

MAQUOKETA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, May 17, 2021

Mayor Schwenker called the regular session of the Maquoketa City Council to order at 6:00 with seven members present:

Present: Kean, Woodward, Lyon, Collister, Kuhlman, Good, Holm

Motion by Lyon, seconded by Woodward approving the consent agenda consisting of the agenda, May 3rd minutes, bills, April monthly financial reports, renewal class "E" liquor and Sunday sales filed by Casey's General Store #2846 and new class "E" liquor license and Sunday sales filed by Hy-Vee Dollar Fresh.

Motion Carried 6-1 Ayes: Kean, Woodward, Lyon Kuhlman, Good Holm
Abstain: Collister

Brent Hinson and Pat Callahan of Hinson Consulting spoke in the audience regarding the City Manager search. Hinson reported that because the Council election is so close, they are proposing a timeline that would allow interviews to take place right after the election. This would allow all newly elected Council members and current Council members to participate in the interviews. If Council is not in favor of this timeline it could be moved up.

Schwenker questioned the advantage of hiring a manager now so that a Council members might run for re-election.

Hinson stated there is no right answer but the City is close enough to the election that it might make a difference to an applicant.

Schwenker stated all of the upcoming projects might be a selling point for someone to apply.

Hinson stated it is a judgement call.

Callahan stated it is a good choice to have the Council who will hire the new City Manager be the Council that will work with him for a while. He stated the Council that hires the new City Manager will be more invested in the person than someone who was not involved in the hiring process.

Lyon questioned when the interviews would be held and Hinson stated they could be held right after the election.

Hinson stated Council should think about citizen involvement so there will be a mixed panel of elected officials, staff and members from the public. They will be working on the position profile.

Hinson reviewed where they will advertise and stated Council will have to come to a decision regarding wages and benefits. It looks like the salary should be in the range of \$110,000 - \$125,000. He would like Council to have a game plan going in so they would need to discuss wages, car allowance, vacation and a severance package so they can be prepared the day of interviews.

Hinson reported there will be two rounds of interviews with the first set being virtual and the final interviews in person.

Woodward questioned if there is any damage control that would need to be done if they wait until January.

Callahan stated if Smith were to need help, he knows of someone that would be available on an interim basis.

Kuhlman stated he likes the timeline that will include new Council members.

Nic Hockenberry spoke in the audience telling Council they can reach out to JCEA at any time. He stated there is a lot of activity in the industrial park and a lot of interest in the available sites. The old US Bank building is being renovated. Volatility in materials has caused some challenges with the length of time quotes will last.

Hockenberry stated unemployment is down to near pre-pandemic but it is a tight labor market.

Mayor Schwenker opened the public hearing regarding the sale of City property at 402 Circle Drive and 414 N Niagara. There were no written comments. A neighbor spoke to say he would like to see the property taken care of. Motion by Lyon, seconded by Collister closing the public hearing. Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Collister, seconded by Holm approving Resolution No. 2021-41, entitle, "Resolution authorizing sale of property at 402 Circle Drive and 414 N Niagara by bid process." Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Collister, seconded by Holm approving the first reading of Ordinance No. 1182, entitled, "An Ordinance amending Title VI, Chapter 5B, Section 9 Bulky Rubbish of the City of Maquoketa code of Ordinances." Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Lyon, seconded by Kean approving March invoice in the amount of \$10,984.03 submitted by Bolton & Menk for the Platt Street final design. Motion Carried: 6-1 Nay: Collister

Motion by Collister, seconded by Lyon approving upgrade of phone system at YMCA at a cost not to exceed \$7523.40. Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Lyon, seconded by Kuhlman approving purchase of two matrix climbhills, four matrix recumbent bikes and two xride seated ellipticals in the amount of \$23,525 for the YMCA. Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Lyon, seconded by Holm approving payment #4 in the amount of \$80,696 to Sheets General Contractor for the Maquoketa Art Experience-Upper Story Apartments. Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Holm, seconded by Lyon approving payment in the amount of \$26,141.25 to Origin Design, formerly IIW, for design and construction engineering work for the Stormwater System Improvement 2020 Project. Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Woodward, seconded by Good approving payment in the amount of \$88,338.88 to Origin Design, formerly IIW, for Platt Street Construction Engineering. Motion Carried 6-1 Nay: Collister

Discussion was held regarding the payment for flaggers for the Platt Street project, with Collister questioning why Tshiggfrie was not paying for flaggers. Frank Ellenz explained the project is starting with infrastructure, ending with blacktop, in two-block increments. Kuhlman asked if this was going to happen on the East side as well, and Ellenz responded stating that this money covers the whole job. Motion by Lyon, seconded by Woodward approving change order #3 in the amount of \$19,965.00 for flaggers for the Platt Street project. Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Woodward, seconded by Good approving Resolution No. 2021-42, entitled "Resolution setting Tuesday, June 1st at 2:00 p.m. as the Public Hearing date regarding FY 20-21 budget amendment. Motion Carried 7-0

Discussion was held in regards to fireworks, with fireworks being allowed for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of July, because the 4th falls on a Sunday this particular year. An annual discussion of dates fireworks are allowed was brought up, with Mayor Schwenker stated he is in favor of a resolution if the dates are going to change frequently from year to year, but in favor of it remaining an ordinance if the dates remain the same annually, from July 1st-July 7th. Mayor Schwenker also stated he is in favor of inspections at all fireworks outlets. Motion by Collister, seconded by Kuhlman to table an Ordinance amending Title III, Community Protection, Chapter 4 Fireworks of the City of Maquoketa code of ordinances-first reading. Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Collister, seconded by Lyon approving Resolution No. 2021-43, entitled "Resolution approving fees and charges for the City equipment and services". Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Kuhlman, seconded by Lyon to table Upper Story Grants in Downtown Incentive Program until January 1, 2022. Motion Carried 7-0

Mayor Schwenker stated Council thought there was \$50,000 budgeted for the Downtown Incentive Program, but the program has been operating at \$100,000. He stated \$50,000 was to be used for the Corridor Incentive. Schwenker stated the City needs that money available for possible costs on the Platt Street project.

Kuhlman stated the City needs to consider what will be available if property owners have issues on Platt Street.

Collister stated the City needs to decide on priorities. The Committee found a reasonable compromise and now Council wants to question it. Motion by Lyon, seconded by Woodward to budget \$100,000 annually from the TIF for the Downtown Incentive Program. Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Woodward, seconded by Lyon approving reimbursement from the Downtown Incentive Grant in the amount of \$10,000 to OHIO PRAIRIE PROPERTIES LLC for acquisition and consultant grants for 138 S. Main Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Lyon, seconded by Good to approve the following grants,

- a. 106 S. Main, commercial interior - \$10,000.00
- b. 106 S. Main, Façade - \$5000.00
- c. 107 S. Main, commercial interior - \$2331.00

Motion Carried 7-0

Jessica Kean thanked everyone for her time working as a City Council member, as well as Chair of Hometown Pride. She was pleased with the various projects Hometown Pride were able to complete, and announced her replacement as Chair will be Katie Pauls. Motion by Collister, seconded by Woodward to accept resignation of Jessica Kean from Second Ward Council position. Motion Carried 6-1 Nay: Lyon

Kuhlman thanked Kean for her time and service, and Mayor Schwenker seconded that sentiment. It was agreed that applications for Kean's position will be taken through June 9th. Motion by Collister, seconded by Kuhlman to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Second Ward Council member Jessica Kean by appointment.

Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Collister, seconded by Lyon to accept the resignation from the Historic Preservation Commission submitted by Richard E. Stimmel

Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Kuhlman, seconded by Woodward approving the mayoral appointment of Josh Collister to Jackson County Economic Alliance.

Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Kuhlman, seconded by Woodward to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.
All Ayes

Don Schwenker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mallory Smith, Interim City Manager