

CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA

MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, with Mayor Glandon presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Schröder, and Bender. Others present were: Christie Iosbaker, Sigourney News Review; Gail McLaughlin; Jerry Wohler; Don Northup, Public Works Director I; Brent Gilliland, Public Works Director II; Richard Fortney, Police Officer; Sherrie Casper, Deputy City Clerk and Angie Alderson, City Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the tentative agenda. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the following items on the consent agenda: minutes of May 5, 2021 regular Council meeting; Council accounts payable claims in the amount of \$49,224.83; Library accounts payable claims in the amount of \$7,659.90; City Clerk's financial reports for April 2021; payroll expenses, miscellaneous expenses, ACH and monthly transfers for April 2021; Tax Exemption Application for Jeff and Deb Kiebel at 117 West Pleasant Valley Street, Sigourney, Iowa (Resolution No. 2021-05-03); Richard Fortney to attend the 2021 Iowa Acts of Interest to Law Enforcement sponsored by the Office of the Prosecuting Attorneys Association and the Iowa Department of Public Safety on June 23, 2021 at a cost of \$70.00; annual principal and interest payments for General Obligation and Revenue Bonds; community betterment projects; credit card report and the time and place for the June 2, 2021 regular Council meeting will be 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Schröder, and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Public Hearing: Council member Bender moved, seconded by Council member Schultz to open the Public Hearing regarding the Amendment of the current City Budget for Fiscal Year 2021. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Schröder, and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved. The Public Hearing was opened at 6:02 p.m.

The public hearing notice was published in the May 5th Sigourney News-Review. Mayor Glandon asked City Clerk Alderson if there had been any objections submitted to the City Clerk's office. Alderson stated the City Clerk's office had not received any. There was no public input from the citizens in attendance.

City Clerk Alderson reviewed the budget amendment with the City Council.

Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Schröder to close the Public Hearing. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Schröder, and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:04 p.m.

Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Bender, to approve Resolution No. 2021-05-04 for the proposed Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2021 ending June 30, 2021. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Additional City Business: Mayor Glandon stated that if the City Council approved of rescinding the COVID 19 policy and all employees returning to their normal duties with no exceptions then would he rescind the Mayor's Emergency Proclamation. Council member Conrad reviewed the current moratorium/proclamation through the Governor's Office. Council member Bender asked if this would be effective immediately and Mayor Glandon stated that he would work with City Attorney John Wehr to prepare any legal documents that may be needed. Council member Schröder stated that his questions may not be answered but to him it would make a difference if all employees were vaccinated but understands that is a delicate subject and cannot be asked. Council member McLaughlin stated that the employees have had an opportunity to be vaccinated if they choose to do so. Council member Schröder also asked if the employees had any questions or concerns. He does not want to put anyone on the spot, but if an employee had an opinion he would listen. Public Works Director I Northup stated the only thing not being done are the rental inspections. He has worn a mask to go into homes to replace meters and they have shut off water, etc. Council member Schultz stated that if any employees have any concerns the best thing they could do is wear a mask into a house or if they are really concerned they could wear two masks. Council member Schröder expressed his opinion as everyone has been given the opportunity to be vaccinated and whether they have chosen to or not is their personal decision. If someone has not been vaccinated there are other precautions that they can take to help protect themselves. If there are no significant concerns, then it might be time to return to normal. Council member Conrad asked if the policies are revoked will we still be able to ask that we prefer masks be worn in here. Mayor Glandon said he would not state that, it would be everyone's own personal preference and asked how it would be enforced. It was discussed that a sign remains requesting that masks are recommended and there would be no loitering. The Council agreed City Hall is not a coffee

shop and people should be discouraged from remaining to visit. Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member McLaughlin to rescind the COVID policy and that all employees return to normal jobs with no exceptions. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

City Clerk Alderson explained the Amanda Kelly, Librarian, would like to use Legion Park for some events with animals (Blank Park Zoo and a trick pony). She wanted to keep the Council informed, have permission, and ask the city to give her the permit she needs to proceed. Council member Bender moved, seconded by Council member Conrad to allow the library to proceed with her events at the library. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

There was no report for Sigourney Area Development Corporation (SADC).

Water and Wastewater: Council member Schultz moved, seconded by Council member Schröder to approve the second reading for Ordinance amending Title VI – Physical Environment – Chapter 5 Utilities – Billing Charges (Sewer). Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

City Clerk: Clerk Alderson stated that she had a couple items that she knew the Council could not discuss or vote on, but she wanted to give the information to the Council. The first item is she forgot to put the Farmer's Market on the agenda. Amanda Snakenberg is asking to be able to use the inside parking spaces on the east side of the Courtyard from 4 to 7 p.m. approximately. This is a SADC (Sigourney Area Development Corp.) event and Amanda has already been approved by the County Supervisors to use the Courtyard. She would like to have permission to close the parking off. Clerk Alderson stated she had discussed with Amanda that if approved it would more than likely be up to Amanda to get the vehicles moved and block it off. This event starts one of the first Wednesdays in June.

Clerk Alderson stated that she would like to talk about the July 4th events. Jerry Wohler was present, and it was stated that SADC is unable to sponsor the July 4th event as they have limited volunteers at this time. Clerk Alderson stated that she would like to address this again as she has been asked about the pool having open swim that day, etc. Jerry Wohler stated that no one is really stepping up to do a lot right now. Mr. Wohler stated that they are putting an ad out stating there will be an organizational meeting on the 8th of June at 7:00 p.m. at the Country Club. The ad will ask if anyone (or group) is planning a July 4th activity to come to the meeting, so no one is missed on the calendar of events. There are concerns of the July 4th events going away. Mr. Wohler stated the Kiwanis are planning a beer tent to be set up on the east of the square in the alley for Friday and Saturday and then they would do their lunch on Sunday. Kiwanis would like to see the beer area to be on the east side of the courthouse and run north and south across there. They would put up cones with some kind of markings on there saying this is where the beer area starts and ends without putting up a fence barrier. City Clerk Alderson stated that there is approximately \$4,500.00 in the July 4th fund. Fund raising has not been done for several years as there were other events going on and businesses were sometimes hit hard and then COVID hit. She feels there is enough money to allow for the July 4th events. Alderson also stated that there is usually someone serving food on July 3rd, but that could be left open for the businesses.

Public Works Director I Northup called today and stated that one of the vacuums quit working. It will cost at least \$1,500.00 to be fixed and there is currently a sale on vacuums (\$3,800.00 new and upgraded). Clerk Alderson stated she would put this on the next agenda as a Community Betterment item.

City Clerk Alderson stated that on a good note, Misc. on Main donated forty soccer balls for the older league.

Public Input: Council member Schultz was asked about a parade. Mr. Wohler stated the churches do not really want a parade on Sunday as everyone goes to the parade and not to church. Mr. Wohler stated that he knows the Expo is planning on the tractor pull and fireworks on Sunday. He would like to see the churches represented at the meeting on June 8th.

Public Works Director I Northup asked if there would be something on the agenda before the July 4th events stating what would be needed such as barricades, water, and dumpsters, etc. That is what is going to be discussed at another Council meeting in June.

Council member Bender asked about the sewer project. Public Works Director I Northup stated it is muddy and everything is an absolute mess, but the contractors are making time and have a lot done. They have foundations and walls done along with pipe being laid. Council member Schultz stated it was good to see the progress.

Public Works Director I Northup stated the pool was filled up and then it sprang a leak. Public Works Director II Gilliland fixed the problem, the pool was filled again and has held.

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 6:30 p.m.

Douglas L. Glandon, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Angela K. Alderson, City Clerk