

CITY HALL
EVANSDALE, IOWA, NOVEMBER 17, 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. Quorum present.

Dewater/Loftus to approve the November 17, 2015 agenda. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Seible/Dewater to approve the following items on the November 17, 2015 consent agenda with the exception of item b) Resolution 5890 authorizing payment of bills and transfers: a) Approval of November 4, 2015 regular meeting minutes. c) Accept and place on file the minutes and reports from the following Departments, Boards, and Commissions: Ambulance & Fire Report (Oct), Building Inspection Report (Oct), Clerk/Treasurer Report (Sept), Parks & Rec Dept. (Oct), Police Dept. (Oct), Library (Oct), Water Works (Oct), Evansdale Municipal Housing (Oct), and Planning & Zoning (n/a). Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Seible/Walker to approve Resolution 5890 authorizing payment of bills and transfers. Councilman Seible questioned the purchase of tires for squad vehicles. Police Chief, Jeff Jensen stated that the average mileage on a set of tires for a squad vehicle is approximately 30,000 miles and that continual maintenance on the vehicles is required for safety purposes.

Dewater/Loftus to approve Resolution 5891 authorizing City Clerk to certify TIF Debt with County Auditor. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Dewater/Seible to approve Resolution 5892 approving FY2015 Urban Renewal Report. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Loftus/Walker to approve Resolution 5893 appointing Jeff Jensen as full time Police Chief. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Walker/Loftus to approve Resolution 5894 approving the FY2015 Annual Financial Report and authorizing publication. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Loftus/Walker to approve Resolution 5895 approving an Agreement with the University of Iowa to perform an Architectural Reconnaissance Assessment for the proposed River Forest Road Reconstruction Project STP-U-2432(613)-07-07 in an amount not to exceed \$3,393. Councilman Nichols questioned the need for the assessment. Mayor Faas stated that the assessment is required as a part of the federal-aid agreement. Council Dewater stated that the University of Iowa will provide a statement on the historical aspects of the area. Nichols also questioned if we have held a public hearing on the River Road reconstruction project. Mayor Faas responded no, that the council has only approved the preliminary plans proposing the two lane road reconstruction. We will approve the construction final plans, set date of hearing and bid letting sometime in early 2016. Seible questioned the width of River Forest Road after construction. Mayor Faas responded 31 feet. Loraine Atkins, 625 River Forest Rd., questioned why all citizens in Evansdale were not informed of the proposed project. Mayor Faas responded that the city publicized all the meetings in the Evansdale News, City Hall, placed notices at six major businesses in town, and also sent letters to all affected addresses in construction area notifying them of public information meeting. We also place all agenda's and minutes on our website for the public to review. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Loftus/Seible to approve Resolution 5896 authorizing the installation of a street light at the intersections of Norma Avenue and Brooklyn Manor Place for a monthly charge of \$7.44. Roll call vote: Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

Walker/Dewater to table request to approve a one-time payment to salaried positions of Chief of Police (\$3,999.05), City Clerk (\$2,697.70), and Mayor (\$2,505.60) for unused comp time, vacation, and/or casual days. Mayor Faas stated that Councilman Loftus had requested the agenda item and turned the meeting over to him. Councilman Loftus explained that this is a one-time payment for time that was accumulated and hasn't been used for the Police Chief, City Clerk, and Mayor. Police Chief Jensen was short staffed and had to work extra hours to provide coverage for the city. City Clerk Kobliska was short staffed and had a lot of changes in her first year of service. Mayor Faas has been with the city two years and has only utilized 1 week of vacation. Councilman Nichols stated that the Mayors salary is set and if he didn't utilize his vacation, then it's gone. He also stated the other two staff members are salaried employees in a supervisory position where they are not paid for additional hours worked. Loftus questioned who was going to cover for these people if they took the time off. Walker stated that he has reviewed the policy and believes that the time needs to be paid out. Councilman Seible stated that if we are obligated to pay the time that we should. However, he also stated that in the manual only 40 hours of comp time can be accumulated. Police Chief Jensen stated that most of the comp time he has accumulated was before he was appointed acting police chief. City Attorney, Craig Ament stated that it is not illegal to pay the mayor for unused vacation time when you have already established that he receives vacation time and that he can take the time or be paid not to take the time. He also stated that the time in question could be an accumulation of vacation, comp time, and casual days. Councilman Dewater stated that we just clarified the mayor's salary and paid time off. He also stated we are not just asked to approve these amounts, but to change policy on this request. Sharon Loftus, 309 Morrell Avenue, stated that the Water Works had a similar situation and granted an extension of time to allow the employee to utilize their paid time off. After an extended discussion the council asked for additional time to consider the request and asked that staff provide additional information. Roll call vote: Ayes-Four. Nays-One (Nichols). Motion carried.

Dewater/Walker to approve request from Public Works Director to purchase snowplow blade for pick-up truck, in an amount not to exceed \$5,748.06. The plow blade shall be shared with Street, Water, and Sewer Departments with an equal amount of \$1,916.02 being shared by each department. Councilman Seible stated that the street dept. does a great job of snow removal and is opposed to the purchase of additional equipment. Councilman Loftus stated that he had requested the agenda item be brought back as he believed that the city needs the equipment. Roll call vote: Ayes-Three. Nays: Two (Seible and Nichols). Motion carried.

Public Discussion: Mayor Faas expressed his concern with issues at the Waste Water Plant. Two blowers have just went down and we have a tear in the lagoon liner. The last time it was replaced in 2009 it was in excess of \$100,000. Councilman Dewater questioned if the blowers need to be engineered. Mayor Faas stated the Waste Water Plant is simply aging out and the mechanical components have reached their lifespan and will keep council members abreast of any developments.

Councilman Dewater questioned if we could pursue legal options on the Billy Howard project, located at 1108 Lake Shore Place. Mayor Faas stated that Brian Wirtz, Building Inspector has been working with him and he is making attempts to finish the project. He will have Brian follow up with him tomorrow.

Loraine Atkins, 625 River Forest Rd., stated that the garage that recently burned down on Colleen Ave. was not in compliance and would hope that when they rebuild that we insure it is within our code.

There being no further discussion, Loftus/Walker to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Doug Faas, Mayor

DeAnne Kobliska, City Clerk