

**City of Ida Grove
City Council Meeting
November 19, 2018 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers**

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

D.A. Davidson's Aaron Smith was present to answer questions regarding his financial services presentation on funding for the upcoming City Hall Renovation Project given at this month's previous Council Meeting. Mayor Whiteing asked Smith to summarize previous information and scope of proposed services. Smith went on to detail financing and services. Goodman questioned the time frame needed to secure the firm and Smith advised no immediate rush but that a decision would need to be made within the next few months in order to keep progress moving. Ernst asked for clarification if Smith's firm would be acting in the capacity of a financial advisor. Smith clarified they serve as the underwriter, then highlighted examples of such. Smith would be able to secure lower interest rates in bond markets, as well as perform analysis and preparatory work.

Roger Hayes of Landus presented the Mayor with two building permits for removal of a sidewalk and exit drive. Hayes explained Landus is purchasing properties around the existing elevator area with plans to make many improvements. Ernst questioned zoning of the area. Hayes felt it was already zoned for this intended future use. Hayes directed City Hall to contact him in the event of zoning or permit questions so that he could do whatever they needed. Hayes went on to further explain Landus has 28 different sites that have been in cleanup processes since August, in an effort to help beautify the communities in which they are located. Mayor Whiteing expressed to Hayes that the applications would be sent on for further review in the request process then thanked the company for investing in Ida Grove.

Fluoridation talks continued next with Patti Andrews presenting information on the importance this process combined with other preventative measures plays in our community's health. Councilman Ernst asked if anyone in the room was aware of where the fluoride added to our water comes from. Ernst went on to explain this type of fluoride additive was not a pharmaceutical grade compound but instead a bi-product of fertilizer. Ernst feels there are no guarantees that there will be no adverse effects from fluoride use. While Ernst does not dispute the validity of benefits the topical application provides, he strongly feels ingesting this other form through drinking water is not healthy. Ernst points out the CDC has advised infants not ingest such water so for all of the families who don't have access to information or resources, he feels we are doing them an injustice by placing this in the water. Ernst also points out the debate on fluoride had been ongoing since 1945 and as with any case, it is good to listen to both sides. In this instance, he feels a cautionary approach is the best method as there has to be something wrong if this has been going on for so long. "You have to ask yourself if there is something more to this. You don't know where it comes from, you don't know if

it's tested. That's why I couldn't vote for it before and I can't vote for it today" Ernst stated as he went on to explain research has shown adverse effects linked to items such as thyroid issues, arthritis, cancer and more. Cates presented information from his dentist in support of fluoridation. Tiffany Lindberg, school nurse, spoke next. Lindberg states cancer hits close to home with her but she still feels risks are minimal in this situation. Lindberg has checked with the American Cancer Society and feels there is no strong evidence to link the two. Lindberg feels there are so many kids at the school that don't get to see a dentist at all this is vital to their oral health. "If you can add something as simple as fluoride to the water to prevent tooth decay, I don't know why you wouldn't" stated Lindberg. Motion by Clough to add fluoride back into the City's water, second by Cates. Ayes:3 Nays: 2. Motion passes 3-2.

Reynold McLead, Planning and Zoning Chair, presented two ordinance drafts for Council approval. One governing accessory buildings, the other regulating the parking of recreational, utility and cargo vehicles. Council and McLead discussed the ordinances in some detail including whether or not to offer special use permits to either. Currently one ordinance is written to offer a special use permit in certain circumstances Council is very happy with the work McLead and the rest of the commission are doing, and feels the ordinances are very well written. Council would like the Planning and Zoning Ordinance Sub-Committee to meet with Goldsmith and Kandice to go over any final changes that may possibly be needed before returning to council for final approval. Mayor Whiteing directed the council to look over the ordinances in more detail then send any concerns to Kandice for further review before said meeting.

Waste Water Superintendent Shannon Hazelton spoke next regarding his Crop Rent Proposal for sludge hauling. Hazelton was previously asked by Ernst to put together a proposal on this matter. Hazelton has worked out various details with the property owner including hay baling, spraying perimeter, accessibility and time frames. Hazelton will work with Kandice and Goldsmith to formulate a new contract that properly reflects the changes in rental conditions.

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

Mayor Whiteing opened the two, sealed proposals received for tree removal. The bid received from Lansink Tree Services was for \$6,240 and the bid by Complete Concrete Systems, LLC was \$15,800. Motion by Tomlinson to approve Lansink Tree Services in the amount of \$6,240 to complete 2018-19 tree removal, second by Goodman. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

The tree set to be removed from in front of the Moorehead House was discussed next. A concerned citizen feels the tree should stay. Council inquired as to how the tree was placed on the removal list. Kandice advised the Historical Society had concerns on the tree's health and felt if there were a strong storm the tree could come down damaging the Moorehead House. After a brief discussion the council decided they would like to have Lansink Tree Services inspect the tree to see if they feel it should be removed. In the event they feel it does, the tree removal will continue as initially proposed. If the tree can be trimmed and saved the council would like to remove the tree from the list, then substitute another tree comparable in size and removal price to replace it at Superintendent Sholty's discretion. Motion by Ernst for City Hall to contact Lansinks Tree Service regarding an evaluation and opinion of the tree then proceed as

needed in terms of removal or substitution as discussed, second by Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

The Urban Renewal Report was next. Council asked for background on this report. Kandice reports this was submitted by Clerk Young after preapproval by City Clerk Sweeden and the auditor. Motion by Ernst to approve the Urban Renewal Report, second by Cates. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

City Hall received a request from Jeff Matthias to decorate the North End of Godbersen Park for Christmas. The council is appreciative of the offer and agreed that this would be a nice benefit for the town. Council directed Kandice to work with Matthias to find an aesthetically pleasing design that would fit well with the surrounding areas. Motion by Ernst to approve Jeff Matthias' request to decorate north end of Godbersen Park, second by Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Possible purchase of property described as Lots 5 & 6 of Block 11 in the Village of Ida was discussed next. The property could be used as recreational area for the North side of town. Councilman Tomlinson has met with the owner to discuss a specific price for the property to see if the City would be interested in pursuing any further. At this time the owner would like to give more thought to his plans for the property and will contact the City at a later date with more information.

Staff holiday bonus' were discussed next. The total amount being requested is \$1,650. Motion by Goodman to approve up to \$1,650 in employee bonus' and to disperse them as Chamber Bucks, second by Clough. Ayes: Clough, Goodman, Cates, Ernst. Abstain: Tomlinson. Motion carried 4-0.

In other business, Clough updated the council on the current status of the outdoor pool surveys and subsequent meetings they have tried to hold but have had to be rescheduled. Clough directed Kandice to set up a meeting for December 17, 2018 at 5 p.m. Ernst discussed the next council meeting as he will not be able to attend and he the Heritage Days Committee's request is on the agenda. His main concern being that if all account funds are dispersed, the event will die. Mayor Whiteing brought up a property located on Main Street that recently lost it's front door. Mayor Whiteing directed Kandice to look into more information from Iowa League of Cities on procedures for condemning the house or deeming it a nuisance. Goodman discussed an ongoing problem with four-wheelers and ATV's on City streets. Cates stated he would really like to see fire hydrants behind Midwest. Kandice updated the Council on an upcoming event the Rec Center will hold Friday mornings in Godbersen Park and upcoming SIMPCO event invites. Kandice also discussed briefly the limited parking issue around City Hall and possible options available to the city that may help solve the issue. No further other business.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Kandice Tomlinson, Clerk

Devlun Whiteing, Mayor