

**MINUTES  
FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL  
Monday, November 3, 2014**

The Fort Madison City Council met in regular session at 6:30 P.M. on November 3, 2014, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison. Presiding was Mayor Bradley Randolph with Council Members Chris Greenwald, Brian Wright, Rusty Andrews, Travis Seidel and Chad Cangas. Council Members Kevin Rink and Jason Huppert were absent

**CLOSED SESSION**

Cangas MOVED and Wright SECONDED to go into Closed Session to discuss employment conditions pursuant to Section 21.9 of the Iowa Code.

**MOTION PASSED 5-0**

Council Member Huppert arrived at 6:45 p.m.

With no action taken, at 6:56 P.M., Wright MOVED and Seidel SECONDED to come out of Closed Session.

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

Mayor Randolph called for a five minute recess.

At 7:01 P.M., Council reconvened.

**VISITORS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS**

Carol Foss, 412 Avenue F, talked about a recent visit to LeClaire, Iowa, and how attractive their downtown was. She said the community invested in their streets and added new sidewalks, decorative streetlights and hanging baskets of flowers. Volunteers working at the visitor's center there said they couldn't believe how fast the city turned around after this was done. Foss felt if Fort Madison was able to find money for the rec plex, why can't money be invested in the downtown?

**AGENDA**

Seidel MOVED and Cangas SECONDED to approve the agenda, as written.

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Cangas MOVED and Andrews SECONDED to approve:

- Minutes of October 21, 2014, as written;
- Mayor’s Appointment of: Julia Johnson, 2189 – 280<sup>th</sup> Avenue, to the Fort Madison Housing Authority, term expiring June 11, 2016;
- Liquor License Renewal: Haley’s Comet, 1736 Avenue G, effective December 8, 2014 – Class B Native Wine with Sunday Sales;
- Liquor License Renewal: Cigarette Outlet d/b/a Smokin’ Joes, 1737 Avenue H, effective January 1, 2015 – Class C Beer, Class B Wine, Class E Liquor with Sunday Sales;
- The 2014 Financial Report for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2014;
- Resolution No. 2014-67 approving the Fiscal Year Ending 2014 Annual Urban Renewal Area Report;
- Resolution No. 2014-68 granting URTED to Gary A/Janet M Kenel for 1721 Avenue G (siding);
- Resolution No. 2014-69 granting URTED to Meenakshi D Palani /Douglas M Kurtz for 1326 Avenue B (garage); and
- Payment of Claims.

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

***Concerning Public Improvement Project 2014-01 – Rehab 48<sup>th</sup> Street***

Mayor Randolph opened the public hearing at 7:10 P.M. Dick Gregory, 1123-48th Street #29, asked about plans for this project. Public Works Director Driscoll said he will provide a copy of the plans to Gregory. There were no written comments.

Wright MOVED and Cangas SECONDED to close the public hearing.

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-70, APPROVE PLANS/SPECS:** Greenwald MOVED and Seidel SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving plans, specifications and form of contract for the project.

ROLL CALL:           AYES:     Greenwald, Wright, Andrews, Seidel, Huppert, Cangas  
                              NAYES:   None

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

The Mayor then declared said Resolution ADOPTED and ENACTED this 3rd day of November, 2014.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-71, AWARD CONTRACT:** Andrews MOVED and Greenwald SECONDED to awarding construction contract for the project to Shipley Contracting Corporation of Burlington, Iowa, in the amount of \$830,928.61.

Driscoll said the project includes the installation of sidewalk on the south side of 3800-4800 blocks of Avenue L.

ROLL CALL:           AYES:     Greenwald, Wright, Andrews, Seidel, Huppert, Cangas  
                          NAYES:   None

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

The Mayor then declared said Resolution ADOPTED and ENACTED this 3rd day of November, 2014.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-72, APPROVE CONTRACT/BONDS:** Seidel MOVED and Huppert SECONDED a resolution approving contract and bonds of Shipley Contracting, pending receipt of the documents.

ROLL CALL:           AYES:     Greenwald, Wright, Andrews, Seidel, Huppert, Cangas  
                          NAYES:   None

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

The Mayor then declared said Resolution ADOPTED and ENACTED this 3rd day of November, 2014.

***Concerning the Sale of Public Property: Parcels B and C of 100 Country Club Hill Road (portions of old Water Treatment Plant Property)***

Mayor Randolph opened the public hearing at 7:16 P.M. There were no oral or written comments.

Cangas MOVED and Seidel SECONDED to close the public hearing.

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

**ORDINANCE D-21, VACATE PORTION OF OLD WATER TREATMENT PLANT SITE:** Greenwald MOVED and Andrews SECONDED to approve the third reading of an ordinance vacating portions of the City's old Water Treatment Plant site.

ROLL CALL:           AYES:     Greenwald, Wright, Andrews, Seidel, Huppert, Cangas  
                          NAYES:   None

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

The Mayor then declared said Ordinance PASSED AND APPROVED on it's third reading this 3rd day of November, 2014.

Published in The Daily Democrat on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-73, SELL PARCELS B AND C, OLD WATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Wright MOVED and Seidel SECONDED to sell and authorize execution of a Quit Claim Deed for Parcels B and C of 100 Country Club Hill Road (portions of old Water Treatment Plant property), in the amount \$5,000 per parcel to Dennis Menke, plus administrative fees and legal costs.

ROLL CALL:           AYES:     Greenwald, Wright, Andrews, Seidel, Huppert, Cangas  
                              NAYES:   None

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

The Mayor then declared said Resolution ADOPTED and ENACTED this 3rd day of November, 2014.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**ORDINANCE D-22, 3rd READING, AMEND 9-8-2, ONE WAY STREETS:** Andrews MOVED and Wright SECONDED to approve the third reading of an ordinance amending Title 9, Chapter 9, Section 2, entitled "Traffic – One Way Streets" by removing the one way designation for the north/south alley located in the 2300 block between Avenues L and M.

ROLL CALL:           AYES:     Greenwald, Wright, Andrews, Seidel, Huppert, Cangas  
                              NAYES:   None

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

The Mayor then declared said Ordinance PASSED AND APPROVED on it's third reading this 3rd day of November, 2014.

Published in The Daily Democrat on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

**1st READING, AMEND TITLE 8, CHAPTER 5, PUBLIC LIBRARY:** Cangas MOVED and Greenwald SECONDED to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending Title 8, Chapter 5, entitled "Public Library" to update the location of the library.

Library Director Sarah Clendineng said this section of the Code states the library is located at the Cattermole Building. This change will reflect the library's current location.

ROLL CALL:           AYES: Greenwald, Wright, Andrews, Seidel, Huppert, Cangas  
                          NAYES: None

## MOTION PASSED 6-0

The Mayor then declared said Ordinance PASSED AND APPROVED on it's first reading this 3rd day of November, 2014.

### OTHER

**BROKER/CONSULTANT SERVICES:** Wright MOVED and Andrews SECONDED to approve a three year service agreement with Group Benefit Partners for broker/consultant services.

City Manager David Varley said the City's health insurance program is partially self-funded and the broker/consultant will manage the self-funded portion. Two companies submitted proposals to provide service. One is from the company currently providing service and the second company, Group Benefit Partners (GBP), is the company being recommended. GBP provides online enrollment, COBRA coverage, employee education as well as other services. He acknowledged GBP's cost is more than the current provider's cost.

City Treasurer/Finance Director Steffensmeier said COBRA is continuously changing and GBP will be able to keep the City up-to-date with those requirements. The current company will does not provide COBRA but will for an additional \$2.50 per employee. She felt the employees will be better educated on the enrollment process with GBP. The current provider has said they can provide online enrollment but do not have any clients who are using online enrollment.

Andrews said the online enrollment is very convenient for employees. Fire Chief Herren said he and Steffensmeier are spending a lot of time helping employees understand their benefits. GBP will be able to take over that. Herren believed this was worth the additional \$1,000 per month. Steffensmeier felt it would help the employees to be able to go directly to GBP for assistance as they are located in Fort Madison. In talking to some of the current customers of GBP she has heard nothing but praise for their services.

Wright questioned if there would be a way to lower the price. Justin Keoring, GBP, said this is the package the company offers. They want to provide the same package to all their clients and want to uphold their reputation. In addition to what has already been discussed, each newly hired employee will receive a letter introducing them to the plan, employees will receive an employee benefit manual and GBP will meet with employees on a regular basis. GBP can also act as a consulting service that any of the department heads can use and will provide advice on liability issues.

Greenwald was concerned about the additional \$1,000 per month cost.

Jan Garza, 2023 H, said her employer now uses GBP as their broker/consultant. Before they were hired it was very confusing and she never really got any answers. She guaranteed employees will ask their co-workers if they have had a similar problem and if they knew what to do. This takes time away from their work. She said with GBP they came in and explained the benefits in words that were understood.

**Greenwald MOVED and Huppert SECONDED to table the motion.**

ROLL CALL:           AYES: Greenwald, Huppert, Cangas  
                          NAYES: Wright, Andrews, Seidel

**MOTION FAILED 3-3**

**A Vote was then held on the original motion.**

ROLL CALL:           AYES: Wright, Andrews, Seidel  
                          NAYES: Greenwald, Huppert, Cangas

**MOTION FAILED 3-3**

Council Member Greenwald then left the room.

**POLICE DEPT. VEHICLE REPAIR/MAINTENANCE:** Andrews MOVED and Seidel SECONDED to approve the bids of Shottenkirk, Inc., as the primary vendor for vehicle repair and maintenance, and B. J.'s Performance as the vendor for towing services.

Varley said the two bids are fairly together. Police Chief Niggemeyer, in recommending Shottenkirk, felt they have more mechanics on staff and the work could be completed sooner. Andrews felt more mechanics meant more resources, more qualifications and the possibility of getting the work done sooner. Seidel said some warranty work will have to be performed by a qualified dealership.

Questions were raised regarding the true savings based upon the way bidders priced parts.

**Huppert MOVED and Wright SECONDED to amend the motion to approve the bid of River City Motors as the primary vendor.**

ROLL CALL:           AYES: Wright, Huppert  
                          NAYES: Andrews, Seidel, Cangas

**MOTION FAILED 2-3**

**A Vote was then held on the original motion.**

ROLL CALL:           AYES: Andrews, Seidel, Cangas  
                              NAYES: Wright, Huppert

**MOTION PASSED 3-2**

Greenwald then returned to meeting at 8:12 p.m.

**HIRE CULLEN TO REMOVE OLD DREDGE MATERIAL:** Huppert MOVED and Cangas SECONDED to approve hiring Cullen Construction and Excavating for the removal of dredge material from the holding ponds.

**MOTION PASSED 6-0**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no discussion items.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Driscoll said this year's street projects are 95% complete. The Rodeo ball field playground was completed on Sunday. The remaining three will be done in the spring.

**PRESENTATIONS BY LIAISONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Huppert reported the Tourism Commission met last week and funded Main Street's Wine & Beer Walk and Ghost Hunt.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:20 P.M., Cangas MOVED and Wright SECONDED to adjourn until Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 7:00 P.M.

**VOICE VOTE APPROVAL**

**MANUAL CLAIMS AND WARRANTS:** See Claims dated October 29, 2014, in the amount of \$108,797.30.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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| <u>PAYROLL</u> | <u>10/31/2014</u> |
|----------------|-------------------|
| General        | \$133,691.91      |
| Old Fort       | 1,761.62          |
| Road Use       | 13,031.25         |
| Hotel/Motel    | 1,344.87          |
| Water          | 18,425.88         |
| Sewer          | 25,547.41         |
| Solid Waste    | 14,749.14         |
| Storm Water    | 2,462.32          |
|                | <hr/>             |
|                | \$211,014.40      |

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Mayor Bradley A. Randolph  
City of Fort Madison

ATTEST:

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Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk