

CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA
MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, with Mayor Morlan presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish (*via speakerphone*), Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Others present were: Rodger Aller; Casey Jarmes, Sigourney News Review; Brent Gilliland, Director of Public Works II, 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 Clark, to approve the tentative agenda. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Mayor Morlan stated on the Consent Agenda items C and D (*March 2023 Financials*) would need to be removed from the Consent Agenda. Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member McLaughlin, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of April 19, 2023; Council Accounts Payable Claims in the amount of \$11,803.38; Beckie Appleget to attend the Iowa Municipal Professionals Institute in Ames held July 17-20, 2023 and to use the City's Credit Card for Hotel Accommodations and Meals; Community Betterment Project(s); credit card report; and the time and place for the May 17, 2023 regular Council meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Additional City Business: Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Clark, to approve the second reading of Ordinance Title VII – Special Ordinance, Chapter 10 – Electric Transmission Franchise and Granting to ITC Midwest LLC, a Wholly Owned Subsidiary of ITC Holdings Corp., Its Successors and Assigns (the "Company"), the Right and Franchise to Acquire, Construct, Reconstruct, Erect, Maintain, Operate and Remove in the City of Sigourney, Keokuk County, Iowa, a Transmission System for Electric Power and the Right to Erect and Maintain the Necessary Poles, Lines, Wires, Conduits and Other Appliances, Equipment and Substations for the Transmission of Electric Current and Telecommunications Along, Under and Upon the Streets, Avenues, Alleys and Public Places in the City of Sigourney, Keokuk County, Iowa; Granting the Right to Erect and Maintain Upon the Streets, Avenues, Alleys and Public Places, Transmission Lines Through the City of Sigourney, Keokuk County, Iowa, for the Period of Twenty-five (25) Years; and Granting the Right of Eminent Domain. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Rodger Aller reported on the Façade project. There have been a few things done on the punch list at Barn Wired. That is all that has been completed in the last few weeks. Today there was supposed to be a walk through at 103 South Jefferson Street (*Upper Story project*). The architect arrived and stated there were still too many things to do and he would not do a walk through. Another walk through has been scheduled for May 10th. One of the Change Orders is for an extension to May 15th. Larry Dietrich had a Change Order for his front door. There is quite a list of things left to do. There is no water in the facility yet, but they do have the countertops and should have the sinks and stuff set by tomorrow. There is no natural gas yet, but they are waiting for a meter to be set from Alliant Energy. Other than that, there are a lot of little things that need to be completed. Mayor Morlan stated that on the Façade project, the door at 101 East Marion Street at the Main Street entrance has been adjusted, so it is opening and closing properly.

Change Order No. 4 for 103 South Jefferson Street is a request to extend the completion date for this project. City Clerk Alderson stated she spoke with the project manager and was told they are allowing grant extensions. Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member McLaughlin, to approve Change Order No. 4 for Sigourney Upper Story at 103 South Jefferson Street, Sigourney, Iowa. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Mayor Morlan stated Change Order No. 5 for 103 South Jefferson Street is for the amount of \$1,450.00 for the front door. Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve Change Order No. 5 for Sigourney Upper Story at 103 South Jefferson Street, Sigourney, Iowa. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Iosbaker reported for Keokuk County Economic Development. The Committee is actively planning the Car Show well ahead of the schedule from last year. Preparations for the Farmers Market are well ahead of schedule from last year as well. They are working on a strategic plan to be shared with the board on the Childcare Initiative. There will be an initial walk through with the board at the next meeting. There was a successful mixer at First Resources last week. Which turned into an interesting round table discussion and was time well spent. There was an opportunity to build some relationships with the people at First Resources, understand what their skill sets are and what they can do for the community and give us an opportunity to figure out how we might work together on a couple of things. The next mixer will be at Keokuk County Bowl.

Street and Sanitation: Brent Gilliland, Director of Public Works II, stated the streets are all completed, and the contractor is out of here. The concrete crew will go back in and fix all the manholes. They will do all the sidewalks. They have been boring and working pretty hard. Council member Tish asked if the lines would be repainted on the streets on the square and just off? Gilliland stated that will be taken care of when everything is done.

Council member Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve Pay Estimate No. 2 for Norris Asphalt Paving Co., LC, for the Proposed Street Improvements – HMA Surfacing – Sigourney, IA (21-144). Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

A Street and Sanitation Committee Meeting was set for Wednesday, May 10th at 5:30 p.m.

Water and Wastewater: Brent Gilliland, Director of Public Works II stated for several years the City has been renting a vacuum to clean out the storm sewers. They have found that they are very useful for putting in signs, cleaning storm sewers, cleaning lift stations, stuff at the new lagoons so no one has to get into confined spaces. This is safer. It can be used to fix water leaks and to dig around utilities to find a gas main so there is not a problem with a backhoe hitting it. City Clerk Alderson stated that in discussions with the Public Works Department they would like to use the Sewer Surcharge money to pay for this. There is just under \$500,000.00 in the fund. The Surcharge definition is “. . . it shall be designated as a repair fund dedicated exclusively to addressing extraneous flows (inflow and infiltration) and to a Capital Improvements Project Fund for improvements to the wastewater treatment system.” City Clerk Alderson is asking if the Council thinks this piece of equipment would fall into that. This machine costs around \$86,000.00. Gilliland explained that this is a vacuum that is basically like a grain vac. It is a vacuum, but you use pressurized water that has a tank on it to hold water and it actually has a cutting tip that you can cut. They can dig ten feet straight down. When we rent this machine, it is about \$1,500.00 each time we rent it. They were going to rent it to try to vac out the pool when they clean it this year as they have had too many accidents, but there was not a machine available when they needed it. This should help them to not hit other utilities (that are hard to find) and then we do not have to pay to fix that. This machine should go around 15 years without any major maintenance, and it should eventually pay for itself. There are so many utilities in the City’s Right of Ways that it is hard to not hit something. Sometimes the guys hand dig if they know something is there and the locate companies have not been there. Sometimes items get hit that are mismarked by the locate companies so hopefully this will help eliminate some of that. The Council discussed the costs of repairing utilities that get hit and end up being the City’s fault. The DNR is asking cities to do a lead line survey. To complete it, we would need to dig up almost every line in town. That would mean getting a backhoe in, digging down and seeing what kind of line is in there. But with this it would allow the guys to dig down 6 inches to look at the line and then clean up the mess. Council member Conrad stated that he would think if this machine were to improve all of those other things, which keeping it clean and maintaining it, would have to be similar. He would think that a dirty storm sewer compared to a clean storm sewer would be an improvement. There may need to be some investigation to know for sure. If we cannot pay for it as we would like, we may need to raise the rates to accommodate this. City Clerk Alderson stated there is a second quote. Gilliland stated that the Vermeer is a diesel and will last longer overall and the guy comes through every month and checks on them. It is a better machine. The other machine is \$18,000.00 cheaper, but it is smaller and is not a diesel and a new power washer will need to be purchased from the start. Council member Clark stated he was afraid that it would sit at the shop and only be used three times a year. Gilliland stated it will definitely be used more than that. Gilliland reviewed some of the items it could be used for in detail. City Clerk Alderson stated she would get ahold of the Auditor and see if they agree that this definition would allow for this purchase. Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve purchasing a vacuum excavator from Vermeer contingent upon being able to do that financing through the Sewer Surcharge Fund. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Tish, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

A Water Committee Meeting was set for Wednesday, May 10th at 5:00 p.m.

A Sewer Committee Meeting was set for Tuesday, May 9th at 5:30 p.m.

City Clerk: City Clerk Alderson reminded the Council that Sherrie Casper is retiring on Friday, May 12th. We are planning an open house from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. We are also planning a lunch from Noon to 1 p.m. She asked the Council if anyone wanted to come. The cost is \$10.00 per person for food and a gift.

Public Input: There was no public input.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Jimmy Morlan, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Angela K. Alderson, City Clerk