

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Webster City, Iowa August 21, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.**

The City Council met in regular session at the City Hall, Webster City, Iowa at 6:00 p.m. on August 21, 2023, upon call of the Mayor and the advance agenda. The meeting was called to order by Mayor John Hawkins and roll being called there were present in Council Chambers Mayor John Hawkins and the following Council Members: Abbie Hansen, Megan McFarland, Matt McKinney and Logan Welch.

*This meeting was Open to the Public and by electronic means utilizing the Zoom Platform. Details were provided in using the Zoom platform either by joining through the web portal or by calling in to view or participate.*

It was moved by McFarland and seconded by Hansen to approve the agenda.

ROLL CALL: Hansen, Hawkins, McFarland, McKinney and Welch voting aye.

Mayor John Hawkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PETITIONS – COMMUNICATIONS – REQUESTS**

None brought forth.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Scot and April Ely, Trustees of the D.M. (Delma) McLaughlin Revocable Trust were in attendance to present a donation of \$616,037.92 from the Trust to the City of Webster City to be used for the establishment and maintenance of the walking and/or bike trails in or near Webster City, Iowa. The City is to establish a separate trust account for this bequest and it can be used for no other purpose. City Attorney Zach Chizek will work with the Trustees and City Staff to get the proper fund set up through Enhance Hamilton County. Council Members expressed their gratitude for the generous donation.

**MINUTES AND CLAIMS**

It was moved by Welch and seconded by McKinney that the following motion(s) and Resolution(s) (a-g) be approved and adopted collectively:

- a. That the meeting minutes of August 7, 2023 be approved.
- b. That Resolution No. 2023-146 approving payroll for the period ending August 12, 2023 and paid on August 18, 2023 in the amount of \$212,649.75 be passed and adopted.
- c. That Resolution No. 2023-147 approving bills paid in the amount of \$2,484,905.40 be passed and adopted and the Fund List be approved.
- d. That the City Manager Reports for June (Electric only) and July 2023 be accepted and placed on file.
- e. That the Police Department Report for July, 2023 be accepted and placed on file.
- f. That the Fire Department Report for July, 2023 be accepted and placed on file.
- g. That the issuance of Beer & Liquor Licenses by the Iowa Department of Commerce be recommended for the following:  
Class C Retail Alcohol License and Outdoor Service, Seneca Street Saloon, 919 Seneca Street
- h. Council Committee Reports – None brought forth.
- i. Other reports and recommendations – None brought forth.

ROLL CALL: Hawkins, McFarland, McKinney, Welch and Hansen voting aye.

**GENERAL AGENDA**

**6:05 Public Hearing**

a. August 21, 2023 at 6:05 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, Webster City, Iowa being the time and place for a Public Hearing to Amend the FY 24 Budget, the same was held. No written objections were received and no oral objections were presented.

It was moved by McFarland and seconded by Hansen that Resolution No. 2023-148 adopting Budget Amendment #1 for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024 be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: McFarland, McKinney, Welch, Hansen and Hawkins voting aye.

Dodie Wolfgram, Finance Director, provided information on the Amendments.

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b. It was moved by Hansen and seconded by McFarland that Request from St. Thomas Aquinas Parish for Street closing-Des Moines Street between Bank and Water Streets for a Car Show to be held Saturday, October 7, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (closure from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) be approved.

ROLL CALL: McKinney, Welch, Hansen, Hawkins and McFarland voting aye.

c. It was moved by McFarland and seconded by McKinney that Resolution No. 2023-149 setting September 5, 2023 at 6:05 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, Webster City, Iowa as the time and place for a Public Hearing on Proposal to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Webster City, Iowa, 2019, by adding Section 50-120 entitled Solar Energy Systems to Chapter 50, Article III, Division 3, for the purpose of regulating the placement and use of Solar Energy Systems in the City's Zoning Districts be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: Welch, Hansen, Hawkins, McFarland and McKinney voting aye.

Ariel Bertran, Community Development Director, explained the need for the amendment to add this section to the current City Code of Ordinances.

d. It was moved by McKinney and seconded by Hansen that Resolution No. 2023-150 approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the Iowa Department of Revenue and the City of Webster City, Iowa for participation in the State Setoff Program be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: Hansen, Hawkins, McFarland, McKinney and Welch voting aye.

Finance Director Wolfgram gave details of the Memorandum and some of the changes to be incurred.

e. It was moved by Welch and seconded by McFarland that Resolution No. 2023-151 supporting the installation of Art In Public Spaces in Downtown with a Financial Contribution and authorizing the Mayor to sign a Letter of Support for Arts R Alive's Grant Application to the Rural Enrichment Grant Administered by Iowa Economic Development Authority be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: Hawkins, McFarland, McKinney, Welch and Hansen voting aye.

Biridiana Bishop, Assistant City Manager, spoke to Council on this request for support. Anna Woodward, Chamber Director and Janet Adams, member of Arts R Alive were also present to provide details of the installation of Art in the Downtown area.

f. It was moved by McFarland and seconded by Hansen that Resolution No. 2023-152 authorizing the Mayor to Sign and Execute Oxbow Restoration Agreement with the Nature Conservancy for the Oxbow Restoration Project at Brewer Creek Park be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: McFarland, McKinney, Welch, Hansen and Hawkins voting aye.

Brian Stroner, Environmental/GIS/Safety Coordinator, provided specifics on the project. Karen Wilke, Associate Director of Freshwater of The Nature Conservancy was also present and provided additional details on the Oxbow Restoration.

g. It was moved by Hansen and seconded by McKinney that Resolution No. 2023-153 authorizing the City Manager to continue negotiations with Webster City Custom Meats to finalize a Wastewater Services Agreement and authorizing the Mayor to sign and execute a Wastewater Services Agreement when finalized and authorizing the City Manager to provide Letters of Support to Webster City Custom Meats as they pursue State and Federal Incentive Programs be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: McKinney, Welch, Hansen, Hawkins and McFarland voting aye.

Daniel Ortiz-Hernandez, City Manager, gave a background of the negotiations on this agreement and are working with the new owners to get finalized for execution by both parties.

h. It was moved by Welch and seconded by McFarland that Resolution No. 2023-154 transferring cash to provide funding for certain projects, repay internal loans, reconcile funds and TIF entries be passed and adopted.

ROLL CALL: Welch, Hansen, Hawkins, McFarland and McKinney voting aye.

Finance Director Wolfgram explained the various reasons for the transfers.

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**CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by McKinney and seconded by Hansen that Council meet in Closed Session to evaluate the performance of the City Manager, which is necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session, as provided by Chapter 21.5 i of the Code of Iowa.

ROLL CALL: Hansen, Hawkins, McFarland, McKinney and Welch voting aye.

Council went out of Open Session at 6:25 p.m.

A five-minute recess was taken by Council.

Council went into Closed Session at 6:30 p.m.

Council returned to Open Session at 7:44 p.m.

It was moved by McKinney and seconded by McFarland that Council adjourn.

ROLL CALL: Hawkins, McFarland, McKinney, Welch and Hansen voting aye.

The August 21, 2023 Regular City Council Meeting stood adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

John Hawkins, Mayor

Karyl K. Bonjour, City Clerk