

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL Tuesday, March 16, 2021

The City Council met in adjourned session at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, March 16, 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, Chad Cangas and Donna Amandus present.

The meeting was held with participants present either in person or electronically (pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.8) due to social distancing issues because of COVID-19.

### **VISITORS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS:**

Jan Garza 2023 Avenue H, thanked Council member and City employees for speaking at local service organization meetings.

### **AGENDA**

Cangas MOVED and Amandus SECONDED to approve the agenda.

**MOTION PASSED 7-0**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Rink MOVED and Andrews SECONDED to approve the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of March 2, 2021;
- Liquor License Renewal: Dollar General Store #15777, 429 Avenue H, effective February 10, 2021 – Class C Beer, Class B Wine with Sunday Sales;
- Claims dated March 12, February Manual Claims and February Financial Report; and
- Payroll: March 12, 2021.

Bowker questioned the increase in the monthly payment to the City's IT provider, CURE Solutions and asked if this has been bid out recently. City Manager David Varley said he has met with CURE and have been going over things with them. He said there are not many local options for IT services.

**MOTION PASSED 7-0**

**PRESENTATION:** Chairman Historic Preservation Commission Chairman, Chris Sorrentino, presented the Certified Local Government Report to Council. In 2020 the Commission, continued selling address plaques for homes in the Park-to-Park Historic District; applied to place the Steam Engine on the National Register; and raised funds to assist in restoring City Cemetery.

Committees have also been formed to review the City's brick streets, to place City Cemetery on the National Historic Register and to put together educational pamphlets regarding what grants

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are available for citizens. Members have been asked to attend one educational training seminar each year. Goals for 2021 include placing all the HPC files onto a digital platform, preparing a new mission statement and exploring the possible creation of a Santa Fe Historic District and official City Historic District.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:** The Building Department has sent out letters regarding dilapidated properties today and another 200-plus nuisance letters were also sent out. PORT added concrete bases for solar lights along Phase 1 of the PORT Trail. Cemetery Clean Up begins next Monday. City Spring Clean Up will be from April 26– May 8. The Fire Department received a \$1,000 Alliant grant. The funds will be used for a new ice/snow rescue system. The Library Board will be discussing the library levy at their next meeting. At the present time, the City is expected to receive \$1.43 million from the newest COVID-19 relief package.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### ***Concerning the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget***

Mohrfeld opened the public hearing at 6:09 P.M. There were no written or oral comments. Mohrfeld then closed the public hearing at 6:10 P.M.

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-17, APPROVE BUDGET:** Lair MOVED and Amandus SECONDED to adopt the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget, and directing the appropriate filings be made by law

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 16th day of March, 2021.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**1<sup>st</sup> READING, AMEND CONSTRUCTION BOARD/FIRE CODE:** Cangas MOVED and Rink SECONDED to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending Title 2, Boards and Commissions, Chapter 11, Construction Board of Appeals, by adding a new Section 11 “Application”, and Title 3, Fire, Chapter 2, International Fire Code, by adding a new Section 4, “Appeals”.

Planning Director Doug Krogmeier said this provides what information needs to be provided in an application to appeal a decision by the Building Inspector. The proposed ordinance also sets out the appeal process for the Fire Code.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Lair, Andrews, Amandus, Schulz, Rink, Cangas  
NAYES: Bowker

**MOTION PASSED 6-1**

The Mayor then declared the first reading of said Ordinance PASSED and APPROVED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-18, RATIFY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT:** Cangas MOVED and Rink SECONDED to adopt a resolution ratifying a settlement agreement with the Fire Fighters Association, Local 607.

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 16th day of March, 2021.

## OTHER

**RIVER ROCKS LEASE:** Lair MOVED and Amandus SECONDED to approve the Mayor's signature on a Lease Agreement with River Rock, LLC, for the use of a portion of the marina building and attached shelter in Riverview Park.

**MOTION PASSED 7-0**

**REAPPOINTMENTS:** Cangas MOVED and Rink SECONDED to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Jacqueline Lumsden and Jill Stull to the Park Board, terms expiring March 31, 2024.

**MOTION PASSED 7-0**

**ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT:** Amandus MOVED and Cangas SECONDED to approve the Mayor's signature on An Engagement Agreement with Ahlers & Cooney, P.C., for services to prepare an Amendment to the City's Urban Revitalization Plan.

Finance Director Peggy Steffensmeier said the owner of The Madison, a nursing care center, contacted the City regarding financial incentives. The owner of The Madison plans to invest \$5 million plus for an assisted living addition. The law firm the City uses for bonding and TIFs, Ahlers & Cooney, suggested amending the City's current URTED Plan to include a 10-year tax abatement for multi-residential. Mohrfeld said there have been several different ways the City has provided financial incentives in the past.

**MOTION PASSED 7-0**

## **OPEN DISCUSSION/FUTURE MEETINGS AGENDA ITEMS/COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS:**

The Construction Board met to hear an appeal regarding a ceiling height issue. The Construction Board ruled in favor of the City. The Tourism Commission work group is still working on a recommendation. A presentation was made to the Southeast Iowa Regional Riverboat Commission to request \$1.5 million for the docks at the marina.

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**ADJOURNMENT:** At 6:51 P.M., the regular meeting adjourned until April 6, 2021, at 5:30 P.M.

**MANUAL CLAIMS & WARRANTS:** See Claims dated March 12, 2021, in the amount of \$181,591.37, and February Manual Claims, in the amount of \$123,145.37.

<b>PAYROLL</b>	<b>3/12/2021</b>
General	\$ 179,051.24
Old Fort	2,766.89
Road Use	28,058.09
Tourism	1,314.50
Water	30,113.85
Sewer	40,627.07
Solid Waste	12,046.63
Airport	312.77
Storm Water	3,725.43
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	\$298,016.47

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Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk