

(Subject to Approval)
CITY OF SWISHER, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 14, 2023

Anyone could attend in person, dial-in or connect electronically to hear the actual meeting.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Call To Order: Mayor Christopher Taylor called the Swisher Council Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at Swisher Library, Swisher, Iowa on August 14, 2023.

Council Present: Mary Gudenkauf, Kris Heims, Rebekah Neuendorf, Kody Pudil, and Michael Stagg.

Also Present: City Clerk/Finance Officer Tawnia Kakacek, Public Works Superintendent Justin Fields, Communication Coordinator Julie Persons, City Engineer Representative Tim Cutsforth, Johnson County Sheriff Deputy, and Reserve, Matt Shock of STS Civil, Daryl Hynek, Curt Cline, Nick Neuendorf, Norm Neal. Attended via zoom was Kim Grier.

Consent Agenda: Neuendorf moved, seconded by Stagg to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of Agenda, July 10, 2023 Council Minutes; amending July 24, 2024 Council Minutes to Heims stating “attended other area parks and saw no UTVs going past parking lots” and removing “the park and hasn’t seen any issues of going onto Krug’s property”; updated List of Claims; June and July 2023 Clerk/Treasurer’s Reports and Utility Balance Reports; notice of Board of Adjustments vacancies. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Heims, Neuendorf, Pudil, Stagg. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Citizens’ Comments: Norm Neal stated 3rd Street needs trimming and around town. Fields noted that wasn’t prioritized as has been working on completing the new shop building, but it will get done. Curt Cline asked why water lines planned to be installed in sewer project since water vote didn’t pass. Mayor noted the current city code requires new water lines and the City holds to the same requirements. Gudenkauf pointed out that requirement has been in the code for over ten years, Since before current council and mayor.

Reports:

Sheriff: July 2023 Police Report was submitted.

Engineer: Cutsforth noted they worked on the following: attended Council and Planning & Zoning meetings; street project; salt shed plans; Castek parking lot; alley by Kava House; Orchard intake; stop sign on Rose & 2nd Street; sewer project; developer infrastructure plans to meet city requirements.

Mayor: Mayor reported the following: attended ECICOG Board meeting; Johnson County Resource & Protection meeting; couldn’t make the Johnson County Juvenile Justice and Youth Development meeting but if a councilmember would like to take place of previous Councilperson Jerry Hightshoe, let him know. He noted city and school elections are in November and can turn papers in August 28th through September 21st at 5 p.m. at Johnson County Auditor. He will have served as Mayor for 10 years with his term ending January 2, 2024, at noon and he will not be on the ballot for this election. Mayor noted the Iowa League of Cities Conference is in Cedar Rapids this year and strongly recommend Council to go as it is so close, but if can’t attend let him or Kakacek know if there are certain classes they want them to attend.

Council: Neuendorf reported that she attended the annual Jefferson-Monroe Fire Department meeting and gave summary of meeting and annual report to the City.

Employees: McCleary, Persons and Kakacek written reports are on file at city hall.

Miscellaneous Reports: Swisher Parks & Recreation June 21 and July 19, 2023, Minutes and Swisher Planning & Zoning July 17, 2023, Minutes were reviewed.

BUSINESS:

Revisit Police Patrol: Johnson County Sheriff's Reserve Officer gave update of extra patrol on Wednesday nights and noted with their presence there the issues slowed down. Gudenkauf asked if there other dates or events should be considered for extra police patrol or vary the night for reserves. Neuendorf noted we should consider this for the overall community as there have been changes throughout town such as people driving golf carts through yards, hitting bridges, etc. After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Pudil to continue with same coverage of reserves and times for Wednesday nights from September 13 thru October 4, 2023. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Tax Increment Financing: Mayor Taylor noted it was mentioned at last meeting that TIF (tax increment financing) would take away money from the school district and it doesn't as it gets reimbursed from the state. He presented and explained a breakdown of taxing new subdivision homes with and without TIF. Mayor read email Gudenkauf received from College Community stating TIF won't impact their general fund. Matt Shock presented request from Pleasant Hill Addition developer Mark Ralston to do cost-share agreement for development since city is now requiring fire water tanks. Kakacek noted she talked to Northland Securities and if Council chose to do some type of rebate, recommend doing only by percentage and not dollar amount, as this will protect City from spending more than it gets back. After lengthy discussion, Stagg moved seconded by Pudil to deny request to reimburse developer with TIF funds. Roll call vote. Ayes: Stagg. Nays: Gudenkauf, Heims, Neuendorf, Stagg. Motion failed. Kakacek will get recommendations from Northland Securities.

2nd Reading of Ordinance—Sewer Rate Increase: Gudenkauf moved, seconded by Heims to introduce Ordinance #296 by title only entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF SWISHER, IOWA, SECTION 99.01 SEWER SERVICE CHARGES REQUIRED AND REMOVING BILLING RATE FOR 2016 TO 2017 AND THEREAFTER" and be given its second reading. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Heims, Neuendorf, Pudil, Stagg. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance #296 was given its second reading. Mayor asked Council if they wanted to waive the requirements of 2 consecutive meetings to proceed to next reading. Council declined.

Approve Payment for Street Project: After review recommendation of approval from Cutsforth, Gudenkauf moved, seconded by Stagg to approve payment to Kluesner Construction of \$49,564.80 for 2023-24 Street Improvements Project. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approve Payment for Alley Improvement: Fields noted the increase of bill was due to rock base difference between companies since Shamrock declined the work. After discussion and recommendation of approval from Cutsforth, Pudil moved, seconded by Stagg to approve payment to LL Pelling of \$9,696.80 for alley improvement by The Car Wash and Kava House. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Award Quote for Salt Shed Slab: Cutsforth noted they received one quote for this and recommend accepting quote. It was noted Corum does a lot of other work around town. After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Neuendorf, to award quote to Corum Construction of \$46,291.00 for construction of salt shed slab. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Award Quote for Storm Sewer Repair: Fields presented quotes from Corum Construction of \$8,000.00 and AJ Construction of \$8,900.00 for storm sewer repair on Orchard Street. Fields and Cutsforth noted there will need to be tile on the south side of Orchard but could be done in another year. After discussion, Pudil moved, seconded by Neuendorf, to award quote to Corum Construction of \$8,000.00 for storm sewer repair on Orchard Street. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Guard Rail on 4th Street: Fields presented pictures of area and requested to get bids to install guardrails on 4th Street between Oak and Summit Avenues. He noted the drainage culverts are very close to the road and recommended installing guardrails. After discussion, council directed Fields to get quotes.

Set Public Hearing – Add ADU to Chapter 165: Mayor noted Solon did decline Accessory Dwelling Units Ordinance as they already allow them and read message regarding this from Solon City Administrator. Motion by Gudenkauf, seconded by Stagg, to set public hearing date to Replace Chapter 165 with current

Chapter 165 and add Accessory Dwelling Units for August 28, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at Swisher Library. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2023-39—Install Street Lights: After review, Pudil moved, seconded by Stagg to approve Resolution No. 2023-39 entitled ‘STREET LIGHTING RESOLUTION’ adding lights to existing poles on Central Avenue at end of 4th Street and end of 3rd Street. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Heims, Neuendorf, Pudil, Stagg. Nays: None. Resolution No. 2023-39 passed.

Approve to Send Sign Up Newsletter: Persons presented flyer to mail to residents to sign up for monthly eNewsletter or mailed a printed quarterly newsletter. These are the options Ely has. She presented costs from Canva of \$95 for 500 one-sided postcards and customink.com of \$355, both with free shipping. Residents could sign up for both. Kakacek noted the librarian asked if she could add to sign up for the library newsletter. Council decided at this time to focus on city newsletter signup but could add library information to the newsletter itself. Council agreed to have Persons design and purchase postcards with Canva.

Correspondence: Council reviewed the following: letter from South Slope that the library and city hall well water have PFAS and is not drinkable; letters sent of no tax abatements for City of Swisher; notice of approved annexation into Cedar Rapids; New Laws of Interest from the Iowa League of Cities (ILOC); thank you letter from ILOC for membership and participation; building permits for 308 Division Street SW and 75 Jefferson Avenue. On the table for review was June 2023 Issue of ISU Community Matters Now.

Adjournment: Motion by Pudil, seconded by Gudenkauf to adjourn. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Tawnia Kakacek, City Clerk/ Finance Officer

Christopher Taylor, Mayor