work to be completed. The current trail is 4" thick concrete to be replaced with 5" thick concrete for the sections being repaired. They would also address erosion issues and look at tiling the High School hill. Sharon Godbersen has expressed interest in putting 2 pickle ball courts at City Park by the sand volleyball area as well as possibly repairing the current tennis courts. The committee on leisure time met at noon today to discuss the proposals and are making a recommendation to the City Council to move forward. Attorney Goldsmith would draft an agreement for the projects. Clough states that he would like to give the public an opportunity to voice their opinion before making a final decision. Council realizes 2 of the frisbee golf holes would need relocated, we would lose a few ash trees, which were going to be removed in the future anyway, by letting GEC acquire the land, and they would like the access road around the park to be replaced. Ernst suggests looking into making the fence line around GEC look aesthetically pleasing to park goers. They also mentioned the portion of the park they are looking to acquire is not a highly used section. In regards to the pickleball courts, a couple of pine trees would need removed. The City Council currently budgets \$20,000 annually for trail repairs and plans to continue in order to keep the repairs up in the future.

Transportation committee met last Thursday to review and score two RFP's received to reconstruct the Moorehead Avenue bridge. The proposal's received were from JEO Consulting Group, Inc. and Snyder & Associates. The transportation committee is recommending moving forward with JEO as the engineer for the project. Motion by Tomlinson to approve JEO as the Engineer for the Moorehead Avenue bridge replacement, second by Cates. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Goldsmith states the City needs to adopt an Ordinance and Resolution to officially put the new online code into place. The city can then send out the link as well as have it available on the city website and Facebook page for anyone to access. Motion by Goodman to approve Ordinance 2019-566 an ordinance of the City of Ida

Grove, IA to adopt the online 2018 municipal code and subsequent assigned ordinance numbers for the City of Ida Grove and to waive the second and third readings, second by Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Motion by Goodman to approve Resolution 2019-4 resolution amending the code of ordinances for the City of Ida Grove, IA to adopt the online 2018 municipal and subsequent assigned ordinance numbers for the City of Ida Grove, second by Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-4

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF IDA GROVE, IOWA TO ADOPT THE ONLINE 2018 MUNICIPAL AND SUBSEQUENT ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NUMBERS FOR THE CITY OF IDA GROVE, IOWA

WHEREAS, the City of Ida Grove, Iowa has determined the need to amend the former code of ordinances in order to adopt the online 2018 municipal code and subsequent assigned ordinance numbers.

WHEREAS, an ordinance has been presented to the City Council that adopts the online 2018 code and subsequent numbers.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the City Council of Ida Grove, Ida County, Iowa, approves as moved by Council Member _____ and seconded by Council Member _____ that the ordinance set forth in the attached Exhibit A be approved.

Said resolution is passed by city council by a vote of ____ in favor and ____ opposed.

Ayes - in favor of enactment of the resolution.

Nays - namely opposed to the enactment of the resolution.

IT WAS THEN MOVED BY Council Member _____ and seconded by Council Member _____ that the second and third readings of the Ordinance be waived so it could be effective as soon as it is published in the newspaper.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 22nd day of January, 2019.

DEVLUN WHITEING, MAYOR

ATTEST:

HEATHER SWEEDEN, CITY CLERK

The Councilmen and Mayor stated they have all received several letters, calls, texts and Facebook messages from citizens that are opposed to adding fluoride to the City water. They also discussed a recent debate on whether the City can legally allow a public petition on the matter. An elected official contacted the Iowa League of Cities and was told this cannot be done based on our Mayor/Council form of government. Goldsmith called and spoke to a League representative and concluded that the City could allow a public petition if an ordinance was put in place first. The league states that this has never been done by any city and could potentially open the city up to litigation with the Iowa Supreme Court. Council heard from citizen, Shelly Malcom, who is opposed to adding fluoride. Malcom states that not a lot of decisions made by the council affect every citizen, but this does. Christie VanHouten was also heard. She asked the council if they have chosen a fluoridation product; council responded no. VanHouten states that there is lead and inorganic arsenic in both forms of fluoride the city is considering. Furthermore, she has concerns with the lead based pipes that make up the water system and possible leeching from the additives. She states that the fluoride you get from a dentist is not the same as what's added to the water system. Council discussed putting a notice in the paper as well as on the City Facebook page and website that there will be an upcoming question on the water bills to gather public opinion. The council cares about the public's opinion on the topic and would like to hear from them on whether to fluoridate or not. Clough and Ernst will work on the wording of the article to go to the paper. After tallying numbers, the issue will come before the City Council again for a decision. Council agrees to halt any decision until we gather feedback from the citizens.

Council agreed to have Clough look at the current visitors guide ad, make any changes necessary and return the changes to the Courier.

Cody Forch stated King Construction was 42 days past the completion date of the Midwest Water Main project, which equates to \$21,000 in liquidated damages. King provided documentation of weather delays and other circumstances which caused the delay. After negotiation, it was agreed to charge King with \$500 in liquidated damages, since there were no physical damages. The project is complete with the exception of seeding. Motion by Goodman to pay \$104,010 to King Construction, city to hold retainage, second by Cates. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

City staff have been working together to promote a wellness program. The Rec Center board has agreed to give full-time city staff and elected officials \$50 off a membership to the Rec Center. After discussion, council would like Sweeden to work

with Gross to see if the Rec Center board would be willing to give all full-time city staff \$100 off a membership and no benefit to the elected officials.

Council tabled the IAMU membership until the next meeting. Motion by Ernst to approve the Chamber of Commerce membership fee, second by Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Staff have been looking into trademarking the City of Ida Grove for marketing purposes. Costs associated with the trademark include: \$250.00 for the search and \$750.00 to file the appropriate paperwork to complete the trademark. Motion by Goodman to approve the search for \$250.00 and then decide on moving forward, second by Ernst. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Council reviewed the City Hall rental fees and agreed to leave the fees as they are until the renovation of City Hall is complete, then re-evaluate.

Goodman suggests declaring a surplus of funds from the water department to transfer the excess money to the general fund to take care of the deficit. The water department runs on a surplus yearly, so the city would be able to build that amount back up fairly easily. Ernst suggests taking enough from the water department to cover 50% of the general fund deficit. Council discussed the need for a new well in the near future and the associated costs. After debate, motion by Goodman to declare a surplus in the water department to cover 100% of the general fund deficit, second by Ernst. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Motion by Goodman to approve Northland Securities as the City's financial advisor for the City Hall renovation and Moorehead Avenue bridge projects, second by Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

In other business, city staff in conjunction with Cody Forch submitted an application for a traffic count to be conducted by the IDOT. The library board would like their monthly meeting minutes included in the council packets. Tomlinson expresses that he feels the city is on the right path, but need to try hard to be proactive vs reactive on water, sewer issues. He also stresses the need to take time working through the budget and making some serious cuts. Clough states he will work on the updates to the personnel manual with Ernst and send back to Sweeden this week. Whiteing stated that himself and city staff met with Goldsmith to clear up any concern for conflict of interest with Goldsmith being the City Attorney as well as Magistrate. Goldsmith stated Laurel Boerner would be available to attend meetings and work with the City on municipal infractions. Council is asking for a weekly update on the 608 Taylor Street case.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Heather Sweeden, City Clerk

Devlun Whiteing, Mayor