

(Subject to Approval)
CITY OF SWISHER, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2020

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Call To Order: Mayor Christopher Taylor called the Swisher Council Meeting to order at 7 p.m. at Swisher City Hall, Swisher, Iowa on February 10, 2020.

Council Present: Mary Gudenkauf, Jerry Hightshoe, Rebekah Neuendorf, James Rowe, Mike Stagg.

Also Present: City Clerk/Finance Officer Tawnia Kakacek, Public Works Superintendent Carl Spoerl, Library Director Laura Hoover, HR Green Representative Tim Cutsforth, Johnson County Sheriff Lonny Pulkrabek, Johnson County Sheriff Lieutenant Brian Adolph, Parks & Recreation Chairperson Ed Kringle, Northland Securities Representative Chip Schultz, Katheryn Birky.

Consent Agenda: Cutsforth requested agenda items 4d. Utility Relocation Cost Approval and 4f. Removing Trees for Project be taken off the agenda as has not received all the information. After review and discussion, Rowe moved, seconded by Neuendorf to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of: Agenda with agenda items 4d and 4f removed; updated List of Claims; January 2020 Clerk/Treasurer and Utility Billing Audit Reports; Alcohol license renewal, Sunday Sales and Outdoor service for Vault Boutique, LLC; and notice of open board position of Parks & Recreation. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hightshoe, Neuendorf, Rowe, Stagg. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments: Kathryn Birky presented a petition of 51 seniors' signatures requesting a free Senior Citizens dinner at holiday time. She noted this would be for single people like other towns host. Birky would like the city to have senior citizen dinners once a month and have senior citizens housing. Gudenkauf noted Swisher should have this and try to figure out how to do it. Mayor noted some senior housing has specific requirements, like water.

Reports:

Sheriff: Spoerl stated he had to call the sheriff department to ticket vehicles not moved during the snow emergency.

Library: Library Director Hoover reported the following: update of the library's 10th anniversary festivities; has digital photos on library website and is soliciting pictures to put on it as want to build a digital Swisher history; lost a Kirkwood student so if know anyone from there that can work, let her know; Easter Egg Hunt is April 11th; South Slope will be replacing the front parking lot at the library. Mayor and Council congratulated Hoover on all the work she did for the library celebration. January 29, 2020 Library Board Minutes were submitted for review.

Engineer: HR Green Representative Cutsforth reported the following: signs are being put back up on Phase 1 Division Street Project; had informational meeting on January 24th on Phase 2 Division Street Project; this Wednesday will be the 2nd utility meeting and last stakeholders meeting; Matthew Wildman of HR Green will be working with Water Feasibility Committee.

Mayor: Mayor Taylor reported the following: Johnson County Assessor is 1st as being the most accurate in the state; he attended the MPOJC Rural Policy meeting and is still Vice-Chair; and will be on Iowa League of Cities Board of Directors representing small towns in 2nd Congressional District.

Council: Gudenkauf reported the Water Research Committee had their first meeting and they meet again March 3rd. Minutes of their meeting will be in next council packet.

Employees: Superintendent of Public Works Spoerl reported the following: keeping up with rain, snow, ice and getting things ready for spring. Kakacek reported the following: received County Wide Hazard Manual

on flash drive; checked with other cities that use ION Environmental and their contract verbiage is same as Swisher's; drafted list of items that should be in the monthly NOJOCO; been scheduling a lot of meetings.

Miscellaneous Reports: Mayor and Council reviewed Parks & Recreation Board January 22, 2020 Minutes.

BUSINESS:

Public Hearing-Maximum Tax Dollars for Budget Year 2020-21: Motion by Gudenkauf seconded by Stagg to open public hearing date for maximum tax dollars for Budget Year 2020-21. Call for votes. All ayes. Motion carried and public hearing opened at 7:20 p.m. Per the state law, if tax dollars are to increase by 2% more than last year, a hearing is required, even though the rate is lower due to property tax valuations and growth. Mayor noted previous years where this was true but didn't have law about public hearing. No written comments were received. Mayor Taylor closed public hearing at 7:21 p.m.

Resolution No. 2020-05-Approve Maximum Property Tax Dollars: After review, Gudenkauf moved, seconded by Stagg, to approve Resolution No. 2020-05 entitled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAXIMUM PROPERTY TAX DOLLARS FOR BUDGET YEAR JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021". Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hightshoe, Neuendorf, Rowe, Stagg. Nays: None. Resolution No. 2020-05 passed. City will receive approximately \$9,000.00 more this year than last year due to increasing property values, even though the total taxable property tax rate went down.

Johnson County Sheriff Address Mayor/Council: Johnson County Sheriff Lonny Pulkrabek thanked the city for monetary and hourly increase in contract last year and gave Swisher's Annual Report of police protection hours, etc. Gudenkauf noted there will be upcoming construction on Division Street with alternate traffic routes. Mayor and Gudenkauf noted Pulkrabek will be retiring and thanked Pulkrabek on behalf of Swisher for his service.

Set Public Hearing Date for Approval of Division Street Project Plans and Specs: Cutsforth presented Division Street Project Phase 2 plans and specs. After review Gudenkauf moved, seconded by Neuendorf to set public hearing date for approval of Division Street Project Phase 2 plans and specs for March 9, 2020 at 7 p.m. at Swisher City Hall. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Cutsforth will send out for bids and have quotes for next regular council meeting.

Clean Sewer Line on Division Street: Spoerl noted he was waiting for the televised report from Ken-Way to see what needs to be repaired or just cleaned. Council postponed any further action on this until the City receives the report.

Metropolitan Planning Organization of Johnson County Projects: Usually the city has traffic count on various streets, but after discussion, council decided not to do a traffic count this year due to street construction where there will be detours and won't get an accurate count. Mayor noted the City can ask for traffic count from MPOJC anytime just depends how much they have already scheduled.

Resolution No. 2020-06-Levy of Taxes to Pay for General Obligation Bonds: Northland Securities Representative Chip Schultz presented schedule to proceed with bonds and the different paying sources for bond payments. He noted the city has done a wonderful job of saving Local Option Sales Tax Money and using TIF Funds to pay down the project and not have to borrow as much. City will also pay off bonds much earlier than most cities. After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Hightshoe, to approve Resolution No. 2020-06 entitled "RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES TO PAY GENERAL OBLIGATION CORPORATE PURPOSE BOND" starting July 1, 2020 for \$124,648.00. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hightshoe, Neuendorf, Rowe, Stagg. Nays: None. Resolution No. 2020-06 passed.

Cover for Downtown Park: Parks & Recreation Chairperson Ed Kringle noted Parks & Recreation Commission recommended to approve the bid and installation of shelter cover proposed from Swisher Men's Club with Men's Club paying at least half or more. He noted the cloth covers were much more expensive per the salesperson and couldn't match the bid presented. Gudenkauf appreciates Men's Club offering to do this, but the City needs to look at vision of this property and what all does the City want on this property. Council wants the aesthetics to look nice and not like a pole building without sides. Gudenkauf volunteered

to help look for alternate solutions for cover. Council discussed options to be on the lot: half basketball court, picnic tables, shelter, etc. Council directed Parks & Recreation Commission to work a vision for the Downtown Park. Stagg wasn't sure how much the Men's Club would allocate for the cover/shelter but will relay to them the City is looking at options for cover and lot.

Purchase/Install Overhead Door & Repair Door Header: Spoerl noted he is waiting for quote to repair the door header at the 3rd Street shop building. He received quotes to replace the overhead door which was waterlogged and too heavy for the garage door opener as he couldn't open it the other day due to this. Spoerl will contact the door companies and see if they can repair the door header as well. Council referred this to next regularly scheduled council meeting.

Set Public Hearing Date for 2020-21 Budget: After review, Gudenkauf moved, seconded by Rowe to set public hearing date for approval of 2020-21 Budget for March 9, 2020 at 7 p.m. at Swisher City Hall. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Vision for 3rd Street Shop Building and Land: Spoerl inquired what was the vision for the city's land and building on 3rd Street. Currently it stores sand/salt and few city vehicles but does need some maintenance. Council discussed short and long-term visions but feel this needs to be a separate meeting as there is much to discuss. Rowe suggested replacing the building in phases with the shop section done first. Council directed Spoerl to get updated cost to demolish the building. Mayor noted the city's current projects. Stagg recommended this be revisited later this year and have engineer do a concept plan. It was also recommended to have a mediator do this visioning meeting like what was done for the comprehensive plan. Kakacek will check into this.

Correspondence: Council reviewed the following: letters sent on No Parking; library services contract with Shueyville and Swisher Library; notice from VJ Engineering not doing Swisher's bridge inspections; Castek Park Trail Reconstruction Concept Plan; notice of business selling alcohol to a minor; thank you from Iowa Women's Foundation and LWVJC for passing proclamation; information on Downton Assessment Revitalization; MPOJC FY21 fees; Iowa League of Cities Polco service; Smart Economic Conference in May. On the council table for review were: January 2020 Sheriff's Report; building permit for 220 Summit Avenue SE; right-of-way Permit for MidAmerican, and chicken permits for 124 Division Street NE, 75 Division Street SE, and 303 Rose Avenue; information from Hills Bank; January CityScape.

Adjournment: Motion by Stagg, seconded by Hightshoe to adjourn. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Tawnia Kakacek, City Clerk/ Finance Officer

Christopher Taylor, Mayor