

The Hiawatha City Council met in regular session in the Hiawatha Council Chambers on January 15, 2020. Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Council members present: Aime Wichtendahl, Jerry Mohwinkle, Rob Archibald, Steve Dodson, and Dick Olson. Staff present: Finance Director Cindy Kudrna, Community Development Director Pat Parsley, City Engineer John Bender, Fire Chief Mike Nesslage, Police Chief Dennis Marks, and City Administrator Kim Downs. Guests: Daniel Hoffmann. Not all attendees signed in for the meeting.

Dodson moved approval of the agenda, seconded by Archibald. Motion carried.

Wichtendahl moved the approval of the following consent agenda items: Approval of bills; Finance Director's Report for December 2019; City Clerk's Report for December 2019; Department Reports: Community Development, Fire, Police, and Public Works; Approval of renewal - Class C Beer Permit(Carryout Beer), Class E Liquor License (LE) and Sunday Sales for Kwik Shop, Inc. #568 located at 300 E. Blairs Ferry Road, effective February 1, 2020; Motion approving Mayoral & Council Appointments of Board & Commission members as follows: appointment of Library Board Member Mary Fliehler, effective January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2021, seconded by Archibald. Motion carried.

Report from Council Members/Mayor/City Administrator

Council Member Archibald commented the Library Board has a new member to take Jerry Mohwinkle's place. He noted she is a lifelong resident of Hiawatha, a retired teacher, and is a great addition to the Board. He also commented Library Operations Manager Claire impresses him every time he meet's her, she is very knowledgeable and she reviewed the Library Bill of Rights with everyone as their training last night and it was very insightful.

Council Member Archibald also noted the Fire Department received their Electric Cots, a CIP item that will hopefully save backs and make it safer for them, and they have been installed in two of the ambulances.

Council Member Wichtendahl commented on the state legislature kick off this week including Governor Reynold's prioritization of the Property Tax Reform Bill. She discussed the idea behind the bill being to lower both payroll and property taxes while simultaneously increasing sales taxes to make it revenue neutral. She noted that although the details have yet to be hammered out, she gets nervous when the legislature starts talking about property tax as they haven't always shown the greatest discretion in considering our budgets. She added that raising the property tax levy could make going to voters in '24 to renew the Local Option Sales Tax that much harder and reminded council that we need to stay on top of it and involve our stakeholders to make sure our interests are considered in the final product. City Administrator added that Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance has already started talking to Cedar Rapids, Hiawatha, and Marion about this, more so Cedar Rapids as it's a pretty big item for them because 100% of their LOSST dollars goes to roads. She noted it is a good time to start getting ourselves prepared to talk about Local Option Sales Tax and the benefits of those dollars. Council will see some reflection of that in the Newsletter this month as well as signage we've put up so when people see it they know LOSST was put toward this street or this park. We're investing those dollars in things people are seeing and we'll continue to do as we have with legislators, making sure they're aware of the benefits and how we utilize those to help maintain or lower the levy rate and how it would effect it otherwise. Council Member Olson added the City of Cedar Rapids will not be able to continue their streets program without Local Option Sales Tax. Downs added "It's all about educating and making sure our citizens know the value of it."

Downs pointed out to the council the Cedar Rapids Livability.com magazine. This was a project CRIMEA spearheaded. This is not only a company that sends out this magazine all around the US it's also a digital marketing company. Reading through it she noted Hiawatha and the City of Cedar Rapids were the only cities to participate in this. So we will be on someone's radar along with all the things that happen in Cedar Rapids.

Downs also provided an IDOT meeting recap. She noted it was mostly about right of way acquisitions, the majority of that being in the DOT's interchange overlay but some under the interchange project as well. Mayor Bennett asked how many people attended the meeting. Downs commented there were a lot of people who were from Hiawatha or who have some connection to Hiawatha, mostly the residents who live along there and the business community. She thought it was probably about 75 people when she was there which is a good turnout. She also expressed her appreciation to everyone who came. Council Member Archibald added that it was good to see two state legislators here, too. Downs agreed adding they were very supportive.

Downs reminded the Council of the Willman Street Resurfacing Open House on the 29th from 5:30 to 6:30, the kick off for one of the spring or early summer projects. She noted we will be inviting those that live along that area, renters and owners, and describing to them what is happening. She reminded Council we are considering putting a sidewalk in along the North side of Willman Street to make the connectivity from the trail to the library and to the trail farther up. She encouraged them to stop by if they have time, otherwise we will be there to man that open house.

Downs reminded council of the Notice of Public Hearing for the Mixed Use Overlay District and noted we're starting that project. Planning and Zoning will have their public input meeting Jan 27th and City Council will have this as a public hearing at our February 15th meeting. She noted between herself and Community Development Director Pat Parsley, they have spoken to 90% of the property owners. We're doing the best of our due diligence because of not only the overlay but there are some properties that the city is initiating the appropriate rezoning.

Downs noted Diamond V is expanding their footprint and they're working with Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance to have an open house and they made a point to invite the Mayor, City Council, and her because they know they employ Hiawatha residents and wanted to make sure we were invited and had the opportunity to celebrate.

Downs also applauded Pat Parsley who was recognized by his peers as the Iowa IABO Building Official of the Year.

Consider Resolution authorizing the Finance Director to make the appropriate interfund transfer of sums and record the same in the appropriate manner for FY 2020 for the City of Hiawatha, Iowa

Olson presented RESOLUTION #20-001 authorizing the Finance Director to make the appropriate interfund transfer of \$312,000 and record the same in the appropriate manner for FY 2020 for the City of Hiawatha, Iowa, seconded by Archibald. Roll call vote: AYES: Dodson, Olson, Wichtendahl, Mohwinkle, Archibald. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-001 adopted.**

Traffic Light Signal Cameras

Archibald presented RESOLUTION #20-002 approving a 28E Agreement between the City of Cedar Rapids and the City of Hiawatha for implementation and maintenance of traffic light cameras at each intersection, seconded by Dodson. Roll call vote: AYES: Dodson, Archibald, Wichtendahl, Mohwinkle, Olson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-002 adopted.**

Council Member Archibald commented this is a good way to leverage the knowledge of our neighbors. Council Member Dodson agreed.

City Administrator Downs added this is a part of the fiber connectivity project so the dollars are available under that project.

Dodson asked about the camera recording data. City Engineer commented the data storage is a massive undertaking. He believes they store the information for a couple of weeks. He added this item is the maintenance of the entire signal for us. Marion has been doing it for us but he believes this is the way to go. They have been very efficient and helped us a lot. This would be the signals we own and the ones on Blairs Ferry we share.

Dodson asked if the images could be used to help with accident investigations. Bender said yes, the ones that Cedar Rapids has that would be stored. The ones on the next item will not be stored at this point until we figure out with Enseva if we can do that or not. For now, this would be live so you can go on a computer and pull up the intersection to see if there is a backup or delay.

Dodson asked if you can control the signals. Bender said that you can't control the signals, but you can control the camera to pan or zoom. Cedar Rapids will be able to control our signals and change timing; we will not be able to yet as it is a very expensive program.

Council Member Archibald clarified that they will all be synced together now to help with some of the traffic. City Administrator agreed adding they will be able to see the traffic flow now.

Council Member Mohwinkle asked about timing the signals and cameras to record based on congestion. Bender noted that is a study you can do, like on Boyson we have traffic counts and we adjust the signals to try to anticipate the traffic counts. The controller does as much as it can and we have that in place now. This just gives us the chance to visually see what's going on. The next phase would be if we want to do any controlling or not. I think that will take a while because that's very expensive.

Council Member Wichtendahl clarified that we are not issuing tickets with this technology.

Archibald presented RESOLUTION #20-003 approving and authorizing staff to proceed with the purchase of six (6) traffic light cameras and one (1) switch with a cost not to exceed \$30,000 to provide observation of each intersection activity and control of traffic light timing, seconded by Dodson. Roll call vote: AYES: Mohwinkle, Olson, Archibald, Dodson, Wichtendahl. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-003 adopted.**

Consider Resolution authorizing staff to proceed work with the City of Cedar Rapids to replace detection controls for the Blairs Ferry Road and Center Point Road Intersection

Wichtendahl presented RESOLUTION #20-004 authorizing staff to proceed work with the City of Cedar Rapids to replace detection controls for the Blairs Ferry Road and Center Point Road Intersection in an amount not to exceed \$15,000, seconded by Archibald. Roll call vote: AYES: Olson, Wichtendahl, Dodson, Mohwinkle, Archibald. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-004 adopted.**

Consider Resolution authorizing staff to proceed with the Site Study and Schematic Design Services Proposal Agreement with Solum Lang Architects for the Future Fire Station

Dodson presented RESOLUTION #20-005 authorizing staff to proceed with the Site Study and Schematic Design Services Proposal Agreement with Solum Lang Architects in an amount of \$9,500 for the Future Fire Station, seconded by Archibald. Roll call vote: AYES: Wichtendahl, Mohwinkle, Archibald, Dodson, Olson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-005 adopted.**

Council Member Dodson and Mayor Bennett commented on the price of \$9,500 as compared to the \$22,000. City Administrator Downs added that was kind of them to do.

Mayor Bennett asked if there was a time frame set up. Downs said they would get started as soon as we approve it. Dodson added they would finish by the end of February.

Council Member Olson asked Fire Chief Nesslage to comment on the bay square footage. Nesslage notes that in the proposal he talks about 3 acres and 25,000 square feet which is the high end and a starting point and we will need to be flexible and figure out what will work for us and what we can afford. We won't hold you to those numbers in his proposal, we want to move forward and see which lot is best and what will work. Downs added there is more conversation we will have as a full council in making future decisions. They're going to not only look at the lots and what we would need there but also what is appropriate in terms of size and not just meet our needs for today. Additionally, we don't just look at this type of project in terms of square footage but also how to man that staff wise. Council Member Archibald added he was also caught off guard by the 25,000 square foot. He noted whatever we do we need to be able to justify that with the citizens. Downs agreed and added they would be able to do that through this process.

18th Avenue PCC Widening Project

Dodson presented RESOLUTION #20-006 approving Change Order #1 for an increase in cost in the amount of \$396 for 18th Ave PCC Widening Project, seconded by Wichtendahl. Roll call vote: AYES: Archibald, Wichtendahl, Dodson, Olson, Mohwinkle. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-006 adopted.**

Wichtendahl presented RESOLUTION #20-007 approving Change Order #2 (balancing change order) for an increase in cost in the amount of \$2,648.04 for the 18th Ave PCC Widening Project, seconded by Olson. Roll call vote: AYES: Olson, Mohwinkle, Dodson, Archibald, Wichtendahl. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-007 adopted.**

Dodson presented RESOLUTION #20-008 approving Final Pay Estimate #2 in the amount of \$0.00 for the 18th Ave PCC Pavement Widening Project, seconded by Wichtendahl. Roll call vote: AYES: Mohwinkle, Olson, Wichtendahl, Archibald, Dodson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-008 adopted.**

Olson presented RESOLUTION #20-009 accepting the 18th Ave PCC Widening Project with release of claims, acceptance of work completed and release of retainage, and a total cost of work in the amount of \$89,146.33, seconded by Wichtendahl. Roll call vote: AYES: Dodson, Olson, Mohwinkle, Archibald, Wichtendahl. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-009 adopted.**

Council Member Archibald noted it has definitely been an improvement and asked if we've gotten any feedback. City Administrator Downs noted you get positive feedback about the turning lane and then asked about when the stoplight is coming.

2018 Sewer Extension and Forcemain Project

Archibald presented RESOLUTION #20-010 approving partial payment #3 in the amount of \$157,784.40 for the 2018 Sewer Extension and Forcemain Project, seconded by Mohwinkle. Roll call vote: AYES: Archibald, Wichtendahl, Dodson, Olson, Mohwinkle. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-010 adopted.**

NW Park Design Engineering and Bidding

Wichtendahl presented RESOLUTION #20-011 approving a design contract with MSA for the concept development and design of phase I of the NW park for bidding and construction in the amount of \$72,500, seconded by Mohwinkle. Roll call vote: AYES: Olson, Wichtendahl, Dodson, Mohwinkle, Archibald. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-011 adopted.**

Mohwinkle presented RESOLUTION #20-012 approving contract with Terracon to do soil testing/investigation for NW Park in the amount of \$8,450, seconded by Dodson. Roll call vote: AYES: Mohwinkle, Dodson, Wichtendahl, Archibald, Olson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-012 adopted.**

Consider Resolution acknowledging and amending the Professional Services agreement for Geotechnical Services of the Hiawatha Public Library Renovation and Expansion Project

Archibald presented RESOLUTION #20-013 acknowledging and amending the Professional Services agreement for Geotechnical Services of the Hiawatha Public Library Renovation and Expansion Project in the amount of \$24,934.94, seconded by Dodson. Roll call vote: AYES: Dodson, Mohwinkle, Archibald, Olson, Wichtendahl. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. **RESOLUTION #20-013 adopted.**

Council Member Archibald commented it is good to see progress over there.

Possible Closed session as per Iowa Code 21.5(c) to discuss pending litigation

Dodson moved entering closed session as per Iowa Code 21.5(c) to discuss pending litigation at 5:55 PM, seconded by Archibald. Roll call vote: AYES: Wichtendahl, Olson, Mohwinkle, Archibald, Dodson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

Archibald moved to go out of closed session and enter into regular session at 6:41 PM, seconded by Dodson. Roll call vote: AYES: Olson, Mohwinkle, Dodson, Archibald, Wichtendahl. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

There being no further discussion, Wichtendahl moved to adjourn at 6:42 P.M., seconded by Archibald. Motion carried.

Bill Bennett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amy Scheer, Deputy City Clerk