

REGULAR CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, April 4, 2023 – 5:00 P.M.
Council Chambers – Denison, Iowa

The regular council meeting of the City of Denison, Iowa, was held pursuant to law on the above date and hour. Mayor Pro Tem Curnyn called the meeting to order with the following members present: Curnyn, Granzen, Logan, and Miller. Absent: Garcia.

Mayor Pro Tem Curnyn led the pledge of allegiance.

5:00 p.m. Public Hearing was held on the amendment to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Denison, Iowa, on the proposal to establish a franchise fee for Black Hills/Iowa Gas Utility Company, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy for natural gas sold in Denison, Iowa. There were no oral or written objections. Curnyn declared the hearing closed.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Logan, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Granzen, seconded by Logan to approve the following items on the consent agenda: a) approve and waive the reading of the minutes for 3/21/2023 Second Council Minutes and 3/21/2023 Planning Session Minutes; b) approve the bills as presented; and c) approve liquor licenses for: El Michoacano, Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

There was no Citizen Input.

Kempfert, Parks and Rec Director, stated the department received a grant from Paint Iowa Beautiful for 9 gallons of paint. They also received a grant from the Minnesota Twins for equipment, including baseball and softball gloves to give away to families who cannot afford gloves.

Members from the Temporary Aid Program (TAP) Board expressed concerns about the City potentially moving their program to a different location. They explained their operating procedures and the issues moving would cause. The TAP board stated they are happy with their current location. Council agreed that they would not move forward with a location change at this time.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Granzen, to allow the Public Works Department to rent a Durapatcher for one month, in the amount of \$7,200.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Curnyn, to approve the landscaping bid to Phils Lawn and Landscaping for the Boulders Event Center in the amount of \$6,800.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Logan, seconded by Granzen, to approve the quote from Volkert Sales for a Dixie Chopper Classic 3160 in the amount of \$10,600.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Granzen, seconded by Logan, to approve the quote from Carroll Control Systems Inc for Water Treatment Services for two years in the amount of \$8,800.00. Motion carried unanimously. Council would like Martens to look at adding a monitoring system for the units.

Discussion was held the Housing Committee's recommendation for the Oak Ridge Heights lots. The recommendation is to sell the two lots for \$1.00 each, the type of house and square footage must be included, along with the construction starting within 12 months of the purchase and completed within 24 months. If the purchaser fails to complete construction within the terms, the land will go back to the City. Council would like Hanson to review the covenants for the property and would like to accept sealed bids starting at \$1.00. Hanson will work on an ad for Council approval.

Motion by Granzen, seconded by Miller, to approve the lease for Burgess Acres by and between the City of Denison and Terry Evers (Tenant). Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on Donna Reed Road Bridge project. Hanson received an email from Paul Assman, County Engineer, to schedule a meeting with Union Pacific and their project evaluation fee is \$50,000.00. Martens, Curnyn and Granzen will represent the City.

Hanson stated that the company inspecting the elevator at Boulders has breached their contract. He researched the contract and found that the agreement was never approved by Council and believes it is unenforceable. City Attorney Brick confirmed the agreement if unenforceable and recommends sending a letter to end the contract. Motion by Curnyn, seconded by Miller, to have the attorney send a letter to terminate the Boulders Elevator agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on the City Manager position. Council would like to proceed with the City Manager position and have Jack Reed, Iowa Negotiations and Consulting, help with the job description, advertisement, and profile. Council would like to set a \$30,000 pay range. Motion by Curnyn, seconded by Logan, to start the process to hiring a City Manager. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on the Interim City Manager. Flaherty will handle the day-to-day operations. Snowgren will handle projects and meetings. Flaherty and Snowgren will work together to ensure City business is moving forward. If the interim position lasts longer than two months, Council will reevaluate the interim position. Motion by Logan, seconded by Granzen, to appoint Jodie Flaherty and Cory Snowgren as Co-Interim City Managers and set an additional weekly wage of \$900.00 for Flaherty and \$600.00 for Snowgren, effective 05/17/2023. Motion carried unanimously. Curnyn asked Hanson to copy Flaherty and Snowgren on all correspondence.

Discussion was on the Interim Police Chief. Granzen read Councilmember Garcia's recommendation. She recommends appointing co-interim Chiefs, Yovan Cardenas and Mitchell Flaherty. Cardenas will run the day-to-day operations and Flaherty will work part-time. Cardenas will be classified as salary exempt and Flaherty will be paid hourly. Garcia recommends a wage of \$40.00 per hour. Motion by Granzen, seconded by Curnyn, to appoint Cardenas and Flaherty as co-interim Police Chiefs at a wage of \$40.00 per hour with Cardenas as salary exempt position and Flaherty being paid as hourly, effective 04/06/2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Granzen, seconded by Miller, to approve the Police Chief Job Description with the addition of "running the Communications Center." Motion carried unanimously.

Hanson presented Council with additional option for advertising for the Police Chief position. Hanson recommends advertising at Bulletin-Review, Daily NonPareil, National Minority Update, and Sioux City Journal. Motion by Logan, seconded by Miller, to advertising based on Hanson's recommendations. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on Part-Time Police Officer Wage. Consensus was to increase the part-time wage to match the current certified officer's wage. Flaherty will prepare a wage resolution for the next Council meeting.

Discussion was held on adding an overtime policy. Council would like to schedule a Handbook Committee meeting and bring a recommendation to Council. Motion by Miller, seconded by Curnyn, to table the overtime policy. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on FY 23/24 wages. Flaherty stated that Jack Reed recommended a four percent wage increase and that is what was budgeted. Council would like to create a task force to review comparable wages and bring their recommendations to a future Council meeting. Curnyn and Granzen agreed to be on the task force.

Resolution #2023-25 was introduced Setting Date of Public Hearing on Proposed Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract, Estimates of Cost, and Taking Bids for the Construction of the 2023 Weiss Family Safe Routes to Schools Trail Project in the City of Denison, Iowa. Motion by Miller, seconded by Logan, to set the public hearing for 04/18/2023 at 5:00 p.m. and approve Resolution #2023-25. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution #2023-26 was introduced Approving and Adopting a Revenue Purpose statement for the use or Expenditure of Fee Revenues from Natural Gas Franchise Fees (Black Hills). Motion by Granzen, seconded by Logan, to approve Resolution #2023-26. Motion carried unanimously.

Hanson stated that recommends three readings on the ordinance establishing a franchise fee. On the next agenda he will have a resolution setting the public hearing to update the Black Hills Energy franchise agreement.

Ordinance was introduced to Establish a Franchise Fee for Black Hills/Iowa Gas Utility Company, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy for natural gas sold in Denison, Iowa. Motion Miller, seconded by Granzen, to adopt the 1st reading. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance was introduced Amending Section 105.17-Solid Waste Control and Recycling-Fees and Charges. Motion by Miller, seconded by Logan, to adopt the first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance was introduced Amending Chapter 55 and 56-Animal Protection and Control plus Dangerous Animal. Motion by Miller, seconded by Logan, to adopt the first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

Curnyn reiterated that during the City Manager transition that Flaherty and Snowgren need to be copied on all correspondence.

Hanson stated he is currently working on the IT policy. After completing it he will have ICAP review the policy before presenting the policy for Council approval.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Corey Curnyn, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Jodie Flaherty, City Clerk