REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Christopher Taylor called the council meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. at Swisher City Hall, Swisher, Iowa on June 13, 2016.

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

Also present: City Clerk Tawnia Kakacek, Public Works Supervisor Craig Vondracek, City Engineers Tim Cutsforth, Library Director Laura Hoover, Robin Kolosik, Mark Reinders-MidAmerican Energy, Steve Smith-Johnson County Refuse, Kathryn Birky, Norm Neal, Sandy Fults, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Greiner, Jessica Kane.

Consent Agenda: After review and discussion, Gudenkauf moved, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of: Agenda; May 9 and June 6, 2016 Minutes; updated List of Claims; May 2016 Clerk/Treasurer Report and Utility Audit Report; Resolution No. 2016-23 certifying unpaid sewer/refuse debt to county auditor, cigarette permit renewal for Shelton’s Grocery, and approving open alcoholic containers on closed city streets of Swisher Fun Days from August 5th thru August 7th, 2016. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Citizens’ Comments: Sandy Fults noted there are potholes in the alley by her house that need to be fixed.

Reports: Library: Library Director Hoover noted the following: the new shelving has doubled the size to hold books and increased open space in the library; summer reading programs has 45 children, 10 adults, and 9 teens so far; added programs on Wednesdays such as the Grout Museum, HyVee presenting healthy snacks; library is asking for donation of XBox. Gudenkauf noted the library looks very nice.

Engineer: City Engineer Cutsforth noted the following: Orchard Street Storm Sewer Project is almost done; helped with annexation information; prepared notice for street improvements/ met with Mayor/Council regarding Division Street; reviewed drainage on Central Avenue/4th Street; and noted Rose Amundson is continuing dialog with IDNR on county shed.

Council: Gudenkauf recognized Swisher Men’s Club, WILOS, Swisher American Legion Auxiliary, and other Swisher organizations for donation of high school senior scholarships and thanked them for their support.

Employees: Vondracek noted the following: have done lots of mowing; cut dead tree at city park; noted Dean and him worked on clogged air lines at wastewater treatment plant and may need to install new line; had to replace probe for the plant; trimmed limbs hanging over streets; moved speed limit solar sign going east past Summit Avenue and has already improved the reduction of traffic speed; working on sign inventory. Stagg questioned if the speed sign post could be removed from his property since solar sign is moved. Council felt it should be left there and have city check into cost of new solar sign for west side of town. Kakacek noted the following: Farmers Market has started and need more patrons; must receive bills by June 30th to be included in this budget year.

BUSINESS:
Library Position: Hoover noted the Library Board will do full search for library position and will hire at their board meeting on June 27, 2016. Applications are due Friday, June 24, 2016 at Swisher City Hall.

Alley Management Plan: After discussion, council directed city engineer to identify alleys, condition of alleys, and easements throughout the city.

Resolution No. 2016-24—Approve Contract for 2016-17 Street Improvements: City Engineer Cutsforth recommended city expand improvements on Swisher View Drive up to $27,000.00 as the bids came in lower than expected. After review of bids from LL Pelling of $24,764.90 and Prairie Road Builders of $26,148.18, Gudenkauf moved, seconded by Neuendorf, to approve Resolution No. 2016-24 entitled “A RESOLUTION AWARDING BID FOR 2016-17 PAVEMENT REHABILITATION” to LL Pelling not to exceed $27,000.00 including additional improvements to Swisher View Drive. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hinrichs, Neuendorf, Stagg, Svec. Nays: None. Resolution No. 2016-24 passed.
Storm Drainage Survey: Norm Neal noted there are drainage problems on east side of Rose Avenue. Engineer Cutsforth estimated surveying the water drainage issue on Central and Rose Avenues would be approximately $1,100.00. After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve surveying drainage issue on Central, south side of 4th Street and east/west side of Rose Avenue. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Update Sewer Map: Kakacek noted the map of sewer lines is from 1971 and recommends map be updated. Engineer Cutsforth noted this would cost approximately up to $2,500.00. After discussion, Gudenkauf moved, seconded by Stagg, to approve city engineer updating sewer lines map. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Payment for Storm Drainage Project: Engineer Cutsforth noted that Bushman Excavating hasn’t submitted a revised pay request so no action needed at this time. No action was taken.

Fults asked if Item #q could be discussed now. Motion by Svec, seconded by Stagg, to move Item 4q-Purchase Plants for Swisher Sign above item 4g. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Purchase Plants for Swisher: Sandy Fults asked council if they would like her to do the plantings at the west Swisher City Sign and city hall. Kakacek noted there are monies left in the current budget. Motion by Gudenkauf, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve $1,000.00 for plantings at both west Swisher City Sign and city hall before June 30th. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Council thanked former Councilmember Sandy Fults for her volunteer work.

Refer Rezoning Request to P & Z: After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Hinrichs, to refer Dave Chalupsky’s rezoning request to Planning & Zoning Commission for recommendation. Call for vote. All ayes. This request is to rezone property west of railroad tracks, south of 3rd Street from 7RS-Residential to BC-Business Commercial.

Resolution No. 2016-25—Set Public Hearing for Revenue Purpose Statement for Franchise Fees: Mark Reinders of MidAmerican Energy discussed revenue purpose statement for franchise fees. He noted the council can still approve revenue statement and charge no franchise fees at this time, but could in the future with amended agreement. After discussion, Hinrichs moved, seconded by Gudenkauf, to approve Resolution No. 2016-25 entitled “RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING DATE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT REVENUE PURPOSE STATEMENT REGARDING USE OF REVENUE FROM PROPOSED GAS FRANCHISE FEE PURSUANT TO IOWA CODE 364.24(4)(f)” for July 11, 2016 at 7 p.m. at Swisher City Hall with the intent to adopt revenue statement but not charge franchise fees at this time. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hinrichs, Neuendorf, Stagg, Svec. Nays: None. Resolution No. 2016-25 passed.

Public Hearing-Gas Franchise: Motion by Stagg, seconded by Neuendorf, to open public hearing to consider renewing non-exclusive gas supply, operation and maintenance franchise with MidAmerican Energy Company for 25 years. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried and public hearing opened at 8:13 p.m. No verbal or written comments were presented. Motion by Stagg, seconded by Neuendorf, to close public hearing. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried and public hearing closed at 8:14 p.m.

1st Reading and Final Reading of Ord.#256—Approve Natural Gas Franchise Renewal: Motion by Stagg, seconded by Hinrichs, to introduce Ordinance #256 by title only entitled “AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, THE RIGHT AND NON-EXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE TO ACQUIRE, CONSTRUCT, ERECT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE IN THE CITY OF SWISHER, IOWA, A NATURAL GAS SYSTEM AND TO FURNISH AND SELL NATURAL GAS TO THE CITY AND ITS INHABITANTS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO COLLECT FRANCHISE FEES FOR A PERIOD OF 25 YEARS” and be given its first reading. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hinrichs, Neuendorf, Stagg, Svec. Nays: None. Motion carried. Motion by Stagg, seconded by Hinrichs, that the laws and rules providing that ordinances be considered and voted on for passage at two council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is to be finally passed be suspended and dispensed with and that Ordinance #256 be placed on its last reading. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hinrichs, Neuendorf, Stagg, Svec. Nays: None. Motion carried. Motion by Hinrichs, seconded by Stagg, to place Ordinance #256 upon its final passage and be adopted. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Hinrichs, Neuendorf, Stagg, Svec. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance #256 adopted.

Resolution No. 2016-26—Approve Extension of Refuse/Recycle Contract: Steve Smith of Johnson County Refuse presented increase costs of landfill rates for refuse and recycling. Kakacek noted that the refuse/recycle rates would need to be raised to cover for increase rate of contract and be done by Ordinance in July. Smith noted he would charge at the old rate until the city can adopt the ordinance with new refuse/recycle rate to charge customers


Set Public Hearing to Increase Refuse/Recycling Fees: Motion by Stagg, seconded by Gudenkauf, to set public hearing for July 11, 2016 at 7 p.m. at Swisher City Hall to consider increase of refuse/recycling fee. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Set Public Hearing to Annex 711 Swisher View Drive SW: Motion by Svec, seconded by Stagg, to set public hearing for July 11, 2016 at 7 p.m. at Swisher City Hall to consider annexation of 711 Swisher View Drive SW into Swisher city limits. Call for vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

University of Iowa Urban/Regional Students Report: Council reviewed Growth Management Analysis Report from University of Iowa Urban and Regional Students Todd Bagby, Robert Caudill, Priyanka Rayamahji, and Frank Waisath. Council directed a thank you letter to be sent to the students.

Memorial Request: Jessica Kane requested to put in a memorial at one of the city parks in memory of her grandparents Joe and Pauline Novotny. She presented various ideas for memorial. After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Neuendorf, to approve her purchasing a bench with a memorial plaque and put at Castek Park. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Fun Days Signage Request: Neuendorf noted Fun Days Committee would like put yard sign leading to Castek Park for activities. Motion by Svec, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve Fun Days Committee putting up yard sign for park. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Set Public Hearing Date for Number of Park/Recreation Board Members: City Clerk Kakacek noted it is hard to get the 3 current board members together to meet and recommended to have 5 board members. This may have better chance of at least 3 members meeting. Motion by Svec, seconded by Gudenkauf, to set public hearing for July 11, 2016 at 7 p.m. at Swisher City Hall to consider increasing Park/Recreation Board to 5 members. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried.


Correspondence: Council reviewed email from Mayor regarding nuisance property; Iowa League of Cities Annual Conference; Larry Maresh complaint regarding watershed problem by his property. The Johnson County Sheriff’s May 2016 Report, Building Permits for 120 Alan Avenue, 125 2nd St. SE, 314 Orchard Street R.O.W. Permit for 1055 Swisher View Drive, Chicken Permits for 211 Alan Avenue and 303 Rose Avenue were on the council table for review.

Adjournment: Motion by Svec, seconded by Neuendorf to adjourn. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Tawnia Kakacek, City Clerk
Christopher Taylor, Mayor