

CITY HALL
EVANSDALE, IOWA, FEBRUARY 3, 2015
CITY COUNCIL
DOUG FAAS, 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: Seible, Dewater, Loftus, Walker, and Nichols. Absent: None. Quorum present.

Walker/Loftus to approve the February 3, 2015 agenda. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Dewater/Seible to approve the following items on the February 3, 2015 consent agenda: a) Approval of January 20, 2015 regular meeting minutes b) Resolution 5764 authorizing payment of bills and transfers, c) Approval of a liquor license for Dollar General store #1458. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Walker/Seible to approve request from Ray Harvey of Black Hawk County Street Machines to block off two blocks of Lafayette Road on May 3, 2015 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Councilman Nichols asked who would benefit from the event. Harvey stated that Black Hawk County Street Machines would donate proceeds to the Shriners. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Dewater/Walker to approve Resolution 5765 fixing compensation for a City employee. Councilman Seible asked if the anniversary raise occurs annually. Mayor Faas stated that the employee did not receive the budgeted raise given to all employees at the beginning of the fiscal year because the individual had only worked for the City for six months. The proposed raise would make the employee's wage consistent with the raises given to all employees in July 2014. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Seible/Walker to approve Resolution 5766 relating to financing of proposed project to be undertaken by the City of Evansdale, Iowa; establishing compliance with reimbursement regulations under the Internal Revenue Code. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Walker/Loftus to approve Resolution 5767 preliminary plat for Auditor Barnes Plat No. 10. Councilman Walker questioned if Planning and Zoning found any issues with the preliminary plat. John Peverill, Planning and Zoning Commission member, stated the Commission passed the preliminary plat. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Budget Workshop: Mayor Faas reported the tax rate of the proposed budget is the same as last year at 6.99152%. Councilman Seible questioned the book budget in the amount of \$19,500 and recommended lowering the line item to \$10,000. Councilman Loftus stated he would like to have a meeting with department heads to understand their budgetary needs. DeAnne Kobliska, City Clerk, explained all department heads meet with the Mayor and City Clerk to review their budgets. A special meeting could be held with department heads to discuss their budgets. Councilman Dewater stated he does not want Council to micro manage the department heads. Councilman Seible stated he has concerns with the budget process and believes that if department heads are waiting to spend money at the end of the fiscal year, then it shows they do not need the money in the first place.

Councilman Nichols questioned why a raise to the Mayor's salary is included in the budget. Mayor Faas explained the raise would require passing an ordinance and would not go into effect until January 2016 after the upcoming election. The last time the mayor received a raise was 2007. Neighboring communities use the consumer price index to figure pay increases for elected officials and the consumer price index has increased at an average rate of 2.9 percent per year for the last nine years. Councilman Walker explained that the information sheet given to Council compares the salary of the Evansdale Mayor with salaries of mayors and city managers in cities of similar size. The mayor's salary in other cities is \$80,000.00-\$100,000 per year while the Evansdale Mayor makes \$43,000 per year. Mayor Faas stated the proposed wage increase for the position would bring the position to \$49,900 per year. Councilman Dewater stated that the City has been fortunate that they have elected great Mayors and have not had to get a City Manager. Councilman Walker asked to have a sample ordinance for the Mayor's salary as a discussion item on the next agenda.

John Peverill asked if property tax proceeds have increased. Mayor Faas explained City taxes would remain the same but state and county rates will most likely increase.

Councilman Seible questioned continuing to have a line item for the Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Nichols stated that the Chamber of Commerce does not provide a benefit to the City or businesses and should not continue to receive funding. Councilman Walker clarified that the Evansdale Chamber of Commerce and the Cedar Valley Chamber Alliance share the line item. When the organizations do not request to utilize the funds set aside in that line item, the money remains in the General Fund. Councilman Loftus stated that the Evansdale Chamber of Commerce would not be requesting funding for fireworks this

year. Councilman Dewater stated that the Council has debated setting aside funds for the Evansdale Chamber of Commerce and Cedar Valley Chamber Alliance for years and that the City should continue to work with the organizations. Walker stated that the Evansdale Chamber of Commerce requested \$5,000 last year to plant trees on Lafayette Road.

Councilman Nichols questioned when Hotel/Motel revenue would return since the hotel is currently under repair. Mayor Faas stated the revenue would return soon since the hotel repairs are scheduled for completion next month.

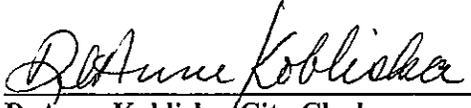
Public Discussion: Mayor Faas thanked residents for taking the time to clean off fire hydrants during the recent snowstorm. Councilman Loftus questioned why the Street Department did not plow River Forest Road more thoroughly. Mayor Faas stated that the Street Department spent 12 hours plowing on Sunday and Monday and made 10 passes on River Forest Road. Mayor Faas gave Council a map showing that Evansdale has 40 miles of roadway and stated that the Street Department drove 150 miles just on Sunday. Since it rained heavily before the snow hit, roads were covered in 2-3 inches of icy snow pack. The Street Department put down sand and salt to give drivers better traction while the roads were icy. The sunshine on Monday helped melt the snow on the roads and the Street Department worked on removing the slush. Until the weather warms up, the snow will remain packed on the roads. Councilman Seible stated that he thinks the Street Department is doing a good job considering the terrible weather we had. Al Chidister thanked the Street Department for their diligence. He also expressed concern about reducing River Forest Road to a two-lane street.

There being no further discussion, Walker/Seible to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. Motion carried.

ATTEST:



Doug Faas, Mayor



DeAnne Kobliska, City Clerk