

(Subject to Approval)
CITY OF SWISHER, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 9, 2021

This meeting was also held electronically. Chapter 21.8 of the Iowa Code permits electronic meetings where members participate remotely when in-person meeting is impossible or impractical. 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 7 p.m. at Swisher Library, Swisher, Iowa on August 9, 2021. Mayor noted the City won't respond to chats on the Zoom meeting for they need to speak out to address the council.

Council Present: Rebekah Neuendorf, Kody Pudil, James Rowe, Michael Stagg. Attending electronically was Mary Gudenkauf.

Also Present: City Clerk/Finance Officer Tawnia Kakacek, Chad McCleary of ION Environmental. Librarian Laura Hoover, HR Green City Engineer Jonathon Kline, Johnson County Sheriff Representative Lieutenant Chris Wisman, Clark Derhammer. Via conference call were Gene Beard, Tammy Wright, Kathleen Fear, Heidi Hromidko, Dena Smith, Aaron Sturtz.

Consent Agenda: After review, Gudenkauf moved, seconded by Stagg to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of: Agenda; July 12, 2021 Council Minutes; updated List of Claims; July 2021 Clerk/Treasurer's Report and Utility Balance Report; notice of vacancy for Board of Adjustments. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Neuendorf, Pudil, Rowe, Stagg. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments: Gene Beard noted there is a city ordinance that prohibits ATVs and UTVs and remind Swisher Market Vendors they can't drive those in town. He also noted the City has one and recommend to rewrite the code to allow ATVs and UTVs. Tammy Wright on Seneca Drive noted she would like council input on the FLUM application before it goes to Johnson County Planning & Zoning September 13th Meeting. Kakacek noted it went to Swisher Planning & Zoning in July but the committee wanted further verification of application as there were comments at the meeting the application was incorrect and to be presented back to Swisher Planning & Zoning in August after the city engineer reviews application in further detail. Mayor noted the City has right to review and submit comments only, ultimately the county decides. It was noted for Council to give comments on this FLUM application they would need to be done before September 13th. Motion by Pudil, seconded by Rowe, to have a special meeting on August 30th at 6 p.m. to review this application and present comments. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reports:

Sheriff: Johnson County Sheriff Representative Lieutenant Chris Wisman noted there was a truck stolen in Swisher and recommend residents to lock their vehicles and don't keep your keys in vehicles. Pudil inquired if they have patrolled the crosswalk. Wisman will check into this.

Librarian: Library Director Hoover reported the following: had 58 children finished summer reading program and drew prizes; upgraded technology with public computers and staff computers; has refurbished computer for sale; moving towards streaming service instead of Kanopy; adding extra story-time on Thursdays at 10 am starting August 19th for young children and Thursday evenings will be story-time for ages K-3 grades; now circulating WiFi hot spots for residents to get internet.

Engineer: Kline noted the following items: inspected hoop shed to release payment; reviewed one-call locates; finished FEMA project and will write letter of acceptance; Castek Trail Plans have been adjusted due to the property pin locations; will send out bids next week for the 2021-22 Road Project and 3rd Street bridge.

Stagg inquired when the rest of the work on Division Street Project will be done. Kline will check with Cutsforth.

Mayor: Mayor Taylor noted the following: attended the Joint Entities meeting; will attend the Iowa League of Cities Board meeting on Thursday. The Iowa League of Cities annual conference is in Coralville this year and recommend councilmembers attend if able.

Council: Neuendorf noted she attended the annual fire department board of directors meeting. She also talked to Mark Abel with Kirkwood and he will be happy to send out information to students on the communication position once the city does the job description. Stagg noted Kakacek has been getting quotes for health insurance and sending out to council as may be helpful for job positions.

Employees: McCleary gave the following sewer report: the sludge tank is full and needs to be emptied which Nutriject can do and should be done annually; the sewer plant buildings need to be pressured washed as hadn't been done for long time which Ken-Way can do the first time, then he can keep up with it; he will get a quote for inspection of screen at plant. Gudenkauf and Neuendorf requested for maintenance and budgetary schedule for the sewer plant. McCleary written report is on file for review at city hall. McCleary requested to be able to do his requests earlier in the meeting as he also goes to City of Walford council meeting same night. Council was okay with him just submitting a report and not attend if he didn't have items that needed to be voted on. Mayor asked council if okay to move Agenda Item 4a after Agenda 4d so McCleary can go to the other meeting. Council agreed. Clerk presented written report which is on file at city hall. She did note if Mayor or Council want to attend Iowa Rural Summit at Kirkwood in August, let her know and she will sign them up.

Miscellaneous Reports: Council reviewed Swisher Planning & Zoning July 26,2021 Minutes

Quote to Clean Influent Screen at Sewer Plant: McCleary noted he hadn't received quote yet. No action at this time.

Approve Quote to Calibrate Flow Meters: McCleary presented quotes from GPM of \$463.50 and LINO of \$425.00 and recommended LINO. He noted calibrating should be done annually. After review and discussion, Rowe moved, seconded by Gudenkauf to award quote to LINO of \$425.00 to calibrate the flow meters at the wastewater plan. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Quote to Rent Trash Pump at Sewer Plant: McCleary noted he hadn't received quote yet. No action at this time.

Resolution No. 2021-32-GIS Storm Water Mapping: Kakacek noted this could be paid out of the American Rescue Plans monies. After review and discussion, Pudil moved, seconded by Neuendorf to approve Resolution No. 2021-32 entitled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH HR GREEN FOR GIS STORMWATER MAPPING FOR CITY OF SWISHER" at a cost not to exceed \$9,000. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Neuendorf, Pudil, Rowe, Stagg. Nays: None. Resolution No. 2021-32 passed.

Request to Install Memorial Bench: Heidi Hromidko and family requested to install a memorial bench in honor of her father and mother (Dennis and Rachael Hromidko) at Castek Park. They would also install the concrete pad at their costs. After discussion and review of bench picture, Neuendorf moved, seconded by Pudil to approve donation of memorial bench and refer the location to be decided by Parks & Recreation Commission. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

2021 Legislative Code Updates: Kakacek noted city attorney reviewed the 2021 Legislative updates and don't think Swisher needs update their code. Council agreed.

Resolution No. 2021-33—Salary for Shared Position: Kakacek noted this wasn't included in June salaries as he started in October last year. After discussion, Stagg moved, seconded by Gudenkauf to approve Resolution No. 2021-33 entitled "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING WAGE PAYMENT FOR PART-TIME SHARED POSITION FOR COMMUNITY LIBRARY AND CITY HALL" of 3% increase to Len Riker starting 8-1-21. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gudenkauf, Neuendorf, Pudil, Rowe, Stagg. Nays: None. Resolution No. 2021-33 passed.

Council and Mayor Pay: Gudenkauf commended Stagg for requesting council/mayor pay to be brought up and look at this for future councilpersons' wage. Mayor noted 20 years ago, Swisher was at the high end of council pay and now Swisher is at the low end for pay. Neuendorf, Pudil, and Rowe stated they were not in favor of council pay increase. Pudil noted the Mayor pay should be increased as all the additional meetings he attends representing Swisher and duties he does. Stagg noted Council does things for the City outside the council meeting and feels it is prudent to update compensation for council, mayor and future council members. Mayor noted the pay change for Mayor wouldn't go in effect until his term was done at end of 2023. Council discussed a 2nd meeting a month if the regular council meeting is past 2 hours and not all items were addressed. Council noted to revisit mayor/council pay in 2023. No action taken at this time.

Public Works Superintendent Position: Kakacek noted there is applicant to be interviewed next week but that is all she has received that qualifies. Pudil noted pay needs to be increased to get applicants. Stagg noted if they come for interview at current wage, council could offer higher wage if more qualified. Rowe noted the hourly wage could be posted with a range of pay based on experience. Neuendorf noted the advertisement is their first impression for applicants and need to either promote the wage or the benefits more. She recommended advertising the annual salary instead of the hourly salary. Stagg noted the city clerk has been sending health insurance quotes to them to get idea of what it would cost instead of insurance stipend as feels that may be part of the issue of no applications. Gudenkauf noted few companies paying higher water for same type of work. It was noted that the HR Manual offers stipend pay for employee to purchase their own insurance. Mayor recommended the HR Manual be on next regularly scheduled agenda to review regarding vacation, sick leave, insurance, etc. After discussion, council decided if they don't hire the applicant they will be interviewing on Monday, the position will be readvertised at total annual compensation of \$50,000 and note that there will be no health insurance stipend listed and no health insurance offered.

Correspondence Council reviewed the following correspondence: letter requesting ATV vehicles be allowed on city streets. detail information on traffic study from MPOJC; IDOT notice of I-380 Corridor Preservation; New Laws of Interest from the 2021 Legislative Session; and thank you letter from Iowa League of Cities; required TIF letters sent out. On table for review were building permits issued for 125 Division Street SW and 115 1st Street SE. Pudil inquired why UTVs aren't allowed on city streets. Council decided to discuss this later in the year.

Adjournment: Motion by Stagg, seconded by Pudil to adjourn. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Tawnia Kakacek, City Clerk/ Finance Officer

Christopher Taylor, Mayor