

August 5, 2013

The regular meeting of the Decorah City Council was called to order by Mayor Don Arendt at 6:30 p.m. at the new Street Department Shop.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Jarrad Walter, Jody Niess, Paul Wanless, Carolyn Corbin, Randy Schissel, Gary Rustad, and Rachel Vagts.

Motion by Wanless, second by Rustad to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Schissel, second by Niess, to approve items on the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of the July 15 and 23, 2013 meetings
- b. Claims
- c. Renewal Class C Liquor License for Stone Hearth including Sunday Sales
- d. Renewal Class C Liquor License for Rubaiyat including Sunday Sales
- e. **PPE #2** Claiborne and State Street Project - \$215,770.55

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Schissel, second by Rustad, to approve a Special Event Application for the Water Street Music Series pending receipt of a certificate of insurance. Event will be held at the west end of Main St. at the trail head parking area. Applicant is to notify residents along the west end of Main St. that they will have access to their homes. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Wanless, second by Corbin, to approve an agreement with the County E911 Board to mount radio controller equipment for the Water Department on the communications tower located at the Law Enforcement Center. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1154 respecifying sidewalk specifications and construction responsibilities of the City and abutting property owners was introduced and read for the second time. Motion by Rustad, second by Schissel, to approve the second reading. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1155 amending Chapter 13.20 regarding water rates was introduced and read for the second time. Motion by Corbin, second by Walter, to approve the second reading. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1156 amending Chapter 13.28 regarding sewer rates was introduced and read for the second time. Motion by Wanless, second by Niess to approve the second reading. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1157 amending Chapter 12.20 regarding sidewalk displays was introduced and read for the first time. Motion by Rustad, second by Schissel to approve the first reading.

Councilperson Niess questioned whose responsibility it is to enforce the ordinance and what the consequences are for non-compliance. As there was no provision in the ordinance for enforcement, Councilpersons Rustad and Schissel rescinded their motion and second pending review of Chapter 12 Sidewalks to determine if there is an existing enforcement provision that would apply to sidewalk displays.

Mayor Arendt opened for discussion the possibility of raising Council compensation, noting it needs to be done by Ordinance which requires 3 readings and must be done prior to January 1. He reviewed the pay of surrounding communities noting Decorah's has not been raised since 1999.

Numerous Councilpersons expressed the opinion that the City has more important uses of our resources and that pay should not be increased.

Councilperson Corbin expressed her opinion that it was worth discussion. She believes there is a lot more involved than just attendance at Council meetings. It takes a lot more time than that.

Mayor Arendt requested it be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

Mayor Arendt announced his candidacy for re-election in the fall.

Meeting adjourned on motion.



Wanda Hemesath, MMC  
City Clerk, Tr.