

March 6, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Borowski at 5:45 pm.

The meeting was held at the City Council Chambers and electronically.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Kirsten Olson, Steven Zittergruen, Randy Schissel, Emily Neal, Kirk Johnson, Steve Luse

Absent: Ross Hadley

Assistant Police Chief Scott Herrmann performed the swearing in and pinning ceremony to the two new police officers, Tera Mathis and Samson Elledge.

Consent agenda was presented.

- a. Minutes of the February 20, 2023, Regular Council Meeting and February 27, 2023, Work Session
- b. Claims
- c. Dorsey & Whitney Engagement Letter-Urban Renewal Amendment and WSSA TIF Agreement
- d. Bluffside Gardens Development Agreement
- e. Resolution Setting Date for Public Hearing on Urban Renewal Plan Amendment
- f. Consider Contract Termination Agreement with Elvira Estates, LLC
- g. Consider Contract Termination Agreement with IEDA
- h. Renewal of Class C Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service for Lefse Trolls LLC
- i. Renewal of Class C Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service for Don Jose Mexican Restaurant
- j. Renewal of Class C Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service for Winneshiek County Fair
- k. New Class C Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service for Traveling Tapster LLC
- l. Residential Tax Abatement-Diana Sadler/Michael Engelhardt-701 Maple Avenue-New Construction

Schissel made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, Neal seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Schissel, Neal, Olson, Luse, Johnson, Zittergruen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing at 5:58 pm on the Decorah Generators Mitigation Project. No Comment. Public hearing was closed at 5:59 pm. Luse made a motion to approve Resolution 3347 to approve the Decorah Generators Mitigation Project, Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Luse, Olson, Neal, Schissel, Zittergruen, Johnson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Luse made a motion to approve Resolution 3348 approving the Necessity for the Decorah 2023 Alley Improvement Project. The public hearing is set for April 3, 2023, at 5:45 pm. Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Luse, Olson, Zittergruen, Johnson, Neal, Schissel. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Neal made a motion to approve Resolution 3349 setting the public hearing for the fiscal year 2024 budget for April 3, 2023 at 5:45 pm using \$42,500.00 from the Fire and Police Retirement savings account, \$125,000.00 from the Local Option Sales Tax to go towards the Locust Road debt, and with Option A budget cuts that include reductions of \$10,000.00 from the Police Department, \$10,000.00 from Parks and Recreation, \$5,000.00 from IT, \$25,000.00 from Sustainability, and \$50,000.00 from the Library. Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Neal, Olson, Schissel, Johnson, Zittergruen, Luse. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Luse made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Winneshiek County Fair Board regarding the races held at the fairgrounds. Schissel seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Luse, Schissel, Zittergruen, Johnson, Olson, Neal. Nays: None. Motion carried.

City Manager, Travis Goedken, discussed the retirement of Police Chief Dave Smutzler on June 30, 2023. Goedken expressed that he believes that the City needs to hire a consulting firm to lead a search for a new police chief. Council members expressed their satisfaction with Jeff Kaehler Consulting, the firm that was used last time. Goedken stated he would get a proposal from Kaehler to present to Council at the next council meeting.

Mayor Borowski reminded everyone that there are still several openings on boards and commissions that have yet to be filled.

- a. Telecommunications Board (1)
- b. Civil Service Commission (1)
- c. Board of Appeals (5)

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Keri Sand
City Clerk-Finance Officer