

**CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2022**

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, with Mayor Pro-tem McLaughlin presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Conrad, Iosbaker, Atwood, Tish and Clark. Others present were: Jerry Wohler; Larry Alderson; Richard Fortney, Police Officer; and Angie Alderson, City Clerk.

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

Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Tish, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: minutes of February 2, 2022 Council meeting; Council accounts payable claims in the amount of \$47,144.72; City Clerk Financial Reports for January 2022; payroll expenses, miscellaneous expenses, ACH and monthly transfers for January 2022; Tax Exemption Application for Jesse and Amy Wilcox at 713 West Skillman Street; Liquor License Application for DOLGENCORP, LLC (DBA: Dollar General Store #2244) at 704 East Jackson Street, Sigourney, Iowa for Class C Beer Permit, Class B Wine Permit and Sunday Sales; Liquor License Application for Tobias Garcia Romero (DBA: Toby's Pizza) at 102 East Washington Street, Sigourney, Iowa for Class B Beer Permit and Sunday Sales; credit card report; and the time and place for the March 2, 2022 regular Council meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Atwood, Tish and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

**Public Hearing(s):** Mayor Pro-tem McLaughlin discussed the resolution not to exceed \$3,400,000.00 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes (ECP-1) with the Council. The City will be borrowing approximately \$2,000,000.00 for street projects. The remainder of the funds will be used to refinance the two (2) current General Obligation Bonds the City has and saving approximately \$100,000.00 in interest. Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Clark, to approve Resolution No. 2022-02-07 fixing date for a meeting on the authorization of a Loan Agreement and the issuance of not to exceed \$3,400,000.00 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes of the City of Sigourney, State of Iowa (for Essential Corporate Purposes), and providing for publication of notice thereof as Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Atwood, Tish and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Mayor Pro-tem McLaughlin discussed the not to exceed \$310,000.00 General Obligation Loan Notes (GCP-2) with the Council. The City will be borrowing approximately \$310,000.00 for the City's share of the Façade project. Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Atwood, to approve Resolution No. 2022-02-08 fixing date for a meeting on the authorization of a Loan Agreement and the issuance of not to exceed \$310,000.00 General Obligation Capital Notes of the City of Sigourney, State of Iowa (for General Corporate Purposes), and providing for publication of notice thereof as Wednesday March 2, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Atwood, Tish and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

**Additional City Business:** Mayor Pro-tem McLaughlin explained the reasons the Council is readdressing the resolution setting the time and date for a public hearing for disposal of the properties located at 309 West Elm Street and 308 South East Street. Council member Tish moved, seconded by Council member Atwood, to approve Resolution No. 2022-02-09 setting the date and time as March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. for the required public hearing pursuant to Iowa Code 364,7 re: Possible Disposal of Properties located at 309 West Elm Street and 308 South East Street and to remove the bidders name from the outside of the bidding envelope for publication. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Atwood, Tish and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

*As the Council moved the public hearing date to March 16<sup>th</sup> to allow for more publication time and stated changes to publication notice, Items 4-2 and 4-3 were already discussed and would not need to be reviewed again.*

Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the second reading of Ordinance (Title VII Special Ordinances – Chapter 10 – Urban Renewal) for the division of revenues under Section 403.19, Code of Iowa, for Sigourney Downtown Urban Renewal Plan. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Atwood, Tish and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Mayor Pro-tem McLaughlin explained there have been changes to required policies for CDBG (Community Development Betterment Grant). These are policies that the City has approved before but have been updated. Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Clark, to approve the following updated required policies for CDBG Projects: Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan, Fair Housing Strategies, Citizen Participation Requirements, Procurement Policy, Code of Conduct, Prohibition on the Use of Excessive Force, and Equal Opportunity Policy Statement. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Atwood, Tish and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Iosbaker, to approve Laurie Luettjohann and Connie McLaughlin as the city representative and alternate respectively to the Keokuk County Community Endowment Foundation. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Atwood, Tish and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Mayor Pro-tem McLaughlin started the discussion of allowing the Council Chambers and Conference Room to be used by other organizations for meetings and/or events by explaining that these were closed when COVID hit. There have been requests to use these rooms again. The offices are locked and closed off. The organization would have a key that would allow them entrance into the Council Chambers, and they would lock the doors and put the key in the drop box when they left. There have not been any issues in the past. There is a cleaning person who would disinfect each morning after an event. There is a mixture of nonprofit and for-profit organizations and/or people that use the building. There has never been a fee attached to using the building. Council member Clark stated that the community purchased the building and should be able to use the building. Council member Tish asked about vendor fairs and whether fees were charged. City Clerk Alderson responded that the organization holding the vendor fair does charge a fee that the organization (such as the Christmas Committee) would keep. Vendor fairs are usually held by City related organizations. Council member Tish stated she has no problem with organizations using the building but felt if the organization was going to make a profit there should be a fee charged or a donation made. Council member Tish asked about the liability insurance and whose responsibility that was. City Clerk Alderson stated it was the City's insurance policy used. Council member Tish moved to table this item on the agenda until there was more information on the insurance. This motion died due to lack of a second. Council member Conrad asked if the purpose of the item on the agenda is to repeal not having the Chambers open because it was closed due to COVID? Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Iosbaker, to allow the Council Chambers and Conference Room to be used by other organizations for meetings and/or events. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Atwood, Tish and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Iosbaker stated that SADC (Sigourney Area Development Corporation) is reaching out to other economic development groups in the county. There was a meeting last week with Keota and there is going to be outreach to some of the other groups. The purpose is to see if a county wide coalition could be formed and working with the County as an entity also for economic development. There was a good agreement between Sigourney and Keota that this made sense. There was also discussion that if the coalition forms up to work with the Sigourney Schools to start working on websites. SADC has decided to support the initiative for this project and so this process will be started. This same thing could apply to the City if they chose to do this as well.

A Park and Recreation Committee was set for Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

**Water and Wastewater:** Mayor Pro-tem McLaughlin stated the pay estimate for Boomerang had been sent out for the Council to review along with the invoices for aluminum and steel that was purchased.

Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Tish, to approve Pay Estimate No. 12 from Boomerang Corp. for Proposed Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements – CDBG #19-WS-009 – Sigourney, IA – SRF #CS192087001. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Atwood, Tish and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

**Finance:** Council member Conrad stated having a set policy for the funded grants would allow the City to treat all the grant recipients more equally. It would be difficult to set an amount, so a percentage was used which included an up to \$10,000.00 amount. Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Clark, to approve Resolution No. 2022-02-10 re: Set Policy for City Share of Funded Grants. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Atwood, Tish and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

**Public Input:** Mayor Pro-tem McLaughlin stated the City has received a complaint today about a loose dog that had torn someone’s pants and we do not know if this broke skin as it has not been investigated yet.

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 6:26 p.m.

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Connie McLaughlin, Mayor Pro-tem

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Angela K. Alderson, City Clerk