

CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA
MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF
WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 with Mayor Glandon presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Morlan, Schröder, and Bender. Others present were: Holly VanVoltenburg; Don Northup, Public Works Director I; Richard Fortney, Police Officer and Sherrie Casper, Deputy City Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Council member Morlan moved, seconded by Council member McLaughlin, to approve the tentative agenda. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Morlan, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Schroeder requested that Item A on the Consent Agenda be voted on separately. Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Bender, to approve the following items on the consent agenda: Council accounts payable claims in the amount of \$50,608.66; Library accounts payable claims in the amount of \$7,844.20; Tax Exemption Application for Van Davis at 703 West Skillman Street, Sigourney, Iowa (Resolution No. 2021-05-01); Liquor License Application for George Papadopoulos (DBA: Papa Georges) at 102 East Washington Street, Sigourney, Iowa for Class B Beer Permit and Sunday Sales; Liquor License Application for Casey's Marketing Company (DBA: Casey's General Store #3396) at 100 East Jackson Street, Sigourney, Iowa for Class E Liquor License, Sunday Sales, Class B Wine Permit, Class B Native Wine Permit and Class C Beer Permit; credit card report and the time and place for the May 19, 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, Morlan, Schröder, and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Schröder moved, seconded by Council member Morlan, to amend the minutes of the regular Council meeting of April 21, 2021 on page 4 under Public Safety line 5 the sentence begins with Council member Schröder moves, seconded by Council member Morlan to declare an emergency. The minutes should remain as is but be proceeded by the following language that "After City Attorney John Wehr explained the emergency declaration options that are available under City Ordinance 3-2-8 Abatement in Emergency", and with the remaining minutes to stay as is. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Morlan, Schröder, and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Public Hearing: Council member Morlan moved, seconded by Council member Conrad to open the Public Hearing regarding granting easements through real estate owned by the City of Sigourney, Iowa to Mahaska Communication Group, LLC. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Morlan, Schröder, and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved. Hearing was open at 6:04 p.m.

The public hearing notice was published in the April 28th Sigourney News-Review. Mayor Glandon asked Deputy Clerk Casper if there had been any objection submitted to the City Clerk's office. She said the City Clerk's office had not received any. There was no public input from the citizens in attendance.

Council member Schröder moved, seconded by Council member Schultz to close the Public Hearing. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Morlan, Schröder, and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved. Hearing was closed at 6:05 p.m.

Public Works Director I Northup described the locations of the two properties pertaining to the Easement for MCG. One of the properties is the old State shop located at 400 East Walnut. The other one is in Meadowbrook and it would be between the property that John Wehr used to own and Brian Sereg, right along the highway. The City owns a little patch down through there. Council member Schultz moved, seconded by Council member Conrad to approve Resolution 2021-05-02 regarding approving the granting of easements to Mahaska Communications Group, LLC for two properties owned by the City of Sigourney. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Morlan, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Morlan to approve the affidavit of compliance Section 2.1 of the Iowa Title Standards. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Morlan, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

This is the concrete vault that MCG put in for their instrument control center located at the old State shop. Council member Morlan moved, seconded by Council member Conrad to approve the easement for the installation of and access to a concrete vault that houses fiber splice points on the real estate owned by the City of Sigourney to Mahaska Communications Group, LLC. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Morlan, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Additional City Business: There was no report for Sigourney Area Development Corporation (SADC).

Park and Recreation: Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Conrad to approve moving forward with having a Flag Football season in the fall. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Morlan, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Public Works Director I Northup reported that the restrooms are open, the water is on and the Lion is going. They are working on the pool. There may be a couple trees to cut down that did not make it through the winter. All the dirt work is done, and the grass is starting to grow. Mackenzie Kerr is going to roof the shelter straight north of the airplane. The park has been mowed a couple times and it has been sprayed once or twice already.

Water and Wastewater: Mayor Glandon reviewed the rate increases for the sewer operating and maintenance. It went from \$5.25 to \$5.50. Council member McLaughlin questioned about the rate for outside the city limits. It went up \$.37 instead of the quarter for City residents. Council member Schultz explained that there is a history for why non-residents pay one and half times the normal rate. There is history behind this regarding how we have these raises in place and unless we decide not to have them. This is something we are doing additionally for wastewater and it is not directly tied to water consumption. There is no meter on the sewer. Everybody should realize we have a very big project going on right now. We thought that we would get started on this project earlier but there were delays and with delays the cost of everything increases. We felt like in our discussions that increasing this portion of the billing was most fair because it is a user driven charge. Council member Schultz moved, seconded by Council member Schröder to approve the first 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, Morlan, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Public Works Director I Northup reported that this year we did a rehab on Well #5. We found a couple holes in the column pipe, we replaced the submersible sub, which is a given, if you get five years out of one you are doing good. They are a disposable throwaway item. We cleaned everything up and put it back online and it is doing good. All our wells are in good shape, the water tables are good, and everything is fine at this point.

Council member Bender asked about one of the charges on the KLC pay estimate regarding removing fire hydrants to owners. Northup responded that there were two of the hydrants that weren't that old, and we can put them back in the system. There are some of them that we can take apart and use for parts in case we have something break. If nothing else, we just scrap them out. There is no sense in giving them away to the construction company when we can scrap them out. The charge was to remove them and cap the old main. Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member McLaughlin to approve pay estimate No. 8 from KLC Construction, LLC for proposed water main improvements – CDBG #19-WS-016 – Sigourney, IA (Project #18-113/20-057). Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Morlan, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Schultz moved, seconded by Council member Conrad to approve pay estimate No. 3 from Boomerang Corp. as stated on the agenda. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Schultz, Morlan, Schröder and Bender. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Finance: Council member Conrad clarified the Community Betterment projects from the previous Council meeting regarding the storage building at the Library and Tom Monroe was asking for funds for the artifact show, neither one had a dollar amount set for them. The shed for the Library was awarded \$3,000.00 by the Endowment Foundation and it was \$8,000.00 total for the shed. We set aside the balance to be used for the purchase. Tom Monroe has been holding the Skunk River Artifacts at the Expo. We usually pay for the rental of the Expo so they can have it there. It had been \$200 but he thought the rent had went up to \$250. So, whatever the rental fee is that is what we will give him.

Public Input: Police Officer Fortney wanted the Council to be aware of a dog attack this week. There was a German Shepherd/Husky mix got out and was at the Town Square Park and attacked another dog that was with a family. Someone was walking by and saw it. Grabbed the dog and knew where it belonged, he took it there and put it inside. The dog that was attacked was fine. Officer Fortney followed up with the owners of the German Shepherd and told them to keep it leashed.

Council member McLaughlin asked about the status of the second dog incident with Andrea House. It has been turned over to the City Attorney John Wehr.

Council member McLaughlin also asked about when Yvonne Pitsch was at the previous meeting requesting that City Hall be opened back up. Council member Conrad reminded the Council that this is public input, it is not a discussion item that is on the agenda and we can't take any action on it right now.

Council member McLaughlin also had two calls regarding the police department and what the status is on that. She knows that we have a contract with the Sheriff's Office, but she wondered if the Public Safety committee is still in discussion on the matter.

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 6:33 p.m.

Douglas L. Glandon, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Sherrie Casper, Deputy City Clerk