

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL Tuesday, June 1, 2021

The City Council met in regular session at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison. Mayor Matt Mohrfeld presided with Council Members Rusty Andrews, Mark Lair, Rebecca Bowker, Tom Schulz, Kevin Rink, Donna Amandus and Chad Cangas present.

VISITORS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS: There were none.

AGENDA

Cangas MOVED and Amandus SECONDED to approve the agenda.

MOTION PASSED 7-0

CONSENT AGENDA

Rink MOVED and Amandus SECONDED to approve the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of May 18, 2021;
- New Liquor License: Victoria Gallery, 718 Avenue G, effective June 13, 2021 – Class C Native Wine;
- Partial List of Cigarette Permits;
- Claims dated May 27, 2021 and May Library Claims; and
- Payroll: May 21, 2021.

MOTION PASSED 7-0

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

1st READING, VACATION of AVENUE C: Cangas MOVED and Lair SECONDED to approve the first reading of an ordinance vacating the platted Avenue C from between the west line of Vica Lane to a point approximately 115 feet west.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Bowker, Lair, Andrews, Amandus, Schulz, Rink, Cangas
NAYES: None

MOTION PASSED 7-0

The Mayor then declared the Ordinance PASSED and APPROVED this 1st day of June, 2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-31, WAIVE SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS: Lair MOVED and Rink SECONDED to adopt a resolution accepting the submitted plat of survey and waiving subdivision requirements (Title 11 – Subdivision Regulations) for Randy and Barbara A. Kruse for property located at 2727 – 210th Street, within two miles of City Limits.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Bowker, Lair, Andrews, Amandus, Schulz, Rink, Cangas
NAYES: None

MOTION PASSED 7-0

The Mayor then declared the Resolution ADOPTED and ENACTED this 1st day of June, 2021.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-32, REHAB AGREEMENTS: Lair MOVED and Rink SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the Mayor's signature on Rehabilitation Agreements between the City of Fort Madison and Bidders wishing to acquire nuisance properties at the Public Nuisance Tax Sale, to be held on June 21.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Bowker, Lair, Andrews, Amandus, Schulz, Rink, Cangas
NAYES: None

MOTION PASSED 7-0

The Mayor then declared the Resolution ADOPTED and ENACTED this 1st day of June, 2021.

OTHER

CO #8, PIP 2018-04: Lair MOVED and Cangas SECONDED to approve the Mayor's signature on Change Order No. 8 for Public Improvement Project 2018-04, Reconstruction of Old Hwy. 61, 2nd to 6th Street.

MOTION PASSED 7-0

AMENDMENT NO. 2: Bowker MOVED and Amandus SECONDED to approve the Mayor's signature on Amendment No. 2 to Supplemental Agreement No. 3 for Public Improvement Project 2019-05, Amtrak Passenger Platform Project.

Several Council members expressed displeasure with this amendment to the professional services contract. Schulz felt this should have been done right the first time and then this amendment would not be needed.

MOTION PASSED 5-2

DISCUSSION CONCERNING HOTEL/MOTEL TAX LOSS: City Manager David Varley reported hotel/motel tax revenues are down 30% during the last year but are beginning to rise again. Tourism Director Jean Peiton and Varley have worked to reduce expenditures this last year knowing there would be less hotel/motel revenue because of COVID-19.

Following a brief discussion, Council requested more information from the Tourism Director regarding marketing strategies and where funds are used. An ad hoc committee composed of Amandus, Cangas, Schulz, Bowker and Mohrfeld was formed to meet with Peiton. At a question, City Attorney Patrick O'Connell clarified the committee needed to post an agenda and keep minutes.

DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION – CITY BUILDINGS AND ISSUES WITH CITY

BUILDINGS: Fire Chief Joey Herren reported there have been ongoing discussions regarding the possibility of a new fire station and public works building. The fire station and public works shop are old and worn out buildings that are nearing the end of their life. The roof leaks at the public works shop, there are cracks in the walls at the fire station and about every six months the sewer line at the fire station needs to be unclogged as the sewer line is collapsing. The sewer line runs underneath the apparatus floor and in order to replace the line, the entire floor would need to be torn up.

In reviewing possible locations, the Fire Department would move to the existing public works site and the public works shop would move up to Rodeo Park where the parks shop is currently located. Originally, the buildings were proposed to be design/build, however a 2018 law no longer allows governmental entities to use the design/build process. At the present time it is not known what the

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

proposed cost of these buildings will be. In order to move forward, the City needs to prepare a Request for Qualifications to select an engineering firm and then have a proposed estimate of cost.

At a question of what would happen to the Fire Station property Chief Herren said the property would be put up for sale.

Amandus MOVED and Rink SECONDED to have the City Manager move forward with a Request for Qualifications for professional services for a new fire station and public works building.

MOTION PASSED 7-0

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: The general fund balance is moving in a positive direction. The Library's Summer Reading program started today and 50 people have already signed up. The Rodeo Park trail construction will close down 15th Street again on Friday. Bowker asked if there was a breakdown for the dollar amount of damage to each City park. The Police Department moved the traffic monitoring equipment from the detour area on Avenue E further west. The data showed traffic only dropped by 11%. The Fire Department responded to a fire in a building that had a house fire there within the last two weeks.

OPEN DISCUSSION/FUTURE MEETINGS AGENDA ITEMS/COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS: The Beautification Foundation is seeking additional grants for more downtown projects. Schulz suggested some magnetic signs be made for the Neighborhood Watch groups so they could put them on their cars. Congresswoman Miller-Meeks will be in town on Thursday.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:06 P.M., the regular meeting adjourned until June 15, 2021, at 5:30 P.M.

MANUAL CLAIMS & WARRANTS: See Claims dated May 27, 2021, in the amount of \$152,751.78, and May Library Claims in the amount of \$11,382.99.

PAYROLL	5/21/2021
General	\$ 189,129.16
Old Fort	3,959.45
Employee Benefits	7,066.55
Road Use	28,721.51
Tourism	736.25
Water	30,155.97
Sewer	35,538.50
Solid Waste	11,411.98
Airport	486.54
Storm Water	3,790.41
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	\$310,996.32

Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk