

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING PROCEEDINGS

The Plankinton City Council met in special session on Monday, April 20, 2020, at the Plankinton Senior Citizens' Center. Meeting was called to address opening of Pool, and the baseball/softball program this summer, due to questions on the Covid-19 restrictions.

Mayor Staller called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Council members present: Pam Vissia, Terry Schuldt, Jason Schurz, Susan Steele, and Jim Hinckley. Brad Kehn was absent. City employee, Eileen Sorsen, and Gayle VanGenderen from SD Mail were in attendance.

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to change the Agenda-- to move Senior Graduation discussion to right after bill approval, and that Katlyn Briggs, Plankinton Sr. Class President, had a 6:45 appointment to attend the Council meeting. She wanted to be included in the City's discussion about a graduation ceremony. Motion by Vissia to approve the agenda, as changed. Seconded by Schurz. All voted aye. Motion carried.

BILL APPROVAL:

Motion by Hinckley to approve bills:

A & B BUSINESS—Copier contract--\$144.35; AMERIPRIDE—Rug Contract--\$39.79; AUR. CO. TREASURER—1st ½ 2020 Law Enforcement Contract--\$32,061.62; AVERA HEALTH PLAN—Empl. Health Ins.--\$5,364.30; AVERA OCC. HEALTH—Drug Test--\$96.55; BENDER'S SEWER—Clean out 2nd St Manhole--\$481.00; BORDER STATES—Elec. Meter Sockets--\$156.17; CENTRAL ELECTRIC—March Wheeling Fees--\$2,019.52; CITY OF PLANKINTON—Met. Dep. to #00-17-05-5--\$250.00; DEPT. OF ENERGY—March Power Purch.--\$15,027.21; EAST RIVER ELECTRIC-- March Wheeling Fees--\$4,611.60; GUARDIAN—Employee Group Ins.--\$308.26; HEARTLAND CONSUMERS POWER—March Power Purchase--\$39,240.19; MCLEOD'S PRINTING—Absentee Sets & Envelopes--\$134.39; PHEASANTLAND IND.—Park Closing Signs--\$153.76; CITY OF PLANKINTON—Met. Dep. applied to #00-250-02-5--\$100.21; SD DEPT. OF TRANSP.—Diesel Fuel--\$288.09; JEWEL RAE TANQUARY—Refund Bal. of Met. Dep. #00-250-02-5--\$149.79; SOUTH DAKOTA ONE CALL—March Message Fees--\$16.80; VERIZON—3/4-4/3/20 Tower Internet--\$45.51; VISA—Office & Pool Supplies--\$262.35.

Schuldt seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

GRADUATION:

Plankinton School Supt., Mr. Randall, asked the Mayor & Council what their thoughts were on to hold a graduation ceremony on May 16th. Hinckley said we can't really decide right now, because the State and County are still saying social distancing is needed. Council is worried about health compromised citizens and senior citizens in the area. They agreed that the businesses and general population have been very good about listening to the Resolution.

Katlyn was asked to come in at 6:49 p.m. She said the date is set for May 16, at 5:00 p.m., as normal. The discussion ensued about the best way to promote social distancing, and still allowing the seniors to have their families attend. Council members advised that maybe they should hold off graduation for later, to see if restrictions are lifted. Kaitlyn stated that graduation was left on May 16 to give the seniors some closure, but she would not mind changing to a later date. Hinckley said he spoke for himself in stating he would like to see the graduates receive "their just reward". Mr. Randall was put on

speaker phone, and it was suggested that he, the School Board and Class Advisors talk to the seniors to all make a decision on a ceremony. He would like to hold the ceremony in May (with 50 people or less attending), as one of the seniors will be leaving the state around July 1. He plans on sending out a questionnaire to seniors and parents to see what their wishes are. Vissia said the council doesn't want to dictate when we have graduation, but our concern is the number of people in the gym. She told Mr. Randall that we have a regular council meeting on May 4, if he would let the City know of the school's decision before that. Mayor Staller said a decision will be made at the May 4 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

POOL OPENING:

Schurz talked to Utility Supt. about opening later in summer, and they didn't feel it should open late, but maybe we could at least open up the parks. It takes 2 weeks just to paint & prep the pool, so a decision was made to discuss it further at the regular May 4 council meeting. Many towns are just staying closed. Steele mentioned that swim lessons are a life skill, and maybe if we waited until June 15, there would still be 2 months of the swimming season. Finance Officer Sorsen was asked to write a letter to prospective lifeguards to let them know that it may not open, or open with limited hours. That way they could look for other employment if they wish.

SUMMER REC DEPT.:

No decision was made to hold softball or baseball practices or games yet. It will be discussed further at May 4, 2020, regular council meeting. Mayor Staller was told the VFW League and Little League planning won't begin until June 1.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Senior banners are being purchased. He plans on asking city maintenance employees to hang them on Main Street light poles. The City has the hangers.

Vissia made a motion to have the City hang the senior banners. Hinckley seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Signed: John J. Staller, Mayor _____

Attest: Eileen Sorsen, Finance Officer _____

