April 25, 2022

City Council Meeting Minutes

The April 25, 2022 Regular City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Mayor Steve Knepper. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Delaney, Kelchen, Oliphant, Hosch and Rausch answered roll call.

Motion Rausch, second Oliphant to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

No public comment.

Council reviewed the items in the consent agenda including City Council Minutes 4/11/22 and 4/18/22, Library Board 4/5/22 and 4/18/22, Liquor License Renewal for Grace’s Place and License for Need Consulting LLC (Wing Fest). Motion Kelchen, Second Delaney. Motion carried, all aye.

Developers Jason Rogers and Tyler Mcquillen presented a project for construction of four single family residential homes off 6th Ave SW. They are requesting City support which would allow them to apply for the Iowa Economic Development’s Workforce Housing Tax Credit program providing tax benefits to developers to provide housing in Iowa communities in need of housing.  The City would need to write letters of support and provide financial assistance in the amount of $1,000 per home. Those funds would be used toward the public right of way improvements. The City did a housing assessment in 2019 that listed a need for more economical housing. A number of residents asked questions about the development such as public access, parking, snow removal and traffic as the properties would be served by an alley which is narrower than a standard street. The project will be placed on the May 9 agenda for consideration.

Interim City Administrator discussed the details of a potential future borrowing for general obligation bonds. The Council discussed possible funding scenarios for 2024 as there are future needs for infrastructure improvement and the request by the Library Board to consider a new facility.

Library Board members were in attendance requesting a number of items related to a future new library facility. Motion Delaney, second Oliphant to direct staff to attempt to get right of first refusals on the three lots for the top priority site, to work with the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque on a plan to assist the City in fundraising for a new Library, to communicate with the Foundation and ECIA to determine if the current drawings we have for a site would suffice for grant applications and if not to allocate up to $2,000 toward preliminary schematic designs from FEH consultants used for grant application purposes. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Brian Callahan, representing the Youth Baseball and Softball organization, discussed the need the community has for more ballfields. There is a need for practice areas and in the future the group would like to have additional fields to have more games and tournaments in Cascade. There was discussion about utilizing the City owned site south of the historic silo for a future facility. The City Council agreed with the need and will look into the ability to develop this site as it is adjacent to the levee.

Jake Deaver from MSA requested direction from the Council on the construction plans and location of the proposed construction of a new gazebo at Riverview Park. After discussion about the addition costs to place the structure further east than the existing structure, the Council requested the Park Board discuss this issue and make a recommendation to the City Council.

Resolution No 19-22 Approving the Lifeguard Certification Reimbursement Policy. Motion Rausch, second Kelchen to approve Resolution No 19-22. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Resolution No 20-22 Approving the Designation of American Rescue Plan Funds. Motion Delaney, second Oliphant to approve Resolution No. 20-22. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote

Resolution No 21-22 Approving an Offer to Purchase of IDOT Land-NW Corner of Highways 136 and 151 in the amount of $12,000 with a transfer of funds from the LOST fund to the General Fund and creation of a new account 001-210-6799 Roads Capital Improvement account. Motion Kelchen, second Rausch to approve. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion Kelchen, second Oliphant to approve the allocation of $1,397.12 to hire Big River Sign Co to hang the Cascade Falls Wall Mural with funds to come from Community Beautification 001-510-6413. Motion carried.

Motion Kelchen, second Delaney to direct staff to have the siren repaired at the wellhouse site unless it is more fiscally responsible to purchase a new siren. Motion carried.

Mayor Knepper indicated he was looking for a representative of Cascade to be nominated to the Eastern Iowa Regional Housing Authority Board. Anyone interested should contact the Mayor.

Motion Rausch, second Oliphant to allocate $898 toward the purchase of a large TV screen, Chromecast and mount for use in the City Council Chambers from Clerk Treasurer Office Equipment Account 001-620-6727. Motion carried.

The City Council will hold a special Council meeting on Monday, May 2 at 5:30pm to approve a public hearing resolution for possible FY22 Budget Amendments.

Resolution No 22-22 Approving the Transfer of Funds for FY22 for Debt Service Payments and Interfund Transfers. Motion Rausch, second Oliphant to Approve. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote

Motion Kelchen, second Rausch to adjourn the meeting at 8:54p.m. Motion carried.

Lisa A. Kotter, Interim City Administrator Steven Knepper, Mayor