

## **REGULAR SESSION**

September 13, 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 striking item number 14 (Highway 48 tube clean out). Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Guests present: Dennis Gresham, Kathy Sorensen. Public comments: Dennis Gresham asked about bricks being taken down to brush pile. Also mentioned that Airport Road needed worked on.

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

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

Approval of Sandra McIntyre for membership to Essex Fire and Rescue. Motion by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Public hearing: Planning and Zoning ordinance update. After much council discussion action was tabled for further council research.

Public hearing: Sale of 511 Nebraska Avenue. Roger Davis has offered \$4,000 to the City for the lot. He will update the abstract and install new sidewalks as well. There were no public comments. Motion to approve sale by Eshelman, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Approval that the form of Tax Exemption Certificate be placed on file for Sewer Revenue Capital Loan Note by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution authorizing the Issuance of \$830,000 Sewer Revenue Capital Loan Notes Anticipation Project Note, Series 2023. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval Annual Financial Report Fiscal Year June 30, 2023. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Southview Village presented an offer of \$1,260 per year for ten years for the PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) program. The Council proposed a counter offer of \$1,260 for five years then going to \$2,260 for the next five years. Motion by Franks, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval subordination request 701 Illinois Avenue for the CDBG lien. Motion by Ballinger, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Approval of tree trimming and removal bid of \$2,500 from RC Tree. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Approval of assisting purchasers of 209 Central with landfill fees of \$2,000 or the actual bill (whichever is less). Motion by Franks, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Approval of street closure request from Essex Community Club for Iowa Avenue 500 block on the evening of October 29, 2023. Motion by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Audit Request for Proposals were reviewed. Approval of Broeckelman and Associates to do Fiscal Year 2023 audit. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

The Iowa Department of Revenue new Set Off program was discussed. City Attorney Sorensen will assist with the application.

A class at the high school has asked to help update the community room under the direction of Kathleen Johnson. The Council is looking forward to this project.

Storage containers were discussed. No action taken.

Public comments on Agenda Items: Dennis Gresham mentioned a tree in the parking that is buckling his sidewalk.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Minutes: August 9, 2023, September 1, 2023; Treasurer's Report: August 31, 2023; Abstract of Claims: August 10, 2023 – September 13, 2023. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Sorensen updated the Council on several nuisance properties.

Mayor reported that he would be going to the Iowa League of Cities Annual Conference next week.

City Clerk Ohnmacht reminded Council of the MidAmerican Trees Please grant and discussed what trees were needed.

Good News:

- Heather – been on vacation for 10 days
- Nicole – started refereeing volleyball and it has been a good season so far
- Patti – got a new UTV
- Mahlon – summer moving along
- Jeff – got a great car for family member at Select Motors
- Betty – went to South Dakota with her brother and had a good time
- Mary – house is officially bat free
- Calvin – loves fall and football season.

Adjournment at 8:11 PM. Motion by Franks, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

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Mayor, Calvin L. Kinney

ATTEST:

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City Clerk, Mary A. Ohnmacht