

CITY HALL  
EVANSDALE, IOWA, FEBRUARY 1, 2022  
CITY COUNCIL  
DEANNE KOBLISKA, MAYOR, PRESIDING

The City Council of the City of Evansdale, Iowa met in regular session, according to law, the rules of said Council and prior notice given each member thereof, in the Council Chambers of City Hall of Evansdale, Iowa at 6:00 p.m. on the above date. Council members present in order of roll call: Osborne, Smock, Nichols, Beam (by telephone), and Seible. Quorum present.

Nichols/Seible to approve the February 1, 2022 agenda. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Seible/Beam to approve the January 18, 2022 regular meeting minutes. Roll call vote. Ayes-Five.

Rose Schroder with Bolten & Menk to present the Design Standards for the Eagles Landing Design Standards. The items that were discussed were landscaping, signage, sidewalks, curb cuts, and building material designs. Brian Wirtz, Building Inspector, discussed the importance of signage on the lots, especially since the interstate passes by the development. Councilor Smock questioned if having a large sign on each lot would cause a hodgepodge for the development. Ms. Schroder responded that the lots were wide enough to allow for the pole signs, however, we could limit the height. Mayor Kobliska responded that the city would review the standards and discuss the amendments with Ms. Schroder.

Seible/Nichols to approve the appointment of Water Works Board of Trustees. Mayor Kobliska announced the following City Appointment–Austin Russell with term expiring 12-31-27. Kobliska stated that in full disclosure that Austin is her nephew, however, she had no oversight over the water works board and that he was a qualified applicant. Councilor Nichols questioned if he would be able to attend the Water Works meetings at the current stated time. Kobliska responded that they were in the process of changing their meeting time to accommodate a later time. Dick Dewater, 930 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., stated that he was concerned that Dottie Wear wasn't appointed to this position and believed it was out of spite. Dewater also stated that Wear had been a long-time volunteer with the city and was making progress with the board. Councilor Osborne responded that it wasn't out of spite. Dewater responded that she wasn't appointed due to a letter the water board sent out regarding the ballot issue and he believed it was unjust and unfair. Kelly Parker, Marion St., stated that it was a big accusation toward the council, and the motives should have been reviewed. Ayes-Five. Motion Carried.

Seible/Beam to approve the Resolution Calendar as amended by request to remove Resolution 6570 and act on it separately. a. Resolution 6579 authorizing payment of bills and transfers. b. Resolution 6580 approving increase in garage/sewer deposit. c. Resolution 6581 approving tax abatement for property located at 1035 East End Ave. Councilor Seible questioned the increase in the garbage/wastewater deposit. Mayor Kobliska responded that in the event a resident would move out and not pay their bill it would cover some of the costs. Roll call vote. Ayes-Five.

Seible/Nichols to approve request from Police Chief to take bids for the sale of 2011 Dodge Charger with a starting bid in the amount of \$2,500. Councilor Seible questioned where we would advertise the sale of the Dodge Charger. Chief Dean responded that we would advertise as we had in the past. Mayor Kobliska stated that we had been successful by advertising the vehicle for bid.

Osborne/Seible to table request from Police Chief Dean to retain one vehicle for emergency use only. Chief Dean spoke regarding the retention of the fifth vehicle. He stated that he had been a part of the Evansdale Police Dept. for nearly twenty-three years and questioned if it would affect the enforcement with the city. Chief Dean also stated that he didn't see the savings to eliminating a vehicle from the force as we have retained five vehicles for many years. Our force needs to be prepared in any situation he stated that it was important in our community for the residents to feel

safe and protected for whatever may happen. If they call for help, we want to be able to help them. Councilor Beam questioned what the annual raise for the city's police dept. would be in the next fiscal year. Chief Dean responded 2.75%. Beam also questioned if we could increase the revenues generated by the police department. Chief Dean responded that the police department wasn't a revenue bearing entity but a law enforcement entity. Councilor Smock stated that he didn't believe we were an entity that was going to issue tickets in order to increase our general fund. Councilor Seible stated that he was not against the police department but had been working with the mayor to consider the costs of retaining five vehicles. He also stated that there is a perception in the city that the vehicles are not being utilized as they should. He also stated that we were looking at ways to save costs. Chief Dean responded that he was simply giving his professional opinion regarding the fleet as well as retaining Elk Run Heights law enforcement. Seible responded that we were looking for ways to save money for the city and how to element the costly repairs. Councilor Osborne questioned if we could retain the extra vehicle on a trial basis and would document when the fifth vehicle is utilized. Smock stated that we should place in motion a plan to utilize the vehicles equally. Laura Benson, 1674 Michigan Ave., stated that she was in favor of keeping the fifth squad car and was backing the police department.

Mayor Kobliska stated that the public hearing for the sale of 111 Bright Street was rescheduled for February 15, 2022. Councilor Nichols expressed his concern about republishing the notice. Kobliska stated it was required.

Seible/Beam to approve the request from Mayor to replace firewall at City Hall, Public Works, Water Works Plant, and Water Works Office in the amount of \$6,056 with Computer Troubleshooters (Water Works-2,002.67, Public Works-2,002.67, City Hall \$2,050.66) as budgeted for FY22. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Seible/Osborne to approve the request from Mayor to replace 3-vestibule heater units in the amount of \$1,750 with Henninger Electric. Mayor Kobliska stated that the current heaters in the entryways have lasted over 50 years and needed to be replaced as our code required it. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Budget Workshop: Mayor Kobliska stated that there were no changes in the budget at this time. The only item that was undecided was our agreement with Elk Run Heights for law enforcement. We are looking at a three-year agreement with 3% increase in the first two years and no increase in the third year. We had increased Elk Run's contract by 57% in the last five year of service. If we continue on this track, we may risk losing their contract. If we do lose the contract our budget would escalate from 9.79% to 8.3%. Councilor Beam stated that everyone is concerned about losing the agreement with Elk Run Heights, but Elk Run needs to consider our relationship as well. Councilor Nichols stated that we had not charged enough to begin with and that we needed to consider the cost to the residents of Evansdale. Dick Dewater, 930 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., stated that if we lose the contract with Elk Run Heights it would affect our taxpayers. Kelly Parker, Marion Ave., stated that we had a lot of expenses for Eagles Landing and wanted to know if it would lower the budget once that was completed. Mayor Kobliska responded that the Eagles Landing Project was not part of the general fund budget but capital projects. Councilor Smock questioned if future funds would be designated to replace the aging ambulance. Councilor Seible responded that once the park dept. projects were completed, we would budget toward future expenses.

Public discussion: Non-Agenda Items. Laura Benson, 1674 Michigan, questioned if the house located at 1678 Michigan Ave., would be addressed as it is contributing to fowl in the area. Dick Dewater, questioned why two councilors would opt to be in the same ward and the city didn't have a councilor in ward four. Councilor Seible and Osborne stated that they were working on the issue. Ward four is covered by Councilor Osborne until the next city election.

Mayor/Council Reports: Councilor Seible stated that he wanted to review the GPS on each vehicle and stated that it was a great tool for the city.

There being no further discussion, Seible/Nichols to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

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DeAnne Kobliska, Mayor

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Justin Smock, Mayor Pro tem