

**CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023**

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, with Mayor Morlan presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark and Conrad. Others present were: Rodger Aller; Casey Jarmes, Sigourney News Review; Don Northup, Director of Public Works I; and Angie Alderson, City Clerk.

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

Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Tish, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: minutes of the regular Council meeting of March 1, 2023; Council Accounts Payable Claims in the amount of \$26,486.02; Ashley Fry to attend the IMFOA (Iowa Municipal Finance Officers Association) Spring Conference 2023 on Thursday April 20, 2023 in Des Moines at a cost of \$125.00; Tax Exemption Application for BDH, LLC at an empty lot on SADC Avenue (Resolution No. 2023-03-02); Liquor License Application for James Ahlberg (DBA: The Keswick Tavern) at 22400 220<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Sigourney, Iowa for Class C Retail Alcohol License (5 Day); community betterment project; credit card report; and the time and place for the April 5, 2023 regular Council meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark and Conrad. Nays: None. Motion approved.

**Additional City Business:** Rodger Aller reported there has been nothing done on the Façade project the last two weeks. The City, contractor and architect have been working on the punch list. On the 103 South Jefferson Street project the flooring was laid for the bathroom and laundry room, so now they can set the furnace. They are running the duct work for the furnace. It is moving along slowly. There are about 30 working days until May 1<sup>st</sup>. Mayor Morlan added there are a few items that need to be addressed. He has contacted Rod Curtis and Rod Grooms. They are planning to get together with an inspector to look at the roof on 119 East Marion Street again. No one had any leaks from the last rain, but there are still questions. Mayor Morlan stated they will be meeting the week of March 20<sup>th</sup>. The building owners are invited and anyone else that would like to attend.

There is a Change Order for the door between 117 and 119 East Marion Street to the upper-level apartments. Both owners have signed the Change Order Request. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Clark, to approve Change Order 117 - #19 for 117 East Marion Street – Sigourney Façade Project – Phase 1. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark and Conrad. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Iosbaker, to approve Change Order No. 1 for the Upper Story Project at 103 South Jefferson Street, Sigourney, Iowa. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark and Conrad. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member McLaughlin, to approve Change Order No. 2 for the Upper Story Project at 103 South Jefferson Street, Sigourney, Iowa. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark and Conrad. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Iosbaker reported for SADC (Sigourney Area Development Corporation). The strategic planning for the childcare project final meeting concluded last week. They will be receiving the final report on March 17<sup>th</sup>. SADC will then share the findings and the strategic plans that have developed with various groups and interested parties around town. There will be a series of meetings and SADC is looking for feedback. Hopefully they will be able to recruit some help. In response to the guidance SADC received from their members at the annual meeting, they are starting to organize some business mixers for various organizations in Sigourney and ultimately, they would like to invite people countywide. They would like eventually to hold mixers in other locations. The idea is to allow the business owners to begin to network. They will try to do this once a month. They are also going to try to start organizing sections where various topics will bring in speakers and revive a program that had begun in 2019 before COVID SADC hopes these will be some tangible benefits for local businesses.

**Park and Recreation:** City Clerk Alderson stated this resolution for pool employees includes six new applicants. One approved applicant will not be able to work this summer as her full-time job has changed. Another lifeguard has agreed to work as an Assistant Manager as well as Lifeguard. Carolyn Holm has agreed to help by being an Assistant Manager as well. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Clark, to approve Resolution No. 2023-03-03 re: Pool Personnel for the 2023 Swimming Season. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark and Conrad. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member McLaughlin stated that the Council hires a Flag Football Director each year. The salary will remain the same and nothing has changed from previous years. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Tish, to approve the Display Ad for the Flag Football Director Position. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark and Conrad. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Mayor Morlan opened the bid spraying at the City's parks and other city properties. There was one bid from Backs Lawn Care.

Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Iosbaker, to approve Backs Lawn Care for spraying at the City's parks and other properties. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark and Conrad. Nays: None. Motion approved.

**Public Safety:** Council member Clark, Public Safety Committee Chairperson, reminded the Council that a gentleman had attended the prior Council meeting and asked the Council to possibly change the City's ordinance regarding fireworks. The Public Safety Committee met (Clark and McLaughlin were the only ones able to attend) and after discussion would like to leave everything as is and try to include the future Police Chief in these types of decisions and changing ordinances that the Police Department will ultimately have to be enforcing. That is their recommendation at this time unless there are any other Council members that would like them to go back and look at changing something.

Council member Clark stated the Public Safety Committee would like to put another ad out for a Police Chief and one of the incentives to attract a Police Chief would be a sign on bonus. A lot of agencies are offering sign-on bonuses varying from \$5,000.00 to \$20,000.00 depending on the community. They would like to recommend a \$5,000.00 sign-on bonus with a two-year contract. They would receive \$2,500.00 after the date of hire and after they have passed all the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy requirements. After year one they would get the additional \$2,500.00. Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Tish, to approve a sign on bonus for the Police Chief position in the amount of \$5,000.00. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark and Conrad. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Clark stated the Public Safety Committee would like to advertise for a Police Chief and are asking for a budget. The intentions are to put the ad in the Sigourney News Review one week a month and air it on the radio through KBOE one week out of each month. This will be put out on other websites, etc. They would like a \$5,000.00 advertising budget. Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Iosbaker, to approve a \$5,000.00 advertising budget for the Police Department. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark and Conrad. Nays: None. Motion approved.

City Clerk Alderson reviewed the changes made to the Police Chief ad from the previous advertisement. Council member Lentz moved, seconded by Council member Tish, to approve the display ad for advertising the Police Chief position in the Sigourney News Review and for radio spot ads with KBOE. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: McLaughlin, Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark and Conrad. Nays: None. Motion approved.

**Public Input:** Council member McLaughlin asked when the compost site will be open. Director of Public Works I Northup stated that it will be sometime in April. It will need to dry up considerably.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

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Jimmy Morlan, Mayor

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