

(Subject to Approval)
CITY OF SWISHER, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 11, 2018

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Call To Order: Mayor Pro-Tem Rebekah Neuendorf called the Swisher Council Meeting to order at 7 p.m. at Swisher City Hall, Swisher, Iowa on June 11, 2018.

Council Present: Jerry Hightshoe, Rebekah Neuendorf, James Rowe, Mike Stagg. Gudenkauf arrived at 7:04 p.m.

Also Present: City Clerk/Finance Officer Tawnia Kakacek, Public Works Superintendent Rodney McNeal, Library Director Laura Hoover, City Engineer Tim Cutsforth-HR Green, Sonya LaGrange, Gene Beard, Norm Neal, Russ Barenz, Ginny Svec, Cera Wilkins, Crystal & Larry Greiner, Linda Richards, Rob Pudil, Monica Nieves-Iowa City/Coralville Area Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Consent Agenda: Kakacek asked Council if they would like to wait to transfer money from General Fund to Revolving Loan Fund until September when certificate of deposit mature and the funds are readily available for transfer. Neuendorf would like to move item 4f-Hire Temporary Library Help before item 4a. After review and discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Rowe, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of: Agenda with moving item 4f-Hire Temporary Library Help before Item 4a; May 14 and May 29, 2018 Meeting Minutes; updated List of Claims; May Clerk/Treasurer and Utility Billing Audit Reports; Resolution No. 2018-19-Assess Delinquent Utility Accounts; Resolution No. 2018-20-Transfer of Funds from General to Reserve Accounts; Resolution No. 2018-21-Transfer of Funds from General to Community Fund and wait to transfer to Revolving Loan Fund in September when certificate of deposit expires; Resolution No. 2018-22-Transfer of Funds from Local Option Sales Tax to Street Improvements Fund for Rose Avenue Drainage Project; 2018-19 Cigarette Permit Renewal for Shelton's Grocery. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments: Gene Beard stated there are numerous tree(s) branches hanging over the streets and not enough clearance which the property owners or city needs to cut back the branches. It is the property owner's responsibility to maintain trees in the city right of way unless the tree is diseased or dead per Swisher Code Chapter 135.10. McNeal will review areas in town and the City will send letters to property owners that need to trim.

Reports:

Library: Library Director Hoover gave the following update: Summer Reading Kickoff started along with Farmers Market and 92 children have signed up for the reading program; Mondays will be Craft Corner, Wednesdays are Program Shows, Fridays are Lego Club; and have openings for children to get help on the Reading Support Program on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Engineer: Engineer Cutsforth reported the following: completed the Rose Ave./4th St. Drainage Project; worked on the 2018-19 Street Project; provided parking information for downtown area to McNeal.

Employees: McNeal reported that he is mowing a lot and moved/installed the electronic speed sign onto west Division Street. Kakacek reported the following: Park & Recreation Commission meet June 21st; Planning & Zoning meet June 25th; Farmer's Market has started and is looking for free musicians to play

at the market; she may attend the Floodplain Management Seminar in August and if any of the council or mayor wants to attend, she can sign them up; will be off Friday; fiscal year end is June 30th and any bills to be paid in that budget year, needs to be submitted to her before then; sewer claim against the city has been paid; will be getting \$3,600 from the resident's insurance company to replace the damaged message board; asked council to bring in their code books for updates.

Miscellaneous: Council reviewed Parks & Recreation Board May 17, 2018 Minutes and Planning & Zoning May 29, 2018 Minutes.

BUSINESS:

Resolution No. 2018-23-Hire Temporary Library Help: Librarian Hoover stated the Library Board agreed on hiring Ryan Taylor for 10 hours a week at \$9.00 per hour from June thru August 2018. Gudenkauf moved, seconded by Stagg, to approve Resolution No. 2018-23 entitled "A RESOLUTION AWARDING POSITION AND SETTING THE SALARY FOR TEMPORARY LIBRARY CLERK, PART-TIME POSITION FOR THE CITY OF SWISHER" to Ryan Taylor at \$9.00 per hours. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hightshoe, Neuendorf, Rowe, Stagg. Nays: None. Resolution No. 2018-23 passed.

Run Crandic Marathon: Monica Nieves from Iowa City/Coralville Area Convention & Visitors Bureau thanked Swisher Businesses, Sonya LaGrange, Jefferson Monroe Fire Department including Kathy Riggle, Gene Beard, and Glen Heims plus City of Swisher for helping with the Run Crandic Marathon. She presented plaques of appreciation to City of Swisher and Jefferson Monroe Fire Department.

2018-19 Street Project: Engineer Custforth presented only quote received that was from LL Pelling of \$53,977.50 for 2018-19 Street Project. Custforth recommended the council reject bid as it was 52% above the engineer's estimated cost. After discussion, Rowe moved, seconded by Hightshoe to reject bid presented from LL Pelling for 2018-19 Street Project. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Custforth is contacting LL Pelling regarding bid and present possible options at next regular council meeting.

Public Hearing to Create Storm Water Utility Fund: Motion by Rowe, seconded by Stagg, to open public hearing to consider creating Storm Water Utility Fund at proposed rate of \$5 per residential unit and \$8 per commercial unit per month. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried and public hearing opened at 7:22 p.m. Norm Neal inquired if this was a public vote and it is not. Cera Wilkins inquired of priority of projects and distribution of the proposed income. Rowe noted it has been discussed and they will be working on a priority list and the income received can only be used for storm water drainage expenses. Ginny Svec asked if the engineer fees and McNeal hourly salary would be paid out of this fund. McNeal's salary would not be paid out of this fund and if a storm water drainage project needs an expert opinion the engineer fee could be paid out of that fund. Ginny Svec stated if the city pays for engineer to look at the drainage problem that the work should be done at that area. Stagg noted the reason the City is looking at implementing this fund is to help with costs of repairing storm drainage issues and instead of using funds from general, streets, etc. plus the income for this would only be used for storm water drainage problems per the proposed ordinance. Russ Barenz stated he has concerns that the Council is not responsible enough to use the money appropriately as he felt it hasn't been done in the past like the sewer plant. Gudenkauf noted the city did not grow as anticipated so the cost fell to the residents. Gene Beard noted not a single person on the council now or the engineer were involved in the sewer plant. He recommended people to have faith in them and show respect to the Council persons. Rowe noted they are responsible with city money and want to prioritize the projects and be fiscally responsible. He feels the City should educate the public on storm drainage, the flow of water, etc. Neuendorf noted they wanted to get away from doing band-aids on problems and fix it right. Crystal Greiner asked what the was going to

be done at the end of Rose and 1st Street so there is no flooding in their yards. Larry Greiner noted the rock on the east and west side of creek will slow the water down but feels it will still flood their house as more water flows due to developments that had been built. Motion by Gudenkauf, seconded by Stagg to close public hearing. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried and hearing closed at 7:59 p.m.

1st Reading of Ord.#270—Create Storm Water Utility Fund: After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Gudenkauf, to introduce Ordinance #270 by title only entitled “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SWISHER, IOWA BY ADDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO STORM WATER DRAINAGE UTILITY” with residential rate of \$5.00 per month per residential unit and \$8.00 per month per commercial unit and be given its first reading. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hightshoe, Neuendorf, Rowe, Stagg. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance #270 was given its first reading.

Accept Rose Drainage Project and Approve Payment: Engineer Cutsforth recommended to accept the Rose Avenue Drainage Project and make final payment to contractor. Norm Neal noted the spillway needs fine rock installed to keep water from washing out the dirt. Rob Pudil recommended to put flowable concrete on it. Larry Greiner noted Mark Ironside property has trees that could be cleanup/removed to have the water flow faster down the creek. He noted Mark Ironside agreed to the city removing the trees. Stagg noted the city code now requires a retention pond installed for developments as that alleviates the water drainage issue. After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Hightshoe to accept the Rose Drainage Project and approve final payment to Pirc-Tobin Construction of \$99,310.16. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Zach Plumb Homestead Preliminary/Final Plat: Engineer Cutsforth recommended not to approve the plat as the machine shed was too close to proposed lot line as required in City of Swisher regulations that should be followed as within the 2-mile fringe area. Kakacek noted P & Z had recommended approval but they did not have the engineer report as the city had just received the request few days before P & Z met. Motion by Hightshoe, seconded by Rowe, not to accept the Zach Plumb Homestead Preliminary/Final Plat and send back to Planning and Zoning for review. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Excessive Speed on Division Street: Linda Richards stated there has been a lot of excessive speed and semis driving on Division Street and has concern of safety for children due to this problem. She also stated the main offender is Schneider Trucking plus now they are honking when drive by their development. Richards requested the city do a formal complaint letter to Schneider Trucking. Rowe noted if the electronic speed sign had data software, the city could present the data to the sheriff's department of the existing speed problems. Hightshoe stated the vehicles are observing the flashing speed sign. After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Rowe to send official complaint letter to Schneider trucking of their excessive speeding, honking, rolling thru the stop signs. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Alley Improvement: Council reviewed petition presented from some of the downtown businesses requesting the alley north of 2nd Street between 1st & 2nd Streets and Rose & Central Avenues be improved. Sonya LaGrange noted the alley is a high traffic area and has potholes. Rob Pudil noted the alley has a lot of dust pollution. Council received bid in 2015 of \$86,000 to repair this alley. Rob Pudil recommended McNeal do some of the work with skidloader to cut costs. After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Gudenkauf, to have city engineer do estimate of cost to redo this alley and factor in McNeal

doing some of the work with the skidloader. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hightshoe, Rowe, Stagg. Abstain: Neuendorf as she has a business adjoining this alley. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Tennis Court: McNeal noted the Parks & Recreation Board recommended to remove the tennis court due the poor shape it was in and add a basketball pole/hoop. McNeal said he can remove the asphalt but to redo the fence it would be \$27,000. Hightshoe stated he seen a skateboard park the size of the city's tennis court and could be a possibility there. Rowe suggested to close off the tennis court area and have public meeting to see what residents would like to have there. McNeal noted they had done questionnaire of removing tennis court and have another basketball hoop on city's facebook page and received positive input on this, many requested splash pad. After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Gudenkauf, to remove the tennis court fence and asphalt. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hightshoe, Neuendorf, Stagg. Nays: Rowe. Motion carried. Asphalt will remain where the basketball pole playing area is and grass planted in the dirt area. McNeal will present costs of additional basketball pole/hoop after asphalt is removed.

Splashpad: McNeal noted splashpads for the size Parks & Recreation Board is looking at cost around \$60,000 - \$70,000 and they would like to fundraise for this. Rowe inquired of long term maintenance of splash pad, expenses and would like to have a facebook page poll if residents would like a skate park or a splash pad. After discussion, Rowe moved, seconded by Stagg to deny request of fundraising for splash pad until Parks & Recreation Board can present more detail information of splash pad including long term maintenance cost, plans, etc. in writing. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Gudenkauf thanked Parks & Recreation Board for being active.

Electronic Speed Sign: Hightshoe noted electronic speed sign should be at the beginning of the speed zone on Swisher View Drive. Rowe would like to see if the city could get data plans on the electronic signs to be able to show traffic information. After discussion, council tabled purchasing electronic speed sign for Swisher View Drive pending further information regarding costs to add data collection. Kakacek will contact Johnson County Sheriff Department about observing Swisher View and Division Street west and east entrance regarding vehicles speeding and rolling thru stop signs.

Purchase Skid Loader: McNeal requested the city purchase a skid loader instead the budgeted mini-excavator and presented skid loader quote. Stagg would like to the dollar amount of city equipment sold. After discussion, Hightshoe moved, seconded by Gudenkauf, to approve purchase of skid loader from Brunkan Equipment at cost of \$37,500.00 for the 2018-19 Budget. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Payment to LL Pelling: Kakacek reported the invoice was correct from LL Pelling as the previous street painting invoice that was done in 2009 did not include painting to the outskirts of town. Motion by Gudenkauf, seconded by Rowe, to approve payment of balance owed of \$1,645.42 to LL Pelling. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Add Part-Time Staff: McNeal stated they need help with mowing the city properties so he could work on other city items. Kakacek asked Council if they want to consider hiring another permanent part-time staff as the city use to have 2 full-time public works staff. After discussion, Rowe moved, seconded by

Stagg to approve publishing for a temporary summer help for mowing, etc. at 20 hours a week for the summer. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Rowe stated he would like to re-visit adding another permanent part-time or full-time person at budget time.

Additional Bond Payment: Kakacek noted city has received TIF monies that can be paid toward the sewer bond principal and shorten the length of the bond. Motion by Rowe, seconded by Stagg, to approve an additional principal payment of \$298,000 for the sewer bond. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2018-24-Transfer of Funds: Kakacek noted this transfer needs to be done to make additional bond payment. Stagg moved, seconded by Rowe, to approve Resolution No. 2018-24 entitled "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSFER FUNDS". Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hightshoe, Neuendorf, Rowe, Stagg. Nays: None. Resolution No. 2018-24 passed.

Correspondence: Council reviewed the following: letters sent for dogs running at large and camper illegally parked; list of updates added to city computer software and updated contact list for groups in Swisher. Johnson County Sheriff's May 2018 Report, Building Permit for 414 3rd Street SW were on the council table for review.

Adjournment: Motion by Hightshoe, seconded by Stagg to adjourn. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Tawnia Kakacek, City Clerk/ Finance Officer

Rebeka Neuendorf, Mayor Pro-Tem