

REGULAR SESSION

December 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, Franks, Thornton, Wenstrand. Absent: Eshelman. City Clerk Ohnmacht was also present. City Attorney Sorensen entered the meeting at 7:16 PM.

The Agenda was approved after removing Approval of Pay Application #2 under Sewer. Motion by Franks, second by Wenstrand.

Members of the public present: Charles McCalla, Dennis Gresham, Barb Foote, Ashle Holmes, Tyler Gartenberg. Charles McCalla, Page County Chief Deputy, introduced himself and announced that he is running for county sheriff.

Barb Foote presented her request for a memorial bench in honor of her daughter Jill. Jill wanted her memorial for something for Labor Day. Barb donated \$1,815 for the bench and concrete pad. Motion to approve bench by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Public hearing for the MidAmerican Energy Franchise renewal was opened by Mayor Kinney. There were no oral or written comments or objections. The public hearing was closed. Motion to approve the first reading by Wenstrand, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All. Motion to waive second and third reading by Wenstrand, second by Thornton. Ayes: All. Motion to approve Ordinance 2023 – 6 An Ordinance Granting MidAmerican Energy Company, It's Successors and Assigns, the Right and Non-Exclusive Franchise to Acquire, Construct, Erect, Maintain and Operate in the City of Essex, Iowa, A Natural Gas System and to Furnish and Sell Natural Gas to the City and Its Inhabitants and Authorizing the City to Collect Franchise Fees for a Period of 25 Years. And Ordinance 2023 – 7 An Ordinance Granting to MidAmerican Energy Company, It's Successors and Assigns, the Right and Non-Exclusive Franchise to Acquire, Construct, Erect, Maintain and Operate in the City of Essex, Iowa, An Electric System And Communications Facilities and to Furnish and Sell Natural Gas to the City and Its Inhabitants and Authorizing the City to Collect Franchise Fees for a Period of 25 Years. Ayes: All.

Public hearing on authorization of a Loan and Disbursement Agreement and Issuance of Notes to evidence the obligation of the City thereunder was opened by Mayor Kinney. There were no oral or written comments or objections. The public hearing was closed.

Approval Resolution approving and authorizing a form of Interim Loan and Disbursement Agreement by and between the City of Essex, Iowa, and the Iowa Finance Authority, and authorizing and providing for the issuance and securing the payment of \$307,000 Water Revenue Capital Loan Note Anticipation Project Note, Series 2024, of the City of Essex, Iowa, under the provisions of the Code of Iowa, and providing for a method of payment of said Notes. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Public hearing on Budget Amendment for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 was opened by Mayor Kinney. There were no oral or written comments or objections. The public hearing was closed.

Approval Resolution 2023 – 29: Adopting Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Acceptance of monthly police report November 5, 2023 – December 9, 2023. Motion by Thornton, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval of Fire Department membership of Bobbi Diehl. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Tabled approval of library assistant.

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

Acceptance of Essex Youth Sports resignations: Alice Walters, Chris Walters, Kaelly Scherff. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval of Essex Youth Sports board member Ashle Holmes with term expiring December 31, 2026. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Approval of Essex Youth Sports board member Bill Whitt with term expiring December 31, 2026. Motion by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Approval of Essex Youth Sports board member Regan Dailey with term expiring December 31, 2024. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2023 – 30: Transfer of Funds Cemetery Perpetual Care. Motion by Franks, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2023 – 31: Library Transfer of Funds. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval of Resolution 2023 – 32: Changing North side 500 Block Iowa Avenue Handicap parking from parallel to angle parking and two spots to one. Motion by Thornton, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2023 – 33: Supporting Home Base Iowa Initiative. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Public comments on agenda items: none.

Approval of Consent Agenda. Minutes: November 8, 2023; Treasurer's Report: November 30, 2023; Abstract of Claims: November 8, 2023 – December 8, 2023. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Sorensen updated the Council on nuisance properties.

Mayor Kinney reported to the council on the railroad crossing. He and Dennis Gresham attended the Municipal Leadership Academy in Carson.

Good News:

- Heather – going on vacation soon
- Nicole – basketball season is off to a good start
- Patti – got a new washing machine
- Mahlon – lots of closings before the first of the year
- Betty – 2/3 of the way done with making Christmas candy
- Calvin – reminder to be aware of people not home for the holidays
- Mary – had all kids together for Thanksgiving

Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand to enter closed session for employee review – pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 1(i) to prevent injury to reputation and upon the request of the individual that may be affected by. Ayes: All.

Council returned from closed session.

Adjournment at 8:27 PM. Motion by Franks, second by Thornton. Ayes: All.

Mayor, Calvin L. Kinney

ATTEST:

City Clerk, Mary A. Ohnmacht