

REGULAR SESSION

June 14, 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 Attorney Sorensen and City Clerk Ohnmacht were also present.

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

Guests present: Carla Kirchert, Jan Humphrey, Loren Johnson, Dennis Gresham, Paul Girouex, and Susan Girouex.

Public comments: Dennis Gresham asked about patching road at the Casey's south entrance.

Acceptance of monthly police report. May 7, 2023 – June 10, 2023. Motion by Ballinger, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Acceptance of delinquent utilities report. Motion by Franks, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval for final issuance of balance due on land purchase for water tower in the amount of \$4,000. Motion by Eshelman, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Essex Youth Sports board resignation tabled.

Carla Kirchert presented the library's proposal to pursue a library foundation.

Construction of 2022 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation.

- Resolution ratifying notice of public hearing and publication thereof. Motion by Franks, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.
- Public hearing on the matter of adoption of plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of cost of resolution.
- Resolution adopting plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of costs. Motion by Ballinger, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.
- Resolution making award of contract. Motion by Thornton, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.
- Resolution approving construction contract and bond. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Website sharing with the ECC will move forward.

Public hearing: Resolution 2023 – 12: Trees was opened by Mayor Kinney. Paul Girouex asked for clarification on the resolution. The public hearing was closed. Motion to approve the first reading of Resolution 2023 – 12 Trees by Eshelman, second by Thornton.

Motion to wave second and third reading of Resolution 2023 – 12: Trees by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All. Motion to approve Resolution 2023 – 12 as Ordinance 2023 -2 by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Public hearing: Resolution 2023 – 14: Water Rates was opened by Mayor Kinney. No oral or written comments were received. The public hearing was closed. Motion to approve the first reading by Wenstrand, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Public hearing: Resolution 2023 – 15: Garbage rates was opened by Mayor Kinney. Paul Girouex asked what the rates were. The public hearing was closed. Motion to approve the first reading by Franks, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Public hearing: Sale of 710 Iowa Avenue was opened by Mayor Kinney. Loren Johnson spoke of his plans for the lot. The public hearing was closed. Motion to approve the sale of 710 Iowa Avenue to Johnson Fence LLC in the amount of \$2,500 by Franks, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Resolution to change planning and zoning members from a 7 person board to five. Motion by Ballinger, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Approval of street closure for July 8, 2023 event on the 400 block of Iowa Avenue. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2023 – 22 Library Transfer of funds. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2023 – 21 Emergency transfer of funds. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Council approved removal of sidewalk at 511 Nebraska Avenue, currently owned by the City. When the lot is sold, it will have the stipulation of purchaser being required to replace the sidewalk.

The city clerk was directed to move forward with contracting with a private CPA firm for the 2023 audit.

Public comments on agenda items: Dennis Gresham questioned the sidewalk removal.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Minutes: May 10, 2023, May 17, 2023; Treasurer's Report: May 31, 2023; Abstract of Claims: May 11, 2023 – June 14, 2023. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Sorensen updated the council on several nuisance properties.

Mayor Kinney reported to the council on multiple items.

Good News:

- Mahlon – Kathy is doing better

- Mary – daughter is coming home for a visit
- Betty – Opera House is complete and looks awesome
- Jeff – thankful for his faith
- Heather – counting down days until school starts
- Nicole – ECC Golf event August 3, 2023
- Patti – ECC event in the park was great. Heritage Park flowers are planted
- Calvin – blessed to be above ground.

Adjournment at 8:04 PM. Motion by Franks, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Mayor, Calvin L. Kinney

ATTEST:

City Clerk, Mary A. Ohnmacht