

CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA
MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, with Mayor Morlan presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Others present were: Randy Schultz; Steve Shettler; Casey Jarmes, Sigourney News Review; Don Northup, Director of Public Works I; Kris Metcalf, Police Chief; Beckie Appleget, Office Assistant; and Angie Alderson, City Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the tentative agenda with the deletion of items 4-4, 4-5 and 8-2. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Mayor Morlan administered the Oath of Office to Edward Conrad, Connie McLaughlin and Randy Schultz.

Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Iosbaker, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 6, 2023; Council Accounts Payable Claims in the amount of \$57,910.37; City Clerk Reports for August 2023; payroll expenses, miscellaneous expenses, ACH and monthly transfers for August 2023; Resolution No. 2023-12-06 re: Mayor Pro Tempore; Resolution No. 2023-12-07 re: Mayor Annual Appointments for Calendar Year 2024; Resolution No. 2023-12-08 re: Official City Holidays and Regular Council Meetings for Calendar Year 2024; Beckie Appleget to Register for the Online Winter Session of the 2024 Iowa Municipal Professionals Institute at a Cost of \$240.00; Beckie Appleget to Register for a Webinar (Municipal Law 101 for Cities: Building Blocks for Local Leaders) on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at a Cost of \$35.00 per City; Community Betterment Projects: \$1,000.00 to replace outlets at the pool, \$1,600.00 for laptop and \$4,000.00 for property cleanup; credit card report; and the time and place for the January 3, 2024 regular Council meeting is 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Additional City Business: Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve Resolution 2023-12-09 regarding the sale and disposal of land currently owned by the City of Sigourney and legally described as "That part of Lot one of the North One-half of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter 2-75-12 described as: Beginning at the Northwest Corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 2, Township Seventy-five North, Range Twelve West of the Fifth P.M., thence South 00°34'00" E 33.00 feet, thence South 89°59'40" W 385.59 feet measured (374.22 feet recorded as 5.67 chains) to the Northwest Corner of Lot Two of the North one-half of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, thence North 00°04'00"W 33 feet to the south line of Lot 1B of Lot Two of said Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, thence East along the south line of Lot 1B of Lot Two and Lot One of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter 2-75-12 to the place of beginning.". Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved. *(Mayor Morlan noted the resolution set a Public Hearing for Wednesday, February 7, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.)*

City Clerk Alderson presented the Council with an insert from the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Council discussed how this would work and if there would be any costs involved. The thought was to have the insert brought in ready to be stuffed or the City would need to charge for any copies and/or folding. Council member Lentz moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve placing an insert into the January Utility Bills regarding a survey from the Keokuk County Emergency Management pending they either fold it and bring it to us or pay the extra costs. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

City Clerk Alderson stated that the City currently pays for 350 users with the FrontDesk utility software, and we are full. There are customers ready to be added to the system. It is \$318.00 per year to add 50 more or double to add 100. Council member Lentz moved, seconded by Council member Tish, to approve a contract with gWorks to add 100 public users for one year to the FrontDesk software system. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Iosbaker, Keokuk County Economic Development, stated the membership drive for the coming year is being started. Preparations are being made for the annual meeting to be held in February. They are continuing to work on the Childcare Initiative, and he is very pleased with the level of assistance and cooperation they have been getting from the school district. He feels they are going to be very instrumental in helping to source meals for children for the organization at a very reasonable price.

Park and Recreation: Council member McLaughlin stated Lara Davis, the Soccer Director, would like to send out registrations to include 7th and 8th graders for this year. Council member Clark stated there is no junior high soccer program, so this would give those kids an opportunity to play getting ready for high school. Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the soccer forms with the addition of 7th and 8th grade. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member McLaughlin stated the Park and Recreation Committee would like to run the proposed ad for the upcoming pool personnel for the 2024 season. They would like to have this run in the Sigourney News Review, and they would also like to run the ad with Steve Shettler Media during a week that suits him. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve the pool personnel advertising with the Sigourney News Review and Steve Shettler Media. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member McLaughlin stated that it is hard to get pool personnel to cover pool parties at \$9.00 per hour. The Park and Recreation Committee would like to recommend offering a flat rate of \$40.00 per pool party, which is normally a two-hour event. There are usually several pool parties per year. Council member Lentz added that hopefully this will help to get applications as some kids did not want to apply as they did not want to work pool parties. Council member Clark stated the Park and Recreation Committee is going to recommend raising the pool party rates. There are two lifeguards per small pool party and three lifeguards for larger pool parties. Council member Tish moved, seconded by Council member McLaughlin, to approve paying the lifeguards a flat rate of \$40.00 per pool party. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member McLaughlin explained the pool will need to have some major work done to it in the next few years and the Park and Recreation Committee would like to have French-Reneker-Associates to put a proposal together on what this will cost. This would give the City an idea of what they are looking at for the pool and to see the best route and make the best recommendations. The Park and Recreation Committee would like to pay for this with the Local Options Sales and Services Tax. The Park and Recreation Committee would like to have the information put together before summer so they can look at fundraising, but it will not be fixed by then. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve French-Reneker-Associates for the Sigourney Swimming Pool cost estimate with the costs being paid for out of LOSST (Local Options Sales and Services Tax). Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Street and Sanitation: Council member Iosbaker stated the Street and Sanitation Committee discussed the display ad for spraying. The verbiage of licensing should be included in the ad. Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the display ad for the annual spraying agreement with the provision the entity awarded the contract would produce a license to spray and to also change the due date to January 15, 2024. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Director of Public Works I Northup explained LL Pelling's proposal for the summer of 2024. Usually Type B work is what the City does. The cost is \$2.80 per square yard, but that is for the 3/8 chips. The river rock would be \$3.45 per square yard, he believes. The southwest part of town was done with river rock in the summer of 2022, and it has lasted and held up well. River rock is more durable, and you do not have the dust. He would like to see the City go to the river rock. Director of Public Works I Northup reviewed the costs for past years and the additional it would have cost to use river rock. Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the proposal with LL Pelling Co. for 2024 sealcoat work using river rock. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Iosbaker stated the Street and Sanitation Committee discussed increasing the rates for container (dumpster) discharges. The recommendation would be to increase the residential container discharge to \$35.00 and the commercial container discharge to \$30.00. The conversation was based on their capacity in relationship to the charge for the yellow bags. There are 13 to 16 containers available for residential use. Council member Tish stated she understood that the City is still lower in price with the increase compared to other companies. Council member Conrad stated that the cost was cheap enough that some were stockpiling their garbage for a month or two and then filling a dumpster for a lower cost than using the garbage bags. Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve the increase of residential containers to \$35.00 and commercial containers to \$30.00 per discharge. The out-of-town rates would be increased the 150 percent. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Public Safety: Council member Clark stated the Police Chief has set up interviews for candidates and the Public Safety Committee would like to have the top two candidates approved to take the MMPI testing at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy at a cost of no more than \$200.00 per person. Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Clark, to approve the MMPI testing for two possible candidates not to exceed \$200.00 per candidate. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Finance: Council member Lentz moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the annual Council members remuneration for calendar year 2023. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Mayor Morlan requested Council member Tish to come forward to receive a certificate of appreciation and to thank her for her input and for serving the City.

Public Input: Casey Jarnes asked if the Council could be more specific about the major work that needed to be done to pool over the next couple of years. Council member McLaughlin answered the pool liner and the cement work underneath.

Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to adjourn the meeting. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Tish. Nays: None. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Jimmy Morlan, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Angela K. Alderson, City Clerk