

CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA
MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, with Mayor Morlan presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz and Clark. Others present were: Steve Shettler, Steve Shetter Media; 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 Iosbaker, to approve the tentative agenda. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Council Accounts Payable Claims in the amount of \$38,282.22; Library Accounts Payable Claims in the amount of \$4,612.75; City Clerk's Financial Reports for October 2023; payroll expenses, miscellaneous expenses, ACH and monthly transfers for October 2023; City Clerk's Financial Reports for November 2023; payroll expenses, miscellaneous expenses, ACH and monthly transfers for November 2023; Liquor License Application for DOLGENCORP, LLC (DBA: Dollar General #2244) at 704 East Jackson Street for a Class B Retail Alcohol License; Iowa Retail Permit Application for Cigarette / Tobacco / Nicotine / Vapor for Family Dollar #32963 at 329 North Main Street, Sigourney, Iowa; Police Display Ad with KBOE Radio Station and Steve Shettler Media; credit card report; and the time and place for the February 21, 2024 regular Council meeting is 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve the remaining item on the Consent Agenda: Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 17, 2024. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz and Schultz. Nays: None. Abstain: Clark. Motion approved. *(Council member Clark abstained as he was unable to attend the regular Council meeting on January 17, 2024.)*

Public Hearing: Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Iosbaker, to open the public hearing re: proposal to vacate and dispose of the City's interest in the following described real estate: "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: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved and the public hearing was opened at 6:01 p.m.

Mayor Morlan stated the public hearing was published in the Sigourney News Review on January 31, 2024 as required by law.

The purpose of the public hearing is to vacate and dispose of real estate property to Cody J. Branstad and Chelsea K. Branstad.

Mayor Morlan asked the public and Council if they had any input on this matter. There was none.

Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Lentz to close the public hearing re: "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: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved and the public hearing was closed at 6:02 p.m.

Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Schultz, to approve Resolution No. 2024-02-2 re: Vacating said Property for Conveyance to Cody J. Branstad and Chelsea K. Branstad. Upon the roll being called the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member McLaughlin, to approve the Quit Claim Deed from the City of Sigourney, Iowa and authorization for Mayor and City Clerk to sign. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: 6. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Additional City Business: Council member Schultz stated that the City of Sigourney is not in a Clean Energy Districts of Iowa district as it goes by county and Keokuk County is not in a district as it has not been organized. Council member Schultz stated the activity would have the same effect on us as a City in an organized district and he did not feel that it would be a negative thing to participate in, but he was not in favor of putting any money toward it. Council member Iosbaker stated he did not have a strong feeling to throw money at this and it does appear that the rate hikes are disproportionate. It seems to him that there is some value to signing on. Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the City of Sigourney, Iowa ("City") and Clean Energy Districts of Iowa ("CEDI") with the provision that we are not contributing any funds. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Schultz moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve Resolution No. 2024-02-3 re: a resolution opposing Alliant Energy's electric rate increase. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Iosbaker, Keokuk County Economic Development, stated they are wrapping up yearend processes and are preparing for the annual members meeting. They have obtained two new members. Work is progressing on the Child-Care Initiative. They are finalizing the papers to file for the 501(3)(c). That will make this a formal organization. The financial model is nearing completion.

Park and Recreation: Council member McLaughlin stated there will be a change this year in the soccer sponsorships. These will mimic the Sigourney Ball sponsorships. As in the past, there will be a \$50.00 fee to have the sponsor's name on the back of a team's t-shirt. New this year, sponsors will be able to purchase a banner that will hang on the soccer / flag football fence throughout the flag football season. These will be purchased from Misc. on Main. Sponsors would pay \$100.00 and if they choose to sponsor next year, the fee would be reduced to \$50.00. Mayor Morlan stated the banners are expected to last four years.

Council member McLaughlin stated there were 18 applications. The Park and Recreation Committee is recommending Brooke Garringer as the manager and three applicants to work both assistant manager and lifeguard positions and paid accordingly. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve Resolution No. 2024-01-4 re: approving pool personnel for the 2024 swimming season. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member McLaughlin reviewed the resolution outlining the rates for the 2024 swimming season. The only change was the rental of the pool up to 30 people will be a charge of \$200.00 and include two lifeguards. The rental of the pool for over 30 people will be a charge of \$250.00 and include three lifeguards. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Iosbaker, to approve Resolution No. 2024-01-5 re: establishing City Pool Rates and information for calendar year 2024. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz and Clark. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Street and Sanitation: A Street and Sanitation Committee meeting was set for Monday, February 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Water and Wastewater: Director of Public Works I Northup stated the Public Works Department has one lawn mower that is a 2020. It is four years-old and they would like to trade it in on a new one. With the trade-in the cost of a new lawn mower is \$4,200.00. Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the purchase of a lawn mower with a trade-in with the balance of \$4,200.00. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Schultz and Clark. Nays: None. Abstain: Lentz. Motion approved. *(Council member Lentz abstained as she is an employee of Sinclair Tractor where the lawn mower will be purchased.)*

Public Safety: Council member Clark reported the Public Safety Committee along with the Police Chief spoke with two top candidates. Everything came back good with the MMPs. There was a conditional offer, contingent upon Council approval, to one of the candidates. This was declined as they were getting a job elsewhere. The second candidate also declined an offer at this time. They are still in the process of looking for candidates.

Finance: Council member Conrad reported the Finance Committee has been looking at budgets. Starting next month there will be budget items at every meeting.

Public Input: There was no public input.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Jimmy Morlan, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Angela K. Alderson, City Clerk