

**City of Ida Grove
City Council Meeting
November 18, 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: Paul Cates, Jason Schable, Gregor Ernst, Ryan Jordan and Reynold McLead. City Attorney, Peter Goldsmith was also in attendance.

Motion by Ernst to approve the agenda, second by Cates. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Mayor Whiteing read the Oath of Office with the newly elected officials as follows: Jared Bogue, Councilman At Large, effective January 1, 2020 (4 year term), Jason Schable, Councilman At Large, effective immediately (2 year term), Gregor Ernst, Councilman Ward I, effective January 1, 2020 (4 year term), Ryan Jordan, Councilman Ward II, effective immediately (2 year term) and Reynold McLead, Councilman Ward III, effective January 1, 2020 (4 year term).

Motion by McLead to open the public hearing on City Hall Renovation Loan Agreement, second by Cates. On a unanimous vote, motion carried. Sweeden reported city hall did not receive any written statements or objections. Council heard from Scott VanDusen, Dennis Roeder, Al Schreiber and Jeff Gilbert whom were all in opposition of moving forward with renovating the current City Hall building and made suggestions to the council as follows: tear down the current City Hall and put a morton building in its place, build a morton building elsewhere combined with the fire station and ambulance or acquire a different building in town – all in which those four citizens feel are more cost effective options. Council also heard from Morris Hurd who stated the current City Hall building has a lot of historical value. Ernst explained that no decision has been made as to whether or not the council will renovate City Hall and the purpose of the hearing was to simply enable the city to have the means of financing available if at some point in the future they chose to move forward. McLead explained that if the city were to vacate the current building and move City Hall elsewhere, the city would have a cost associated with tearing down the current building. Whiteing explained the council plans to have future community meetings before making a final renovation decision. Ernst suggests looking into modifying the wording of the resolution to say either renovation or construction and hold a special meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2019 to adopt a resolution. Motion by Ernst to close the public hearing at 6:54 p.m., second by Cates. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Motion by Ernst to open the public hearing on Moorehead Avenue Bridge Loan Agreement at 6:54 p.m., second by McLead. On a unanimous vote, motion carried. Sweeden reported City Hall did not receive any written statements or objections. Whiteing stated the bridge reconstruction estimate is about 1.6 million. The city received a grant in the amount of 1 million, leaving the need for a loan agreement up to \$800,000. No one spoke against the project. Motion by Ernst to close the public hearing at 6:59 p.m., second by Jordan. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

No action was taken on Resolution 2019-34 Expressing Intent to Enter into General Obligation Urban Renewal City Hall Renovation Loan Agreement and General

Obligation Moorehead Bridge Loan Agreement until Sweeden can speak with bond attorney, Bob Josten, about how to proceed since the resolution for the bridge was written in conjunction with the City Hall renovation.

Rebecca Joenks was not in attendance to request sewer bill forgiveness for the Deluxe Motel – no action was taken.

Jeff Gilbert requested a stop sign or additional speed zone signs to be placed near the intersection of 5th/Rohwer Street. Gilbert stated the traffic coming from the South into town is traveling well over the speed limit of 25 m.p.h. Sheriff, Wade Harriman, was in attendance and stated deputies recently patrolled the area and issued 8 citations within 45 minutes. Harriman stated there is a valid point of speeding traffic going both in and out of town on old Highway 59. Harriman will speak to county engineer, Jeff Williams, about reducing the speed limit earlier when coming into town and report back to Sweeden.

During the public safety update, Harriman reported 26 applications were received for the open deputy position with a plan to hire a deputy around the first of the year.

Whiteing opened two sealed bids the city received for removal of 11 trees located in city right-of-way: Lansink Tree Services \$3,940 and Ladwig Construction \$6,475. Motion by Cates to approve the bid from Lansink Tree Services, second by Jordan. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Motion by Ernst to approve the consent agenda consisting of the claims list, budget/revenue/treasurer, Rec/Fire/Library financials and minutes of the 11-4-2019 and 11-7-2019 meetings, second by McLead. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Motion by Cates to approve the final reading of Ordinance 576 – Water & Sewer Rate Increase, second by Ernst. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Motion by Ernst to approve Resolution 2019-32 – Water & Sewer Rate Increase, second by McLead. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-32

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF IDA GROVE, IOWA BY INCREASING WATER AND SEWER RATES WITHIN THE CITY OF IDA GROVE, IOWA

WHEREAS, the City of Ida Grove, Iowa has determined the need, through the city's financial advisor, to increase the rates charged for water and sewer; and

WHEREAS, the water and sewer rate increase shall be in effect for all bills dated on or after January 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, said ordinance amendment can be found in Chapters 13.05.250 and 13.20.100 of the City of Ida Grove Code Book.

Sweeden reported Code Publishing Company quoted 8-10 hours of work at \$75/hour to identify possible discrepancies between the current city code and the code if council adopted SUDAS standards. Motion by Ernst to approve Code Publishing Company to conduct the additional review, second by Jordan. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

The Chamber has requested the city share the cost with them of decorating the downtown planters for the holidays. Sweeden reported the city spent about \$460 last year for the city's ½. Motion by Ernst to split the cost, second by Jordan. McLead notes the general fund is already negative. Ayes: Cates, Schable, Ernst, Jordan. Nays: McLead. Motion passes 4-1.

No action was taken on being a sponsor for the upcoming Kiwanis Christmas Ball. It was noted the city has pledged \$100,000 towards the ballfield lighting and it is more of an individual decision to attend the ball.

Motion by Ernst to approve Resolution 2019-33 Supporting the Submittal of a Grant Application Through the MidAmerican Energy Company for Funding from the Trees Please! Grant Program, second by Cates. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019 – 33

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION
THROUGH THE MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY FOR FUNDING FROM THE
TREES PLEASE! GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the City of Ida Grove, Iowa, is desirous of submitting an application to the MidAmerican Energy Company's Trees Please! Program, for the funds to plant trees in City Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Ida Grove is authorized to submit a grant application to MidAmerican Energy Company.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Ida Grove is committed to match funds awarded through this grant program. The City further agrees to adequately maintain the completed project.

Motion by Ernst to adjourn, second by Cates. On a unanimous vote, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Heather Sweeden, City Clerk

Devlun Whiteing, Mayor