CITY OF SWISHER, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 9, 2017

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Christopher Taylor called the council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Swisher City Hall, Swisher, Iowa on January 9, 2017.

Council Present: Angie Hinrichs, Rebekah Neuendorf, Mike Stagg, Larry Svec. Absent: Mary Gudenkauf.

Also present: City Clerk/Finance Officer Tawnia Kakacek, Public Works Superintendent Craig Vondracek, Johnson County Sheriff Lonny Pulkrabek and Deputy Sheriff Brian Adolph, Sonja LaGrange, Matt Ironside, Swisher Fire Chief Glen Heims, Gene Beard.

Consent Agenda: Mayor noted the city needs to appoint a Fire Department Representative for 2017. Svec offered if fire department was okay with it, even though he didn’t support some of what the fire department wants done. Fire Chief Heims was okay with Svec as the representative. Stagg inquired if Fun Days was moved to week earlier. Sonya LaGrange noted it was moved to July 28 & 29, 2017. After review and discussion, Svec moved, seconded by Stagg, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of: Agenda; December 12, 2016 Minutes; List of Claims; Resolution No. 2017-01 appointing Larry Svec as Fire Department Representative; Alcohol License Renewal, Outdoor Service, and Sunday Sales for Club 671 Inc., pending dram shop; Parade Permit for 2017 Swisher Fun Days; street closures for 2017 Swisher Fun Days; allowing open alcohol containers on closed streets for 2017 Swisher Fun Days; waive vendor permits requirement for 2017 Swisher Fun Days; accept Clint Haight resignation from Planning & Zoning Commission; and notice of opening for Planning & Zoning Commission. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Absent: Gudenkauf. Motion carried.

Citizens’ Comments: None.

Reports:
Sheriff: Adolph noted they were aware of the changed Fun Days date and had no problem with the change.

Engineer: Mayor and Council reviewed City Engineer Cutsforth email report consisting of the following: assisted in preparing permit for the County Shed well; continue to finalize the Division Street Concept Study documents; finalized Central Avenue drainage quote documents in anticipation of 2017 Spring project.

Mayor: Mayor Taylor reported the following: met with the U of I representative working as outreach for small towns and inquired of small towns concerns; he will attend the county assessment conference board meeting and Joint Entity group meeting at end of the month.

Employees: Vondracek reported the following: doing maintenance work at the sewer plant; will be taking down the Christmas decorations; plan on cleaning out the county shed within the next few months; attended the Park & Recreation meeting and noted it went very well. Neuendorf thanked Vondracek for putting up the tree decorations. Kakacek inquired if council would like to keep the insurance on the county shed as actual cash value or replacement cost value which would be $75 more. Council agreed to keep as actual cash value.


BUSINESS:
Johnson County Sheriff Address Council: Johnson County Sheriff Lonny Pulkrabek presented increased cost for services next budget year and inquired if there were any concerns they need to address. Mayor and Council had none and thanked the sheriff for the work his department does.

Public Hearing-Water Tanks for Future Subdivisions: Motion by Svec, seconded by Hinrichs to open public hearing to consider requirement of installation of water tanks for future subdivisions. Call for vote. All ayes. Absent: Gudenkauf. Public hearing opened at 7:25 p.m. Fire Chief Heims explained why they would like to see this requirement and noted Shueyville is working on ordinance to adopt for this requirement. The underground tanks would give water if couldn’t refill trucks from Cedar Rapids and would cut down on travel time. He noted Shueyville is using NFPA standards and going with different number of lots in a subdivision for size of tank than
what Swisher P & Z recommended. He also gave council approximate costs of different size tanks. Mayor closed public hearing at 7:31 p.m.

**Consider Ordinance for Water Tanks:** Hinrichs moved, seconded by Neuendorf, to introduce Ordinance to require installation of water tanks for future subdivisions. Hinrichs inquired how many fires were in Swisher for the last 5 years and Heims noted there were 7 fires. Neuendorf noted this would be a band-aid for fire protection and city needs to really look at getting city water. Svec expressed concern of training to use these water tanks and who would maintain them. Kakacek noted the city attorney recommended not to have tank and property deeded over to the city as they would be liable for the maintenance. There was concern of cost of the tanks the developer would be paying and number of lots it would be required for. Council talked about need for fire protection and also not making too expensive for developers. There was also question of who would benefit from tanks. Mayor and Fire Chief pointed out the water could be used to put out any fire in the area, not just in the subdivision where the tank is located. Council would like to see Shueyville ordinance they are drafting before adopting ordinance for Swisher. Gene Beard will get ordinance from Shueyville. Roll call vote. Ayes: Hinrichs, Stagg, Svec. Absent: Neuendorf. Motion failed.

**Public Hearing-2016-17 Budget Amendments:** Motion by Stagg, seconded by Hinrichs to open public hearing for 2016-17 Budget Amendment. Call for vote. All ayes. Absent: Gudenkauf. Public hearing opened at 8:23 p.m. No verbal or written comments were received. Mayor closed public hearing at 8:24 p.m.


**Request to Add Business Signs:** Sonya LaGrange requested the Black Squirrel Tap and Vault Boutique be added to the business signs that are on Division Street. Stagg moved, seconded by Svec to purchase and install business signs of Black Squirrel Tap and Vault Boutique to the business signs on Division Street. Roll call vote. Ayes: Hinrichs, Stagg, Svec. Abstain: Neuendorf due to ownership of Black Squirrel Tap. Absent: Gudenkauf. Motion carried. It was noted to discuss different types of signage to promote business at next regular council meeting.

**Request to Pay for Port-O-Potties and Garbage/Recycling Bins:** Sonya LaGrange requested the City to pay for port-o-potties and garbage/recycling bins for the 2017 Swisher Fun Days Celebration. LaGrange noted the total cost would be around $1,000.00. After discussion, Svec moved, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve paying for port-o-potties and garbage/recycling bins for 2017 Swisher Fun Days Celebration. Roll call vote. Ayes: Hinrichs, Stagg, Svec. Abstain: Neuendorf due to being on the Swisher Fun Days Committee. Absent: Gudenkauf. Motion carried.

**Request Street Closure for Vault Street Market:** Sonya LaGrange noted she wants to hold an antique vendor market and requested street closure for that event. Mayor noted this would set a precedent for future business requests as city is endorsing a specific business. Hinrichs moved, seconded by Svec to approve closing 2nd Street between Central Avenue and Jefferson Avenue from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 10, 2017. Roll call vote. Ayes: Hinrichs, Stagg, Svec. Abstain: Neuendorf due to her involvement of the market. Absent: Gudenkauf. Motion carried.

**Request to Allow Open Alcohol Containers on Closed Streets for Vault Street Market:** Sonya LaGrange requested the City allow open alcohol containers on the closed street during the Vault Street Market on June 10, 2017. Stagg moved, seconded by Svec to approve allow open alcohol containers on closed 2nd Street from Central Avenue to Jefferson Avenue. Roll call vote. Ayes: Hinrichs, Stagg, Svec. Abstain: Neuendorf due to her involvement of the market. Absent: Gudenkauf. Motion carried. It was noted these streets would be enclosed.

**Waive Vendor Permits for Vault Street Market:** Sonya LaGrange noted that there will be several vendors at this market. It was noted the City doesn’t require vendor permits for Swisher Fun Days. Svec moved, seconded by Hinrichs to approve waiving requirement of vendor permits for the Vault Street Market on June 10, 2017. Roll call vote. Ayes: Hinrichs, Stagg, Svec. Abstain: Neuendorf due to her involvement of the market. Absent: Gudenkauf. Motion carried.

**Purchase Concrete Dividers:** Public Works Superintendent Vondracek noted he needs to purchase more concrete dividers for the sand/salt storage at the county shed. Motion by Svec, seconded by Neuendorf to spend up to $1,100.00 for concrete dividers. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Absent: Gudenkauf. Motion carried.
**Purchase Message Board:** Kakacek noted the following groups donated for the message board: WILOS, Swisher Trust & Savings, Kava House, Jefferson-Monroe Fire Department; and MidAmerican. Stagg is sending request back to the Men’s Club for donation. After discussion, Svec moved, seconded by Stagg to approve up to $3,519.00 to purchase message board. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Absent: Gudenkauf. Motion carried.

**Review City Investment Policy:** Kakacek noted this should be reviewed annually and the Swisher Bank & Trust would continue up to maximum amount of $2,000,000.00 coverage of city accounts. Council reviewed existing policy and accepted existing policy.

**Correspondence:** Council reviewed the letter for refuse nuisance. Johnson County Sheriff December 2016 Report and Alliant Energy Iowa Pipeline information were on the council table for review.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Neuendorf, seconded by Stagg to adjourn. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

___________________________________________
Tawnia Kakacek, City Clerk

___________________________________________
Christopher Taylor, Mayor