

The City Council of the City of Anamosa met in Regular Session this January 28, 2019 in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. with Rich Crump, Kay Smith, John Machart, Rod Smith, Cody Shaffer and Betty Weimer present. Absent: None. Mayor Dale Barnes presided. Also present were Jacob Sheridan, City Administrator; Tammy Coons, City Clerk; Jeremiah Hoyt, Police Chief; Dan Smith, Wastewater Superintendent; Gregg Carpenter, Streets Superintendent; Jim Henson, Water Superintendent; and Rebecca Vernon, Library Director. Guests Present Addressing the Council: Mike Dearborn, 405 N. Division St., Bill Sperflage, Warden – ASP, and Dick Dearborn, 600 N. Williams St. Mayor Dale Barnes called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with a quorum present.

Council Minutes

Motion by Crump, second by Shaffer to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2019 Regular Council meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE

Presentations: None

COMMUNITY BETTERMENT:

Ordinance Amending Chapter 165 of the City Code to Amend the Regulations Regarding Driveways and Off Street Parking

Motion by Crump, second by Weimer to approve the **Second Reading of Ordinance** Amending Chapter 165 of the City Code to Amend the Regulations Regarding Driveways and Off Street Parking. Rod Smith asked if we had received any comments from the public regarding this ordinance. Tammy Coons, stated that no they had not. Roll Vote. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Ordinance Amending Chapters 92 and 99 of the City Code to Amend the Rates for Water and Wastewater Utilities

Jacob Sheridan asked the Council if everyone had a chance to review the changes to the proposed ordinance. Kay Smith asked how this would affect a residential billing under the ordinance. Jacob stated that there is more emphasis on the usage rate rather than the base rate and low-end residential users will most likely see a decrease in their bill. Discussion followed on the definitions of the user types listed in the ordinance and where some of the current users will fall. More discussion followed.

Motion by Kay Smith, second by Shaffer to approve the **First Reading of Ordinance** Amending Chapters 92 and 99 of the City Code to Amend the Rates for Water and Wastewater Utilities.

Mike Dearborn, 405 N Division St. addressed the Council asking if these rate increases will hit the high-end users, will this deter businesses from locating in our town. He also asked how these rates compare to other communities our size. Jacob stated that we cannot just compare our rates to same size communities, as our needs and infrastructure may differ. Mike also stated that the as the ASP is the only industrial user, that they be afforded the opportunity to comment.

Bill Sperflage, Warden – ASP addressed the Council distributing handouts relating to the past history of the ASP’s contribution/payment history for wastewater. Bill reviewed these documents. He also reviewed the wastewater finances from the 2018 Audit report. He stated that he felt the formula was too complicated for only one industrial user. He voiced concerns over raising one customer’s cost, while decreasing others. Bill stated he is not agreement with this proposed rate structure for industrial users. Discussion followed. Bill stated in closing that he is fine with paying a little more, but this scale is very extreme. More discussion followed.

Dick Dearborn, 600 N. Williams St. addressed the Council pointed out Bill’s numbers and percentages indicated that the ASP paid more than their share. He also indicated that putting that amount of money in reserves was not needed. Dick stated that the Council should be looking at the increase in terms of percentage, not price per cubic foot. Discussion followed. Dick said he agreed with Mike that the rate increase could detract from new businesses coming to town. More discussion followed.

Mayor Barnes asked for a roll vote. Roll Vote. 4 – Nays, Crump, Machart, Rod Smith and Shaffer. 2 – Ayes, Kay Smith and Weimer. Motion Failed.

Resolution Approving the Final Plat of Wapsi Ridge 1st Addition to Jones County, Iowa

Motion by Shaffer, second by Rod Smith to approve **Resolution 2019-04** Approving the Final Plat of Wapsi Ridge 1st Addition to Jones County, Iowa. Roll Vote. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Proposed Employee Wage Classification Structure and Raise Determination Process

Jacob stated he is not looking for any official action on this proposal tonight. This is on the agenda for discussion and direction from the Council before he proceeds any further with the proposal. He stated that rather than implement a flat “across-the-board” wage increase, he would like to have a cost of living amount and also a merit based amount in the wage increase. He distributed a hand out illustrating what such a wage classification structure could look like. Shaffer and Crump both indicated that this was a good idea. It was suggested that employee evaluations be completed before January 1st each year. Discussion followed on who gives the evaluations to the employees and Jacob’s participation.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Beer and Liquor Licenses

Motion by Crump, second by Weimer to approve the renewal of Class E Liquor License for Walmart Supercenter #646. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC WORKS: NONE

FINANCE:

Payment of Bills for the Month of January, 2019

Motion by Crump, second by Kay Smith to approve the payment of bills for the month of January, 2019. Discussion followed. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Jacob reported the following:

- They held two meetings last week with downtown property owners re: CDBG Downtown Revitalization Grant. Derek Lumsden, JCED did the presentation. It was a good turnout. They are sending out letters of interest to the property owners.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

Kay Smith – Library Board, stated they are replacing a geothermal unit and looking at insurance for the Civil War flag. She stated that they have a good kid’s program and there will be a movie event in May.
Crump – Jones County Tourism, the meeting was cancelled last week.

Public with Business with the Council on Items not on the Agenda

Mike Dearborn, 405 N. Division St. addressed the Council on the following snow removal items:

- How the snow emergency affects downtown commercial businesses.
- The trucks are not using the “tandem” method on Main Street, not staggered and snow is being thrown up against the buildings on Main Street.
- Shouldn’t the City parking lots be cleared during a snow emergency?

Budget Work Session

General Budget Review – Jacob distributed and reviewed graphs and charts showing the overview of the budgets over the past several years illustrating the expenditures and revenues by department and category. Discussion followed.

Street Department Budget – Gregg Carpenter, Streets Superintendent reviewed the proposed budget for the Streets Dept. Discussion followed. It was suggested that an expense for additional street lights on Council Street be added. Discussion followed.

Administration Department Budget – Jacob reviewed the City Administrator budget and Tammy reviewed the Administration Budget. Discussion followed.

Motion by Weimer, second by Machart to enter into closed session at 9:14 p.m. per Iowa State Code Section 21.5(j) – To discuss the purchase or sale of particular real estate. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Returned to open session at 9:29.

Adjournment

Motion by Machart, second by Crump to adjourn at 9:29 p.m. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Dale Barnes, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tammy Coons, City Clerk