

January 27, 2020  
City Council Meeting Minutes

The January 27, 2020 Regular City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Mayor Staner. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and then Kelchen, Delaney, Rausch and Knepper answered roll call. Hosch was absent.

A motion was made by Kelchen, second by Rausch to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

No speakers addressed the Council.

Council reviewed the items in the consent agenda including City Council minutes 01/13/2020 and Budget Workshop minutes 01/20/20, Library Building Committee minutes 01/15/2020, Library Board minutes 01/07/2020 and Cascade Economic Development minutes 12/12/19. Motion by Delaney, second by Kelchen to approve the items in the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Dan McDonald from Greater Dubuque Development addressed the Council for his semi-annual visit to provide a brief update. He provided information to the Council about 7 major businesses expanding to the Dubuque area including Hormel and Hodge, which will provide 300+ jobs. He also provided handouts that indicate that 36% of existing businesses plan on some type of expansion. He also that the Cascade Economic Development group is a great group and that we should continue our support and partnership with them. He also touched a little on the unemployment in the area, which is very low, but that it could be hard to fill the 300+ positions that will be coming. Low unemployment is a good problem, but does present problems for employers. Dan will continue to present to the City Council every 6 months.

The Library Building Committee provided a presentation to the City Council. Amy Ludwig, Chairman of the Library Board and Library Building Committee addressed the Council. She discussed information from a meeting that was held in November 2018. In November 2018, a joint meeting was held between the Library Board and the City Council and the pros and cons of the next steps for the library was presented and at that time it made more fiscal sense to construct a new library. In June 2019 a Library Building Committee was formed. The committee has met almost monthly since that time. The addition would only meet the short-term goals of the library, but a new building would meet the needs for 40+ years. Kendra Kedley then addressed the Council and told them to review the feasibility study from 2011 that was done on the library since the committee has referred to this many times. Many of the library building committee members have visited other libraries and reviewed the libraries of cities with similar populations as Cascade. Amy Howard then addressed the Council. She discussed the spreadsheet that was distributed to the City Council regarding comparisons to other libraries. Amy Ludwig then addressed the Council again. She said the committee is seeking approval to move forward with the new library project. At this time, they are considering an 8,000 sq. ft. building. They will also be forming a library foundation which will be made up of private citizens and be a 501 (c)3 organization. This will be a good way for people to donate to the library, since it will be tax deductible. The next steps will be to hire an architect and set up the foundation if Council approves moving forward. Motion by Rausch, second by Delaney to move forward with the new library concept. Motion carries unanimously.

Council reviewed **Resolution #8-20**, A Resolution Setting the Public Hearing Date for February 24, 2020 for a Resolution Relating to the Total Maximum Property Tax Dollars for FY 2021. This is a new required step due to the passed Senate File 634. Motion by Kelchen, second by Rausch to approve **Resolution #08-20**. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Since this week, January 26 – February 1 is School Choice Week, the Mayor read a proclamation declaring this week as Cascade School Choice Week.

It was time for the 1<sup>st</sup> closed session. Motion by Kelchen, second by Knepper to enter into closed session at 6:23p.m. citing Iowa Code Chapter 21.5(1)(c) to discuss strategy with legal counsel concerning threatened litigation. Motion carried unanimously by roll call. City Attorney attended this closed session via phone.

Motion by Kelchen, second by Rausch to end closed session and enter into open session at 6:54p.m. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Delaney, second by Rausch to proceed with prosecution in District Court after March 1<sup>st</sup>. Motion carried unanimously.

It was time for the 2<sup>nd</sup> closed session. Council Member Hosch joined the meeting via phone. Motion by Kelchen, second by Delaney to enter into closed session at 6:58p.m. citing Iowa Code Chapter 21.5 (1)(c) to discuss strategy with legal counsel concerning threatened litigation. Motion carried unanimously by roll call. City Attorney attended this closed session via phone.

Motion by Kelchen, second by Rausch to end closed session and enter into open session at 7:34p.m. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Kelchen, second by Delaney to proceed as discussed with attorney. Motion carried 4-1, with Rausch abstaining due to conflict of interest.

Council received a report from the City Administrator. The City Administrator let Council know that the levee project is now fully into the design phase. She will be receiving necessary information shortly to discuss with the 2 affected property owners about getting a permanent construction easement and a temporary construction easement. Also, the fence height requirement along the bridge is a minimum of 42" above the floor of the sidewalk. I am seeking an updated quote.

With no other business, Delaney moved and Rausch seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:35p.m. Motion carried.