

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING WITH PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

A Regular Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. at Sabula City Hall, 411 Broad Street, Sabula, Iowa.

The meeting was open to the public in City Hall.

Present: Mayor Troy Hansen, Dave Ward, Mike O'Hara, Jim Phillips, Teena Franzen and Jeremy Diercks

Others Present: Lynn Parker, Wendy Hoertz, Chief Nixon, Travis Woodhurst, John Mangler, Candi Diercks, Sandra Kempter, Lindsey Rittmer, Dan Peiffer, Curt Marzofka, Devin Corbisier, Deb Thayer, Greg & Mary Althoff, Steven Cotton and Brittney & Seth Lawson

Mayor Hansen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Regular Council Meeting

M. O'Hara made a motion to open the regular council meeting; seconded by J. Phillips. All ayes. Motion carried.

Deletions- None

Citizen Concerns- John Mangler asked if the city had weed killer for the streets. Travis Woodhurst stated they had received complaints from residents stating that their grass was killed after spraying the last time. Travis stated that they would spray again.

Consent Agenda

D. Ward made a motion to approve the consent agenda; seconded by M. O'Hara. All ayes. Motion carried. Minutes approved for 7/23/24, claims for August, place on file the Financial Statement and Expenditure/Revenue report for July, approval of the VFW liquor license, the LIHEAP Vendor Agreement for FY 24/25 and approve Resolution #1339, Transfer of Funds.

Appeal a fence permit

Devin Corbisier asked council to consider revoking a fence permit at 306 Elk Street. He stated that although he is in favor of having the fence, it makes it difficult to maintain his home. The fence is only 8 ½ inches away from his home. He isn't even able to mow. Chief Nixon suggested that since this is a civil issue, Devin should reach out to the District Court to try to get a variance/easement. Item died due to lack of motion.

Personal Boat Use

Council had approved, at the previous meeting, the usage of Travis Woodhurst's boat. The cities insurance company is now saying that it would be difficult for the city to establish insurable interest for a non-owned boat. He suggests the use of the fire boat. After discussion, council decided to have the attorney develop a memorandum that the owner would be liable for

damages and reimbursement would be paid through the FEMA reimbursement. M. O'Hara made a motion to develop a memorandum; seconded by J. Phillips. All ayes. Motion carried.

Special Fence Permit

Barb Gregg, 712 River Street asked for a special permit so she could have the "good" side of the fence facing her house. The ordinance states that the posts and all supporting members face to the owner's side. M. O'Hara made a motion to deny the fence permit; seconded by D. Ward. All ayes. Motion carried.

Special Permit, 407 River

T. Franzen made a motion to approve the Special Building Permit for Greg & Mary Althof at 407 River Street; seconded by D. Ward. All ayes. Motion carried. This permit is a special because the home is 3 feet off of the sidewalk.

Special Permit, 603 Broad Street

D. Ward made a motion to approve the Special Building Permit for Ryan Lott at 603 Broad Street; seconded by T. Franzen. All ayes. Motion carried. This is a special permit because the porch is 18' 3" from the curb.

Purchase EV Banners/Welcome to Sabula

Lindsey Rittmer represented the Community Club to ask council to help pay for Easton Valley/Welcome to Sabula banners. They would like to buy 4 school banners and 2 Welcome banners. T. Franzen made a motion to approve the purchase and pay up to \$2000 out of Economic Development; seconded by D. Ward. All ayes. Motion carried.

Electrical Outlet for Island City Days

D. Ward made a motion to approve the requested work for Island City Days; seconded by J. Phillips. All ayes. Motion carried. A switch will be added to the pole across from Dave Rittmer to control bugs and for the fireworks display. Travis stated that the City would have to contract Gruhn Electric for the work and we did have some supplies that they could use.

Update on Levee Repair

Travis Woodhurst updated the council on the south levee repair. Rip Rap is no longer an option. The repair is going to use more sand than the allotted purchase of 200 CY. The Corps does have access to free sand but this will extend the repair time.

Resolution #1337, Jackson County Mitigation Plan

T. Franzen made a motion to approve the Jackson County Mitigation Plan; seconded by D. Ward. All ayes. Motion carried.

Request for Living in Camper

Greg & Mary Althof asked council to approve their request to stay in their camper while they rebuild their home that was struck by lightning. They intend to park it at their rental home at 301 Elk Street. D. Ward made a motion to approve their request while doing construction; seconded by T. Franzen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Utility bill for 410 Pearl Street

Curt Pfaffinger requested that their utility bill be addressed. They state that 80% of their bill is for utilities that they aren't using. They are being charged for garbage and they didn't receive toters. They feel that it isn't fair, they've only used electric. Wendy H. stated that they had sent a partial payment and that she didn't know that the totes hadn't been delivered. The city does have a policy that if you have electric you must pay for water, sewer, and garbage. There is also a \$20 infrastructure fee. Mayor Hansen said that they must pay the remainder of the bill. M. O'Hara made a motion to table the item for further discussion; seconded by J. Phillips. All ayes. Motion carried.

Police report

During this month of August, we received 37 miscellaneous aid-information calls, 87 officer-initiated call, 0 assisted with the ambulance/fire department, 1 motor vehicle accidents, 6 assists with county or other agency, 3 requested assistance from other agency, 14 police citations issued, 1 arrest made, 0 pending cases for investigation, 8 warnings given on miscellaneous violations, 0 cases for further investigation and 9 reports taken. 124 total police involved events.

Update on 210 Bank/516 Pearl Street

Chief Nixon stated that the owner failed to attend court. The city attorney stated that we could send him a 48 hour-notice to clean up the property. We can assess the property taxes for wages, dumpster use, other fees, etc. M. O'Hara made a motion to proceed; seconded by T. Franzen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Update on 1011 River Street

Chief Nixon stated that Mr. Robertson fails to return calls and he has failed the abatement. He asked the courts to remedy the situation w/ the blocks and is concerned about safety. Mayor Hansen stated that since Chief Nixon used the words "failed" we should proceed as we are with 210 Bank. D. Ward made a motion to proceed with 1011 River Street abatement; seconded by T. Franzen. Ayes from D. Ward, T. Franzen, J. Diercks and J. Phillips. M. O'Hara abstained. The city staff will proceed with the removal of the cinder blocks.

Painting Crosswalks

Chief Nixon informed council that he had obtained a quote for painting crosswalks/parking lines from Kettelsen Striping. T. Franzen made a motion to approve the quote; seconded by J. Phillips. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting made by T. Franzen and seconded by M. O'Hara. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Troy Hansen, Mayor

Lynn Parker, City Clerk