

**City of Ida Grove
City Council Meeting
February 10, 2020 – Noon
City Hall**

Mayor Pro Tem, Gregor Ernst, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. with the following council members present: Jared Bogue, Ryan Jordan and Reynold McLead. Mayor, Devlun Whiteing and councilman, Jason Schable were absent.

Motion by Bogue to approve the agenda, second by Jordan. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Scott VanDusen and Bradley Lansink were present to speak on behalf of the Ida Grove Fire Department budget proposal. Ernst noted the topic of equipment depreciation funds came up in previous budget meetings. The City currently contributes funds to the Fire Department depreciation fund but has not contributed to any other depreciation accounts for approximately 2 years, stated Sweeden. Bogue noted the Fire Department is doing well staying within their budget for the current fiscal year. Council and VanDusen discussed a recent truck purchase and the Department's plan to purchase a new tanker. In addition, they discussed life expectancy of trucks. VanDusen began discussions on the grant/loan the City applied for on behalf of the Fire Department in order to purchase the new tanker. Upon following up on the approval process, a contact from the Firefighting Equipment Revolving Fund Loan told VanDusen the grant was extremely well-written, however, a determination has not yet been made. Council clarified the purpose of applying for the loan was to utilize 0% interest rather than paying out a \$150,000 lump sum. Bogue would like to see a long-term capital plan for vehicle/equipment replacement in the future. Ernst notes this would be good for all departments.

Chelsea Gross was present with the following Rec Center Board Members: Jean Burns, Dan Skirvin and Kristy Gilbert to discuss their annual budget proposal. Councilman Ernst discussed actual income versus actual expenses and the overall loss of funds on an annual basis. Ernst questions what can be done to lessen the difference and minimize the burden on taxpayer dollars to support the Rec Center. Gross noted several things she has been doing to assist in minimizing expenses and drive more revenue. Skirvin stated the Rec Center is not designed to make money, but more so to bring a draw to town. Gross proposed entering into a cardio equipment lease at the same cost the City currently budgets for equipment purchases. The lease would provide maintenance and new equipment every 4 years.

During review of the outdoor pool budget, Gross stated the admission fees will stay the same for the 2020 season. Gross requests approval for slide inspections at a cost of roughly \$5,000, which was agreed upon by council.

Gross reviewed some planned changes to the youth sports fund in order to save money and increase revenues such as: not hiring umpires for 1st and 2nd grade ball and instead utilizing the coaches to officiate, hosting tournaments, grill-out fundraiser and possibly some additional camps to name a few.

Motion by Jordan to approve moving forward with a cardio equipment lease, second by Bogue. Sweeden noted she will contact bond council to begin the process, as required by law. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Gross would like to have council review the pool policies prior to the beginning of the season. Sweeden will include the current policies in a future council agenda for review and amendment by council.

Motion by McLead to adjourn, second by Jordan. On a unanimous vote, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

Heather Sweeden, City Clerk

Gregor Ernst, Mayor Pro Tem