

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Plankinton City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 1, 2021. Mayor Staller called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Pam Vissia, Jim Hinckley, and Jason Schurz. Absent were: Brad Kehn and Terry Schuldt. City employees present were: Eileen Sorsen and Chance Boyd.

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of bills to pay approval. Vissia made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Schurz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

VISITORS:

Clint Bultsma was scheduled to come and talk about the 2021- 2022 employee health insurance but was not available. He sent the two insurance quotes, and Mayor Staller read them to the Council. If the City keeps the old health policy, it will go up by 17.12%. We have been grandfathered in on that plan, which has a \$500 deductible, \$1,500 Out of Pocket, and a \$25 co-pay. The new price per person would go up to \$1,284.44. The other policy shown has a 3.31% rate increase, and has a \$1,000 deductible, \$2,000 out of pocket max with a \$35 co-pay. The new rate per person would be \$1,132.98. All employees and Council agreed that it should change to the new 3.31% increase plan. Vissia made a motion to go with the 3.31% rate increase plan. Hinckley seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

There were no visitors.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the regular November 11, 2021 Council meeting. Schurz made the motion to approve, and Vissia seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

BILL APPROVAL:

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to authorize the Finance Officer to pay bills. Hinckley made the motion to authorize bill pay. Schurz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

EFT BILLS PD. AFTER OCT. 11, 2021

BI-WEEKLY PAY 21 & 22-- \$17,932.08; GREAT WESTERN BANK—Bkt Trk Loan Pay-- \$3,186.19; IRS 941 Taxes—Pay 21 & 22-- \$5,576.08; SD Dept. of Rev.—Sept. Sales Tax-- \$3,503.12; SDRS – October State Retirement—4,009.18; WEALTH MGMT TFM—Water/Sewer Loan-- \$19,009.17

BILLS PAID AFTER OCT. 11 ,2021 AUTHORIZATION

AURORA CO. TREAS.—2nd half 2021 Law Enforcement Cont.-- \$32,850.10; AVERA—Sept. Emp. Health Ins.-- \$8,335.00; CENTRAL ELECTRIC—Sept. Wheeling Fee-- \$1,117.85; DELTA DENTAL—November Dental Ins.-- \$592.80; EAST RIVER ELECTRIC—Sept. Wheeling Fee-- \$2,983.10; GUARDIAN—November Life, LTD., STD. Ins. Payment-- \$349.85; HAWKINS INC.—Pool Chemical-- \$681.65; HEARTLAND—Sept. Power Purchase-- \$9,569.83; HEARTLAND—Elec. Loan Pay #29--\$2,483.36; VERIZON WIRELESS—Tower Internet/ Surface Pro-- \$75.16; VSP—Dec.-July Eye Ins.-- \$1,125.67

BILLS TO PAY AFTER NOVEMBER 1, 2021, MEETING

A & B BUSINESS—10/21- 11/20 Copier Contract--\$127.32; AFLAC – Monthly Empl. Vol. Ins. -- \$181.55; ARAMARK—Rug Contract-- \$34.04; BARNES & NOBLE—Books-- \$314.67; BORDER STATES—Elec. Supplies--\$1,813.79; FIRST CIRCUIT CASA—Donation-- \$500.00; CASEY SCHMIDT—SDML Conference Milage-- \$249.48; CITY OF PLANK.—Met. Dep. Applies to 00-07-06-5-- \$26.00; CLAY BROUWER—Oct. Cemetery

Mowing-- \$1,200.00; DIANE SCOTT—Met. Dep. Refund 00-07-06-5-- \$74.00; FORTERRA—Manhole Parts-- \$355.20; GT SANITATION—Nov. Garbage Service--\$65.00; JOHN STALLER—SDML Conference-- \$598.50; KONECHNE HEATING & COOLING—Ann. Sr. Center HVAC Check--\$446.47; MENARDS —Supplies-- \$815.64; MITCHELL IRON—Street Sweeper Parts-- \$104.58; NAPA AUTO PARTS—Battery Disconnect Switch-- \$38.49; PLANKINTON LUMBER—Various Supplies-- \$526.80; RON’S MARKET—Supplies-- \$18.91; PIONEER DESIGNS—City Hall Lettering-- \$130.62; RODNEY WEBER—Heartland Rebate-- \$200.00; RUNNINGS—Uniform Shirt-- \$23.98; SANITATION PROD. INC.—Street Sweeper Parts-- \$113.89; SD 811—Sept. Message Fees- \$7.35; SD DEPT. OF HEALTH—Water Testing-- \$315.00; SD DEPT. OF TRANS.— diesel/truck tires-- \$2,919.15; SDML WORKERS COMP.—2022 Work Comp. Renewal-- \$5,666.00; SD MAIL – Publishing & Stamper-- \$569.55; SHAFER MEMORIALS—Cemetery Stone Repair Contract 2021-- \$7,000.00; VISA—Supplies- \$1,600.75; WATERLINE TECHNOLOGIES, INC.—Commercial Pump -- \$5,371.13.

OLD BUSINESS:

EILEEN SORSEN- FORMAL RESIGNATION:

Eileen handed in her formal resignation for the Finance Officer position. She will be retiring on November 26, 2021.

NUISANCE PROPERTIES:

Mayor Staller and Councilman Hinckley drove around town to check on nuisances. There were fewer this time. He will fill out an e-mail to the Council members with the findings, and it will be discussed at the December 6 regular meeting.

MOWING ORDINANCE:

There was discussion on re-writing the city mowing ordinance, due to worry about people mowing and blowing their grass on the street. The Council feels our current ordinance does not need any changes made to it.

NEW ORDINANCE BOOK REVIEWS:

Mayor Staller mentioned that there is still a need to finish the reviewing of the new book, so it can be adopted.

FLOOD ORDINANCE UPDATE:

City Attorney, James Taylor, is currently working on the new flood ordinance. It will be discussed at a future meeting.

REDISTRICTING:

The Census created a need to redistrict the Wards in the city. Mr. Taylor is currently working on the new Redistricting Ordinance for Plankinton.

STATE WATER FACILITIES PLAN APPLICATION:

Mayor Staller read John Clem’s (District III) statement about this and recommended putting the Briggs Development lift station only on this, instead of taking out a huge loan. Council’s consensus was to work on the Briggs area only.

CITY HALL MURAL:

We are currently looking for funding, but we can still work on the contest and gain ideas for mural ideas. Mayor & Council suggested contacting Faulkton to see how they received funding for their mural.

NEW BUSINESS:

LIQUOR LICENSE HEARING:

Council set the date for the hearing for December 6, 2021.

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY:

Vissia made a motion to grant the employees November 25 and November 26 off for Thanksgiving. Schurz seconded the motion. All voted aye.

LIFEGUARD ADVERTISING:

The Council would like to start the process of advertising for 2022 Lifeguard positions. There will be lifeguard training available in Mitchell on December 29 & 30, 2021, so there is a need to hire early.

SCHOOL SPIRIT SIGN:

The Council discussed the condition of the sign that is by the Rodeway Inn on the south side of Plankinton. It is getting faded and dilapidated. Vissia asked if we could wait, and she would ask alumni in April if they can help with purchasing a new one. Will bring it back for discussion in May or June.

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT AURORA CO. MULTI-JURISDICTION PRE-DISASTER PLAN:

Vissia made a motion to have Mayor Staller sign the Resolution. Hinckley seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried. The Resolution will be sent to John Clem from Planning District III.

RESOLUTION

A resolution of the City Council of Plankinton declaring its support for, and adoption of, the Aurora County Multi-Jurisdiction Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan.

WHEREAS a Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan for Aurora County (the Plan) has been developed; and

WHEREAS the City of Plankinton participated in the development of the Plan; and

WHEREAS the Plan will be used as a disaster mitigation planning tool as deemed appropriate by the Plankinton City Council.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Plankinton City Council hereby adopts and supports the Plan, and will take action to ensure that the Plan is implemented successfully.

Adopted and approved this first day of November 2021.

SIGNED: _____

Mr. John Staller, Mayor of Plankinton

ATTEST: _____

Ms. Eileen Sorsen, Municipal Finance Officer

FIRST READING- SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #2021-4:

The budget process for 2021 was already completed when additional insurance claims, FEMA and ARPA funds & Pool Committee Bathhouse funds came in, so this Supplemental Budget Ordinance #2021-4 has been written to move the moneys to the correct funds. Second reading will be at the December 6 regular meeting. Hinckley made a motion to approve the first reading. Schurz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

SHERIFF'S REPORTS:

The reports were handed out to the Council.

BUILDING PERMITS:

Horizon Healthcare—Permit #101521—Clinic addition and remodel at 106 S. Main St.; Tony Erpenbach—302 E 3rd – Concrete sidewalk from deck to street sidewalk; Farmers & Merchants Bank—Permit #110121—Addition @ 101 S Main Street.

Mayor Staller read the Building Permits to the Council. Building Supt. Kehn was absent but will sign off on these at a later date. The Horizon Healthcare clinic permit had previously been approved.

MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Darin was absent but his report was read by the mayor. Darin's report stated that he is working on the snow removal route sign preparation. Signs will be installed upon delivery of them. He is repairing/replacing a lot of the street signs. New LED flashing lights were put on the bucket truck. They are working on repairing the street sweeper. Darin attended the 5-year plan meeting held with the mayor and decided to plan to replace 2 blocks of old sewer per year, along with manholes. Mayor will get more information on the 5-year plan and discuss it in December. Safety Benefits met with the city employees on October 27th and Darin reported that we are doing quite well compared to other towns/cities. He reported that he got a bid on tearing down two city buildings with old wells in them by the shop. The council agreed it would be good to tear them down. Mayor said he would like to also get the white old well building by the elevator/railroad taken down, as it looks terrible. The bathhouse roof is supposed to be getting down this week.

ELECTRIC SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Chance reported that some more time has been spent at the pool. The block layers are done, the plumbers got the showers installed and the roof construction can begin. He has also been able to work on some of the street lighting on the west side of Main Street alleyway. He has been getting overhead converted over to underground and getting ready to start pulling some poles. He will start pulling poles in the alleyways this month. Most of them will not be usable again. Mayor asked Chance to put a price on them and sell them later. He is also looking at replacing the east pole by the RR Museum for a heavier pole for the Christmas lights that string across Main Street. Chance also reported that he talked with Isaac from DGR about doing the engineering of the entire town's electric system. He suggested the Council think about doing that in the future. The cost was estimated at \$75,000 to \$100,000. It would enable the city electrician to plan to update of sections of electrical in town, including 3-phase, as funds allow it.

FINANCE OFFICER REPORT:

Eileen reported she is retiring on November 26th. She says it has been an eventful 9 years. She felt proud in all the changes and work that was accomplished during this time. Hinckley was proud that she finally proved she could do the job when he took the position in November of 2019. Vissia accepted the resignation with regret. Hinckley second the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

MAYORS REPORT:

The Mayor reported that we were bidding on a street sweeper from the city of Miller but it went for \$15,600. Darin will get parts to fix ours for now but is still looking. He said many people have approached him asking when the east dump site will close and if it could stay open a little longer this year, due to leaves not falling as fast as some had hoped. Mayor talked to Ms. Gould asking if she would be willing to help until the end of November, earlier if we get a big snow, and she agreed to help until then. Mr. Jirsa sent in a second pay request for the pool for \$112,800.00. Motion to pay by Schurz. Seconded by Vissia. All voted aye. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:39 PM

Signed: John J. Staller, Mayor_____

Attest: Eileen Sorsen, Finance Officer_____