

CITY HALL
EVANSDALE, IOWA, AUGUST 4, 2020
CITY COUNCIL
TROY BEATTY, 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: Beam, Dewater, Seible, Bender, and Walker. Quorum present.

Seible/Dewater to approve the August 4, 2020 agenda. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Public Discussion: Kevin Daringer, Central Ave., approached the EYSA board to enter their meeting and was denied access. He also stated that Evansdale residents are concerned about the future of youth softball. Councilor Dewater responded for Mr. Daringer to continue to be persistent and speak out to the public. Janee Olson, 121 Wema, questioned future garage sales. Mayor Beatty responded that we would discuss later down the agenda. Jan Nichols, Former President, Library Board, stated that the library board appointments were for three years only, not five as appointed at last meeting. Mayor Beatty responded that the appointment term would be amended.

Dewater/Lynn to approve the following items on the consent agenda. a. Approval of July 21, 2020 meeting minutes. b. Liquor License Renewal: Kwik Star #278-BC0030451-Effective 10/05/2020. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five.

Seible/Bender to approve the appointment of Bob Walker to fulfill a term ending 06/30/2022 for the Library Board (Appointed by Mayor approved by Council). Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Seible/Bender to accept the resignation of Library Board member Mary Kettwig, effective immediately. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Dewater/Bender to accept the resignation of Library Board member Jan Nichols, effective immediately. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Walker/Seible to accept the resignation of Library Board member Jennifer Borwig, effective immediately. Councilor Seible stated his appreciation for all the members that have served. Councilor Dewater stated that the resignations were unfortunate. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Seible/Walker to approve Resolution 6434 authorizing payment of bills and transfers. Councilor Seible questioned where trees were removed since we rented equipment to do so. Public Works Director Schares responded several trees on the north side of town from Grand Blvd. to River Forest Rd., Lafayette to Central, and Dubuque Rd. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five.

Walker/Beam to open the public hearing for the Urban Renewal Plan Amendment for the East Heights Urban Renewal Area at 6:11 p.m. Proof of publication on file, no public comments received. Mark Atkins, 909 3rd Ave., questioned what the amendment was. Mayor Beatty responded that the area that we are planning to develop is in the East Heights TIF district, however, it must be amended when a new urban renewal project is planned. Mark Atkins, 909 3rd Ave., stated that the ground that the City is considering purchasing had been for sale for over 20 years. He also stated that improvements to the Heights had not been made and questioned when the City would make improvements to drainage, water services, and the widening of 6th Street as it isn't

wide enough for the children waiting for the bus on the street. Councilor Dewater stated that the City had been trying to buy the land for over twenty years and there is no other way to expand the City without the land. Mayor Beatty stated the issue with the water needs to be taken to the water board as the City doesn't oversee water issues. Councilor Seible questioned if there were improvements to the Heights that would be made if approved by council. Mayor Beatty responded that the East Heights TIF is the only area that can grow the City. Beatty also stated that the area will grow in time and allow extra funds to improve the Heights. Councilor Dewater stated that the only issue with the Heights is the drainage. John Peverill, 543 East End Ave., questioned how many acres were being purchased. Beatty responded 64. Ayes-Five. Motion carried. Seible/Dewater to close the public hearing at 6:21 p.m. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Dewater/Walker to approve Resolution 6435 approving the Urban Renewal Plan Amendment for the East Heights Urban Renewal Area. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five.

Walker/Seible to approve Resolution 6436 setting the date for public hearing on proposal to enter into a General Obligation Urban Renewal Loan Agreement and to borrow money thereunder in a principal amount not to exceed \$4,500,000. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five.

Dewater/Walker to approve Resolution 6437 approving the Consolidated Public Safety Communications 28E Agreement with Black Hawk County. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five.

Seible/Dewater to approve request from Mayor authorizing him to sign REAP Grant Application for the River Road Water Trail Access Project. Mayor Beatty also stated that there was a letter of recommendation from the IDOT for the project. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Update: Lafayette Road Reconstruction Project. Mayor Beatty discussed the funding that the city was awarded for the project by MPO funding in the amount of \$1.7 million.

Walker/Bender to approve request from Public Works Director to repair Graco line paint sprayer in an amount not to exceed \$1,300. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Beam/Seible to approve request from Mayor authorizing him to review all Water Works time sheets for the past 5 years. Councilor Walker questioned the request. Mayor Beatty responded that there was an exceptional amount of overtime over the last several years while employees are taking vacation time and coming in and working overtime in the same pay period. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Beam/Bender to approve billing Water Works for administrative costs & equipment usage excluding labor not to exceed \$900 per month. Mayor Beatty explained that the document enclosed in their packet explained all the functions that the City also provides for the Water Works. Councilor Dewater questioned if recommendation is a counter proposal to what Water Works is charging the City. Beatty responded that the City is performing labor costs as well as building maintenance costs that are not shared with the Water Works. Councilor Dewater responded that he didn't want to get into some kind of a fight with the Water Works. Councilor Walker stated that monthly billing from Water Works is mainly for the postage to mail out the monthly billing. Dewater questioned if the City can do their own billing. Beatty responded that we could with software updates. Walker stated that it appears that we are looking for a fight. Beatty responded that to some degree we are, because the taxpayers feel that they are being taking advantage of to be billed \$900 per month and when asked why we are paying for this charge, they respond because we have been doing this for years. Walker questioned what the City is providing and what are we

charging to justify the cost. Beatty responded that the labor costs were on the document enclosed in the packet. Councilor Seible questioned if this would be like what we are charging the library. Beatty responded yes but will be charging for services provided by the City. Beatty also stated that it is a not to exceed what the City pays for the portion of costs related to insurance, monthly invoices, etc. Bender questioned if we are sharing these costs now. Beatty responded not at this time. Janee Olson, 121 Wema, questioned if this increase to water works will increase the taxpayers monthly billing. Beatty responded that we are using taxpayer benefits to fund the Water Works but wasn't certain if the billing would increase due to this monthly charge. Liz Baumgartner, 1745 Michigan Dr., stated that it should be a wash. When you question postage costs, she stated that she pays her utility bill online and receives a statement and doesn't need one. Seible questioned why online services weren't available yet for the Water Works or (online paperless) statements. Beatty responded that it was in the works. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Beam/Seible to approve secondhand sale at 121 Wema Ave. Councilor Beam stated that he had conversations with the neighbors around the garage sale located at 121 Wema Ave. He stated that the neighbors were in favor if the parking was limited on the bend in the road. He also stated that a proposal of a couple dates to sell the items and then the sale would end for the year. The dates that were approved were August 14th & 15th and August 28th & 29th. Olson stated that her neighbors were offering off road parking in that same area. Beam stated that the neighbors were in approval if there was light at the end of the tunnel. Olson stated that her parents had been long-time Evansdale residents and that she appreciated the concession. John Peverill, 543 East End Ave., stated that the City-Wide garage sale was a good avenue for this type of sale and questioned if he could hold another sale. Beatty responded that he would be able to have another two sales beyond the City-Wide garage sale. Councilor Bender stated the approved dates and if other considerations were needed it would be discussed at the September 1st council meeting. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Mayor/Council Reports: Mayor Beatty updated the council on the MidAmerican Energy rebate in the amount of \$3,129 utilized toward updating CRC lighting to LED. He also wanted to clarify that everyone on the council including myself supports the library but seeks to have accountability with the library. His family had a bad experience with the library years ago, but we wanted to support the library going forward. Jan Nichols stated that she personally had never had a bad report with the library staff. Beatty responded that his statement was informational, and he wanted to see good changes in the library going forward.

There being no further discussion, Seible/Bender to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Troy Beatty, Mayor

DeAnne Kobliska, City Clerk