

CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA

MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2012

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, August 1, 2012 with Mayor Miletich presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Conrad, McLaughlin, Hornback and Ballensky. Council member Johnson arrived at 6:04 p.m. Others present were: Don Northup, Water / Wastewater / Pool Supervisor; Brent Gilliland, City Services Director and Building Inspector; Allan Glandon, Police Chief; and Angie Alderson, City Clerk.

Mayor Miletich called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Council member Hornback moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the tentative agenda. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Hornback and Ballensky. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Johnson arrived at 6:04 p.m.

Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the following items on the consent agenda: minutes from the July 18, 2012 regular Council meeting; accounts payable claims totaling \$20,848.56; Memorial Hall Commission accounts payable claims totaling \$15,392.47; and the credit card usage report. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Johnson, Conrad, McLaughlin, Hornback and Ballensky. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Street and Sanitation: Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the third and final reading to amend Ordinance 3-3-7 Authority to Install Traffic-Control Devices. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Johnson, Conrad, McLaughlin, Hornback and Ballensky. Nays: None. Motion approved.

City Services Director Gilliland stated he had received two (2) bids to replace the roof on the North Main Street Shop. One was from Weber Construction for \$11,600.00 and one was from Kerr Construction for \$11,200.00. The Street and Sanitation Committee has reviewed the bids and would like to recommend the bid from Kerr Construction for 30 year shingles. Council member Hornback moved, seconded by Council member Ballensky, to approve the replacement of the roof on the North Main Street Shop by Kerr Construction at a cost of \$11,200.00. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Johnson, Conrad, McLaughlin, Hornback and Ballensky. Nays: None. Motion approved.

The Street and Sanitation Committee set a meeting for Wednesday, September 5th following the Council meeting.

Water and Wastewater: Water Supervisor Northup talked about other cities having problems with water and their wells. City of Sigourney wells are still good and the water table is staying consistent, but water usage has gone up. Without the Jordan Well, Sigourney would have problems.

Public Safety: Police Chief Glandon reminded the Council that at a previous meeting the Council had approved the Sigourney Police Department to join the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force. Their office is in Ottumwa. The Memorandum of Understanding is the official paperwork and Police Chief Glandon needs to be authorized to sign this. Council member Hornback moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force Memorandum of Understanding for Joint Exercise of Law Enforcement and to authorize Police Chief Glandon to sign. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Johnson, Conrad, McLaughlin, Hornback and Ballensky. Nays: None. Motion approved.

The Public Safety Committee set a meeting for Wednesday, August 15th following the Council meeting.

Finance: Council member Johnson talked about the Finance Committee meetings held this month. A summary was put together regarding the General Fund. The General Fund balance has been going down each fiscal year. The Finance Committee has known this for some time and at the end of fiscal year 2012 the fund balance totaled \$56,000. In the past the Committee put a \$100,000 balance as the time to become concerned and take action. The Committee reviewed the current budget items paid out of the General Fund and the revenues (basically property tax revenue, police, park and pool income) and adjustments were made to balance the General Fund and not absorb the shortfall. The Committee has also decided to enforce having a balanced budget each year for the General Fund. The Finance Committee will monitor closer and are working on other revenue sources. In the future the Committee would like to reduce the General Fund expenditures to reflect only 97% to 99% of the revenues.

Council member Ballensky felt the public needs to understand the different funds and that money may be spent for some items from a different fund and this does not affect the General Fund.

There are several different items the Finance Committee is discussing to help reduce the General Fund expenses. Some of these include fewer meetings/trainings for the General Fund employees and Council members and possibly eliminating the City Treasurer position.

Mayor Miletich, City Clerk Alderson and Deputy City Clerk Casper attended a meeting with some of the County employees at the Assessor's office today. The purpose of the meeting was to understand how properties are assessed and the effects this has on the valuations other entities levy a tax for.

Council member Johnson talked about the pool liner replacement and other repairs that may be needed for the swimming pool. The Finance Committee discussed the different ways to possibly fund this and is recommending borrowing \$50,000.00 from each of the two (2) local banks for five (5) years. The annual payments would be \$22,800 starting June 30, 2013. This would be a general obligation debt and a tax would be levied for this. Other general obligation debt is being reduced or retired each year and even with this new debt the debt tax levy should be lower than previous years. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Hornback, to set the time and date of 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 15, 2012 for the required public hearing regarding funding of swimming pool liner and other pool repairs. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Johnson, Conrad, McLaughlin, Hornback and Ballensky. Nays: None. Motion approved.

City Clerk: The August 15, 2012 regular Council meeting will be held at City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Public Input: Mayor Miletich had several notes to pass to the Council including: a thank you from KC Staar for their work on the Social Host ordinance, open house announcement for Southeast Iowa Case Management, open house at Curtains Up and National Night Out with lots of activities.

Mayor Miletich reminded the Council of the two (2) properties being declared nuisances. City Attorney, John Wehr, has prepared some paperwork for the City to review. Mayor Miletich will ask the City Attorney to proceed if there are not any objections from the Council.

Mayor Miletich stated the Christmas Decoration Committee discussed having a Snowflake Lighting Ceremony as a fundraiser. This ceremony would include a free will donation chili supper at City Hall on the Friday evening before Thanksgiving.

There is a GIS demonstration at the courthouse on August 14th and the public is invited to attend.

There is a property on North Main Street owned by South Ottumwa Savings Bank that needs to be dealt with. It would take a lot of money to rehab the building, but the bank would be willing to give this to the City. The Mayor's part of the process was to have the asbestos tested in the building. That has been completed and there is a bill for this. At some point in time the City will have to decide if they are interested in doing anything with this building. One of the options discussed was to demolish the building and make a green space.

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 6:51 p.m.

Patricia Miletich, Mayor, City of Sigourney

ATTEST: _____
Angela K. Alderson, Sigourney City Clerk