

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Webster City, Iowa May 4, 2020

Iowa Code Section 21.8 outlines the guidelines to hold an electronic meeting when there are valid concerns that an in-person meeting is "impossible or impractical".

Due to the COVID-19 concerns and social distancing recommendations, an electronic City Council meeting was held utilizing Zoom. The electronic meeting was available to the public. Details were provided in using the Zoom platform either by joining through the web portal or by calling in to view or participate.

The City Council met in regular session at the City Hall, Webster City, Iowa at 6:00 p.m. on May 4, 2020, upon call of the Mayor and the advance agenda. Council Members were participating through the Zoom platform with the meeting being called to order by Mayor John Hawkins and roll being called there were present John Hawkins, Mayor, and the following Council Members: Katelin Hartmann, Brian Miller and Logan Welch. Council Member Matt McKinney was absent.

It was moved by Welch and seconded by Hartmann to approve the agenda with the removal of Item #2 under General Agenda – Public Hearing on Tobacco Violation, as this matter has been resolved.

ROLL CALL: Hartmann, Hawkins, Miller and Welch voting aye.

Mayor John Hawkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PETITIONS – COMMUNICATIONS – REQUESTS

None brought forth.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Lindsay Henderson, Community Vitality Director, provided information on the Small Business Hardship Loan Program. She informed that the Committee completed the review of the 58 applications that had been received by the deadline. The amount approved totaled \$150,000.00 and will be awarded by the end of the week.

MINUTES AND CLAIMS

It was moved by Miller and seconded by Welch that the following motion and Resolutions be approved and adopted collectively:

1. That the meeting minutes of April 20, 2020 be approved.
2. That Resolution No. 2020-087 approving Payroll for the period ending April 25, 2020 and paid on May 1, 2020 in the amount of \$158,461.64 be passed and adopted.
3. That Resolution No. 2020-088 approving bills paid in the amount of \$753,806.54 be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: Hawkins, Miller, Welch and Hartmann voting aye.

GENERAL AGENDA

1. City Manager D. Jeffrey Sheridan reviewed the report he provided in December on the evaluation of the water and sanitary sewer utilities and then proceeded to provide a similar evaluation on the electric utility. He covered the benefits a municipal electric utility has in a community and recommended the City contract with an outside consulting engineer to explore cost-saving or efficiency options the electric utility may undertake. An evaluation on the storm water system is still forthcoming.

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2. This item was removed as the issue has been resolved.

PUBLIC HEARING 6:20 p.m. - Public Hearing on Tobacco violation

3. It was moved by Welch and seconded by Hartmann that the Appointment of David Engstrom to the Civil Service Commission for the four-year term – April 6, 2020 to April 1, 2024 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Miller, Welch, Hartmann and Hawkins voting aye.

4. It was moved by Miller and seconded by Welch that the issuance of Beer and Liquor Licenses by the Iowa Department of Commerce be approved for the following:

a. Renewal of Class E Liquor License, Class B Wine Permit, Class C Beer Permit and Sunday Sales - Hy-Vee, 823 Second Street

b. Renewal of Class E Liquor License, Class B Wine Permit, Class C Beer Permit and Sunday Sales - Casey's General Store #1828, 1300 Second Street

ROLL CALL: Welch, Hartmann, Hawkins and Miller voting aye.

5. It was moved by Welch and seconded by Hartmann that May 18, 2020 at 6:05 p.m. at City Hall, Webster City, Iowa be set for a Public Hearing on Budget Amendments for the 2019-2020 budget.

ROLL CALL: Hartmann, Hawkins, Miller and Welch voting aye.

6. It was moved by Welch and seconded by Miller that Resolution No. 2020-089 setting May 18, 2020 at 6:05 p.m. at City Hall, Webster City, Iowa for a Public Hearing on proposed plans, specifications, proposed form of contract and estimate of cost for the 713 2nd Street Façade Renovation Project be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: Hawkins, Miller, Welch and Hartmann voting aye.

7. It was moved by Hartmann and seconded by Welch that Resolution No. 2020-090 setting May 18, 2020 at 6:05 p.m. at City Hall, Webster City, Iowa for a Public Hearing on the continuation of the City-Wide Urban Revitalization Plan for Residential Tax Abatement be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: Miller, Welch, Hartmann and Hawkins voting aye.

8. Request from Businesses to address City Electric Utility.

The following spoke to Council, via Zoom electronic meeting, regarding concerns on costs being incurred at their businesses and the current contract the City has with the electric supplier for the City: Lori Mason, Seneca Foundry; Brent Johnson, Tasler, Inc.; Sherri Behrendt, Vantec; and Monty Scott, Vantec. Council considered the comments brought forward and thanked the businesses for presenting their concerns.

9. It was moved by Welch and seconded by Hartmann that the Second Reading of a proposed Ordinance, an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Webster City, Iowa, 2019, by Replacing Subsection 13 of Chapter 46, Article V, Section 46-206 – No Parking Zones, and Adding Subsection (2) to Chapter 46, Article V, Section 46-215 – Parking for Special Purposes in Designated Areas be approved.

ROLL CALL: Welch, Hartmann, Hawkins and Miller voting aye.

It was moved by Welch and seconded by Hartmann that the Third Reading of a proposed Ordinance, an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Webster City, Iowa, 2019, by Replacing Subsection 13 of Chapter 46, Article V, Section 46-206 – No Parking Zones, and Adding Subsection (2) to Chapter 46, Article V, Section 46-215 – Parking for Special Purposes in Designated Areas be waived.

ROLL CALL: Hartmann, Hawkins, Miller and Welch voting aye.

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It was moved by Welch and seconded by Hartmann that Ordinance No. 2020-1836, an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Webster City, Iowa, 2019, by Replacing Subsection 13 of Chapter 46, Article V, Section 46-206 – No Parking Zones, and Adding Subsection (2) to Chapter 46, Article V, Section 46-215 – Parking for Special Purposes in Designated Areas be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: Hawkins, Miller, Welch and Hartmann voting aye.

10. It was moved by Welch and seconded by Hartmann that Resolution No. 2020-091 accepting and executing Easement from Hamilton County, Iowa for the Pleasant Hill Substation Changeout Project be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: Miller, Welch, Hartmann and Hawkins voting aye.

Public Works Director Ken Wetzler spoke on the project via Zoom electronic meeting.

11. It was moved by Hartmann and seconded by Welch that Resolution No. 2020-092 awarding Contract for the 2020 Asbestos Abatement Project to August Enterprises, LLC, Jefferson, Iowa in the amount of \$12,175.00 be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: Welch, Hartmann, Hawkins and Miller voting aye.

12 City Manager Sheridan led a discussion on the purchase of banner brackets to hold banners honoring the Senior Class of 2020. Two styles of brackets were presented. One style would attach to the current street lights and the other option would be a ground bracket that would hold the banners at ground level. Consensus of Council was that the brackets that would attach to the street lights would better display the banners and could possibly serve multiple purposes/seasons/events for the City. Costs of the brackets will be finalized and provided to Council.

**REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF OFFICERS,
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

None brought forth.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

None brought forth.

OTHER REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

None brought forth.

OTHER ITEMS SENT TO COUNCIL

1. The City Attorney report dated 4/29/20 was previously given to Council for review.
2. City Manager Sheridan asked for a consensus from Council to grant request from the Church of Christ to close Des Moines Street on Sunday morning from 10:00 a.m. to noon through the end of May between the Church and The Bridge. Due to the timeliness of the request, it could not be placed as an item on the agenda to begin with the upcoming weekend. Consensus of Council was to grant the request.
3. Discussion was held on the annual City Clean-Up event. At this time, due to COVID-19 precautions, this event will not be held on the usual dates in June, and will be discussed at a future agenda to possibly reschedule. The re-opening of City Hall is being re-evaluated on a daily basis, while taking concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic heavily into consideration.

It was moved by Miller and seconded by Welch that council adjourn.

ROLL CALL: Hartmann, Hawkins, Miller and Welch voting aye.

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The May 4, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting, held via electronic means, stood adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

John Hawkins, Mayor

Karyl K. Bonjour, City Clerk