

CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA  
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1991

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Memorial Hall on Wednesday, January 16, 1991, at 7:30 o'clock P.M., as posted, with Mayor Park presiding, and the following Councilpersons answering roll call: Welter, Wells, Van Fleet, H. Seip, and Butler. (J. Seip was absent.) Also present were Kenneth D. Bucklin, P.E., Kevin Kien, Don Latta, Glenn Appler, Debi Flanders, and the City Clerk, with H. Michael Neary arriving later.

Councilperson H. Seip moved, seconded by Councilperson Van Fleet, that the agenda be approved as posted. Upon the roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Welter, Wells, Van Fleet, H. Seip, and Butler. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

Councilperson Wells moved, seconded by Councilperson Welter, that the minutes of the regular meeting of January 2, 1991 be approved as submitted. Upon the roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Welter, Wells, Van Fleet, H. Seip, and Butler. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

Councilperson Van Fleet moved, seconded by Councilperson Butler, that the minutes of the special meeting of January 9, 1991 be approved as submitted. Upon the roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Welter, Wells, Van Fleet, H. Seip, and Butler. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

Glenn Appler, Manager, Iowa Southern Utilities Company, appeared before the Mayor and Council to explain the ruling of the Iowa Utilities Board whereby mercury vapor street lights must ultimately be replaced with high pressure sodium lighting. By making the change only when the ballast goes bad or is damaged beyond repair, the complete change will be made in less than two and one-half years, resulting in an increase in light output of 41% and an increase in billing of 30.3%. Councilperson H. Seip moved, seconded by Councilperson Butler, that the Mayor direct a letter of authorization to the ISU Co. to replace any mercury vapor (MV) street light which is not repairable with a similar sized high pressure sodium (HPS) street light. Upon the roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Welter, Wells, Van Fleet, H. Seip, and Butler. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

Debi Flanders, Sigourney Area Development Corporation Coordinator, explained to the Council the accomplishment of the City being named by the United States Department of Interior as a Certified Local Government; SADC had requested certification of the city through the Iowa State Historic Preservation office in Des Moines. The CLG commission has applied for a "Planning for Survey" grant through the Iowa State Historic Preservation Department. If the grant is awarded, this will provide the needed money to hire a consultant to train area volunteers in methods of researching the historic properties in Sigourney. The next step will be to acquire the funding to conduct an actual historical/architectural survey of the community. Before they can act to protect and preserve the properties, they must know what historic properties we have, their condition and significance. This survey will increase the understanding, awareness, and appreciation of the historic resources of the community. The results of this assessment will include recommendations for preservation planning and identify properties that qualify for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The final stage of the program is to nominate those properties to the National Register of Historic Places and carry out the preservation recommendations. To date, there are two properties in the community on the National Register: the Keokuk County Courthouse and the Sig-

ourney Public Library. Mrs. Flanders also gave the group copies of their budget, breaking down the expenditure of \$1500, which is the amount of the grant requested. She did say that the second step will be conducting the survey, receiving the grant and obtaining matching funds. (She also had a copy of the new brochure folder on the community which she gave to the Mayor.)

Councilperson Welter, as Chairman of the Water Utility Committee, reported on their review of the three proposals for the well drilling. They had talked with two of the companies submitting proposals, and since Mr. Latta was present at this meeting he was asked if he had any comments to make. He said the well diameter specified is larger than necessary. They had talked with Mr. Winslow extensively, and also with Layne-Western, and with further negotiations with them, Layne-Western Co. reduced their proposal to approximately \$23,600. The Mayor reiterated that Layne-Western has done the previous work on this project, and that because of their experience in the area, their expertise, and their geophysical capabilities, he has been very satisfied with their work. Councilperson Welter moved, seconded by Councilperson Van Fleet, that Layne-Western Co. be retained to drill this well, pursuant to the Invitation for Proposals, for the approximate cost of \$23,600. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Aye: Welter, Wells, Van Fleet, H. Seip, and Butler. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

The Mayor advised the group that the water pumpage from 1987 through 1990 has gone from 113 million gallons annually to 79 million gallons, which reflects the success rate of the endeavor to stop all leaks, which has been a combined effort on the part of the Water Department personnel and the clerical efforts of the Deputy City Clerk in detecting leaks.

The matter of the Atwood Electric, Inc. opinion on repair of the Lewis Memorial Fountain as result of the vandalism done to it on or about October 5, 1990 was discussed. Replacement lenses and other repair parts are no longer available, and they recommend a specially fabricated housing and mounting fixtures on the third tier. Although there will be additional major work needed, a starting point would be four fixtures for the third-tier, at \$1,000 each. Fixtures on the lower two tiers will also have to be replaced at a later time. There was no voting action as to whether or not any money should attempt to be budgeted for FY 91-92 for Fountain repairs. The Mayor asked Mrs. Flanders if she thought Main Street Sigourney could raise \$2000 for this purpose. She said she would take it up with the Main Street Program Manager.

The subjects on the agenda, Hospital lift station and dump truck, were postponed until Councilperson J. Seip is present.

The December monthly reports of the City Clerk and City Treasurer were before the Mayor and Council and filed.

The application of Home Oil Co. for renewal of beer license was in due form. Councilperson Welter moved, seconded by Councilperson Van Fleet, that the application of Home Oil Co. for renewal of their beer permit be approved. Upon the roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Welter, Wells, Van Fleet, H. Seip, and Butler. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

The Mayor will schedule Department Heads for budget review on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, January 21, 22, and 23 between 2:00 - 4:00 o'clock P.M. and any member of the Finance Committee is welcome to attend, and the Finance Committee will then plan

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to start work on the overall FY 91/92 budget between 4:00 - 7:00 o'clock P.M. on Thursday, January 24th.

Councilperson Butler said he feels the Street Department is doing a good job with snow removal on the streets.

Councilperson H. Seip moved for adjournment at 8:25 o'clock P.M.; the second was by Councilperson Van Fleet.

*Tom Bark*

MAYOR

ATTEST:

*Peggy Heinschmidt*  
CITY CLERK