

May 16, 2016

The regular meeting of the Decorah City Council was called to order by Mayor Don Arendt at 5:45 p.m.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Dan Bellrichard, Andy Carlson, Gary Rustad, Steve Luse, Randy Schissel, Kirk Johnson, Chuck Lore

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

Nancy Sacquitne, Public Health, advised on the activities of the Winneshiek Emergency Preparedness Coalition. She encouraged all to sign up for the WENS emergency notification system.

Sean Snyder, Emergency Management Coordinator, explained the importance of education and training on NIMS (National Incident Management System). The IS100 and IS700 is basic training required by all Councilmembers to be fully eligible for federal funding in the event of an emergency. He offered to assist with this training, either as a group or individually, and encouraged the Council to complete this in the near future.

Jeff Gepper, University of Iowa, Iowa Sustainable Communities, gave a brief recap of the final MetroNet Study report outlining their findings and recommendations.

Mayor Arendt announced a request to remove Item H. Consideration of C-3 Commercial Design Review for 521 W Water St., Lifetime Financial Solutions, LLC from the consent agenda.

Motion by Bellrichard, second by Carlson to approve remaining consent agenda items as follows:

- a. Minutes of the May 2, 2016 meeting
- b. Claims
- c. Renewal Class B Beer Permit for Pulpit Rock Brewing including Sunday Sales and Outdoor Service Area
- d. Renewal Special Class C Beer/Wine Permit for Luther College including Sunday Sales
- e. Renewal Special Class C Beer/Wine Permit for Luther College, Baker Commons including Sunday Sales
- f. Consider C-3 Commercial Design Review re: 206 West Water Street; T-Bock's Sports Bar & Grill
- g. Consider C-3 Commercial Design Review re: 214 Winnebago Street; Farm Bureau
- h. Request to close Washington from Water to Main for Patriotic Concert May 24, 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- i. Request to close Main Street from Court to Winnebago for Lawn Chair Night.

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Item H. Consideration of C-3 Commercial Design review for 521 W Water St., Lifetime Financial Solutions, LLC, was opened for discussion.

Councilperson Luse stated he would like to postpone action on this request until the Historic Preservation Commission has the opportunity to comment.

Councilperson Rustad stated Historic Preservation has not given comments on any other downtown sign project.

City Manager Bird stated the request meets zoning and downtown design guidelines and was unanimously approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Motion by Luse to postpone action until Historic Preservation can consult with the property owner and Planning and Zoning. Motion died for lack of second.

Motion by Johnson, second by Rustad, to approve as requested. Roll call vote. Voting aye: Johnson, Rustad, Bellrichard, Carlson, Lore, Schissel. Voting nay: Luse.

Motion by Bellrichard, second by Rustad, to approve a professional services agreement for \$15,600 with Erdman Engineering for the Pleasant Avenue Street Project.

Councilperson Luse questioned what the established fee is based on and would like an itemization of the scope of work. Erdman responded saying each project is different depending upon the specifications of the project. As this particular project doesn't include items such as water/sewer/sidewalks it is about 12% of the project costs.

The Mayor called for the vote. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

This being the time and date for a public hearing on the proposed plans, specifications, cost estimate and assessment schedule for the Pleasant Ave. Street Project the hearing was opened.

William Remington and Chris Redenius, 1703 Pleasant Ave. and 1701 Pleasant Ave. respectively, stated though they appreciate repairs to this road being considered they have concerns regarding the assessments to their respective properties. They reminded council there is no city water nor does the city have any investment in the development of the property. They stated the majority of the traffic along their frontage is accessed by others.

Erdman explained the state requirements for assessments to property for street improvements and stated all such assessments are determined using the same basic formula.

Keri Bodensteiner, 1701 Pleasant Ave., stated the city should improve communications with affected property owners.

The public hearing was closed.

Councilperson Schissel questioned the decision to downgrade the property to the east as he believes it is developable. Erdman stated he treated a section of it as undevelopable with the remaining portion having 5 potential lots but none accessible from Pleasant.

Motion by Rustad, second by Lore, to adopt Resolution 2733 approving the preliminary plans, specifications, cost estimate and assessment schedule for the Pleasant Ave Street Project. Roll call vote. Voting aye: Rustad, Lore, Bellrichard, Johnson. Voting nay: Luse, Carlson, Schissel. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the Dry Run Trail extension project. City Manager Bird outlined several options in regards to this project. 1. Include the project in the DOT Hwy 9/52 Intersection Project when bid. This could save some administration and engineering costs but the City would be committed to accept the bid even if over our funding sources. At this time, there is no reserve funding to cover an overage. 2. The project can be redesigned and bid alone. The city would be able to determine if additional funds may be available or could be raised prior to or during construction. 3. Defer the project and not pursue bidding at this time – attempt to raise additional funds from other sources and re-bid when all parties believe sufficient funding is available. However, there is a 10-year limit on the grant funds so strict adherence to the timetable should be considered.

No action taken.

Motion by Luse, second by Carlson to approve an amended FBO agreement for airport operations. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Schissel, second by Rustad, to approve the site plan for Toppling Goliath, Millennium Road. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Luse, second by Carlson, to submit a Letter of Intent to the IDNR expressing interest in participating in a deer depredation program. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1183 amending Chapter 13.20 raising water rates 15% was introduced and read for the first time. Motion by Carlson, second by Johnson, to approve the first reading. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1184 amending Chapter 13.28 raising sewer rates 10% was introduced and read for the first time. Motion by Luse, second by Carlson, to approve the first reading. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned on motion.



Wanda Hemesath, MMC
City Clerk, Tr.