

REGULAR SESSION

May 10, 2023

The Essex City Council met in regular session at the Essex Community Room at 7:00 PM. Mayor Kinney called the meeting to order and roll call was taken showing the following members of the Council present or absent. Present: Ballinger, Eshelman, Franks, Thornton, Wenstrand. Absent: none. City Clerk Ohnmacht was also present.

The Agenda was approved. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Guests present: John Krager, Tess Nelson, Jana Schmidt, Sandy Correll, Patty Perry, Jeremy Schmidt, Peggy Johnson, Dennis Gresham, Lyl Ellis, Tracey Ellis and Diane Liljedahl.

No public comments.

Acceptance of monthly police report: April 9, 2023 – May 6, 2023. Motion by Franks, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Acceptance of delinquent utilities report. Motion by Ballinger, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Approval of library board going from ten member board to 9 members. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Franks. This will be on the November ballot.

Approval Construction of 2022 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Resolution approving construction contract and bond. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Public Hearing: Sale of 705 Burlington Avenue was opened by Mayor Kinney. Patty Perry spoke of their plans for the lot. Peggy Johnson spoke in favor of the plans. The public hearing was closed. Motion to approve the sale of 705 Burlington Avenue to Jeremy Schmidt and Patty Perry for \$800 by Franks, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Approval 28E Agreement for shared position of Essex Community Development Director with the Essex Community School and the Essex Community Club. Motion by Thornton, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval of hiring Tess Nelson as Essex Community Development Director. Motion by Eshelman, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval of property purchase proposal of 710 Iowa Avenue from Johnson Fence LLC in the amount of \$2,500. Motion by Thornton, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Approval JEO Water Agreement. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Approval of chicken permit presented by Lyl Ellis. Motion by Eshelman, second by Thornton. Ayes: Eshelman, Thornton. Nays: Ballinger, Franks, Wenstrand. Motion failed.

Resolution to change Planning and Zoning Board from 7 member board to 5 members. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval of tree treatment bid from Larry Anderson. \$1,700 to treat ten trees. Motion by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Approval of Blacktop Services work to be done this summer on Iowa Avenue. Estimate of \$119,109.54. Motion by Eshelman, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

The Opera House was discussed. It was decided to allow weekend rentals until the front deck is complete.

Approval Essex Community Club June 10, 2023 Anderson Park event with alcohol permit. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval Casey's Marketing Company Cigarette/Tobacco/Nicotine/Vapor Application. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Public comments on agenda items: Lyl Ellis asked if there was anything that could be changed on her chicken permit to have it approved.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Minutes: April 12, 2023; Treasurer's Report: April 30, 2023; Abstract of Claims: April 13, 2023 – May 10, 2023. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Mayor Kinney passed out his report for the month. He reminded all audience and Council members of the ordinance change that allow citizens with dog issues (barking, at-large) to call the police. No signed complaint is needed.

Nuisance properties will be address at the June meeting. Mowing letters will be reviewed next Tuesday.

Good News:

- Jeff – attended a great leadership class for work
- Betty – two granddaughters graduating
- Heather – excited to have hired Tess
- Nicole – finished planting and then it rained
- Patti – excited to have Bountiful Baskets food cooperative in Essex
- Mary – shared EYS compliment
- Calvin – gratitude

Adjournment at 8:16 PM. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Mayor, Calvin L. Kinney

ATTEST:

City Clerk, Mary A. Ohnmacht