

The City Council of the City of Anamosa met in Regular Session on January 9, 2012 in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. with Cody Shaffer, Bill Feldmann, Chuck Smith, Andy Bowers, Richard Stivers and Mike Dearborn present. Absent: None. Mayor Dale Barnes presided. Also present were; Alan Johnson, City Administrator; Penny Lode, Deputy City Clerk; and Larry Driscoll, Public Works Director. Guests Present: Heath Picken, Howard R. Green Company; Pattie Bammert, ASAC. Mayor Dale Barnes called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

Council Minutes

Motion by Feldmann, second by Dearborn to approve the minutes from the December 28, 2011 Regular Council meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Presentations

Pattie Bammert – ASAC Prevention Services

Pattie Bammert addressed the Council reviewing the activities of ASAC and updated the Council on the progress being made in Jones County regarding substance abuse.

COMMUNITY BETTERMENT:

Grant Ridge Estates Proposal

Mayor Barnes opened for discussion and possible action a proposal by Grant Ridge Estates to roll their empty lots into USDA Prairies Ground, CRP Program or closely related certified program controlled by the USDA Office. Shaffer asked how many lots were currently empty. Driscoll stated 14-16. Feldmann asked what it actually means for the City to roll these lots into such a program, does that mean they will only be mowed once per year. Alan Johnson stated that weed control is part of the program which will eliminate noxious weeds. Bowers asked how it will affect the taxes. There was no information regarding the affect on taxes. Bowers asked how many other additions in the City are in a similar program. Driscoll stated that there are no other additions in the City in the CRP Program, however Commercial Park only has to mow once per year.

Motion by Feldmann, second by Bowers to table until the Council can obtain more information regarding the specifics of the program and how it is going to impact the City's budget, which specific program they wish to do, what that means for maintenance on a yearly basis, and what it is going to cost the City for taxes. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Water System Improvements – Water Storage – Water Rates

Mayor Barnes opened for discussion and possible action proposed improvements to the water system, additional water storage and proposed changes to water rates. Heath Picken addressed the Council stating that he had no further information to present, but is in attendance to answer any questions. Alan Johnson stated that he would ask the Council for a decision to proceed with this as another deadline is approaching in March and there is some preparatory work that needs to be done before that.

Motion by Shaffer, second by Bowers to approve the 250,000 gallon storage tank option with the improvements and rate increase as outlined in the memo.

Ayes – Shaffer, Smith. Nays – Feldmann, Bowers, Stivers, Dearborn. Motion failed.

Feldmann stated that he would like to put a 500,000 gallon tank in, get the improved fire flows, and hold off on the improvements until the City gets the water rates up so the system is whole. Dearborn stated that he is opposed to the tower because the system and infrastructure need improvements. Stivers stated that he is concerned about the City going into debt of 1.5 million at this time. Discussion followed.

Dearborn asked Johnson to summarize the grant specifics. Johnson stated that the IJOBS grant was for the placement of a new well, however the process took such a length of time, that by the time it was done the

City needed to rehabilitate the two existing wells. The result of that rehabilitation extended the life of those wells to the point that a new well is no longer an immediate need. A decision was then made to switch from a new well to additional water storage to supplement what we have now and improve water capacity of the community. The IJOBS grant was for a total of \$475,000. Johnson was directed to re-write the grant and submit back to IJOBS for consideration to cover the cost of the rehabilitation of the two wells. They accepted that and it was approximately \$240,000 - \$250,000, the balance of that grant is to be utilized towards water storage or some significant water improvement as approved by IJOBS. In addition, to maintain and keep the grant the City has to apply for and accept an SRF (State Revolving Fund) loan. The City agreed to do this with the acceptance of the original grant. If the City does not follow through with the water storage side of the grant, indications are that IJOBS would require the City to reimburse the State the money already accepted.

More discussion followed regarding the options on the table. Shaffer asked Driscoll what the minimum was to meet the City's needs. Driscoll stated that at minimum he recommends the 250,000 gallon tower along with the system improvements.

Motion by Feldmann to approve a 500,000 gallon tank, with the necessary improvements to the system to meet the fire flows for the insurance. No second. Motion failed.

Motion by Dearborn, second by Bowers to approve the 250,000 gallon water tower option with the high priority improvement with no rate increase at this time. Ayes – Dearborn, Shaffer, Bowers. Nays – Feldmann, Smith, Stivers. Mayor Barnes broke the tie and voted aye. Motion carried.

Resolution Approving and Setting Salary for Public Works Dept. Employee

Motion by Feldmann, second by Bowers to approve **Resolution 2012-** approving the hiring and setting salaries for the Public Works Department employee. All ayes. Motion carried.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Alan Johnson reminded the Council of the planning session next Wednesday, January 18th at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers.

MAYOR & COUNCIL:

Council Reports on Boards and Commissions

Feldmann updated the Council on the Emergency Management/911 meetings. Dearborn updated the council on the Parks & Recreation board stating that the new addition is coming along and should be completed in the spring or early summer.

Discussion and possible action regarding appointments of City Council representatives to the current Boards and Commissions. Motion by Feldmann, second by Dearborn to approve as assigned. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Feldmann, second by Shaffer to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Dale Barnes, Mayor

ATTEST:

Penny K. Lode, Deputy City Clerk