

Minutes
KEOTA CITY COUNCIL
225 E. BROADWAY AVE.
February 5th, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Cansler.

Roll call: Mayor Cansler, Councilmen Burroughs, Conrad, Greiner and McDonald were present. Councilman Bender was absent. City employees present were Horras, Harmsen, and Librarian Greiner. Public present, Karen Sypherd, Rich Klein, Cynthia Thompson, Julie Gibson, and Casey Jarmes from Sigourney New-Review.

Administrator Horras, made a request to amend the agenda, to add 2 items to the new business. Motion to approve by Conrad, 2nd by Burroughs, McDonald & Greiner were in favor and Bender was absent.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made to approve Consent Agenda by Greiner, including Agenda, previous meeting minutes from October 16th Council Meeting - Budget review and payment of Bills. McDonald 2nd the motion, Conrad and Burroughs were in favor, and Bender was absent.

Bills Paid January 17th thru February 5th, 2024

Checks		Payroll:	
CENGAGE LEARNING	219.25		
CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT	164.37	ION ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS	3,625.00
DEMCO INC.	86.07	IOWA ONE CALL	18.90
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA	452.66	Kevin's Sales and Service	420.00
INFOMAX OFFICE SYSTEMS	156.97	MALLEY HARDWARE & APPLIANCE	177.01
Schumacher Elevator Company	756.00	Mid-America Publishing Corp	106.90
WINDSTREAM	146.06	QUILL	206.50
ALLIANT ENERGY	6,942.52	REDLINGER REPAIR	250.00
BADGER METER	60.00	River Products Company	3,000.00
COUNTY LINE MART	49.32	SINCLAIR - NAPA	648.41
COX SANITATION & RECYCLING INC	4,868.70	TREMMELE Backhoe Service	800.00
Eli or Morgan Hanson	54.50	WELLMARK	2,645.03
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA	2,374.92	WINDSTREAM	249.03
GFC LEASING-WI	100.91		
H&M FARM & HOME SUPPLY	115.42		
HESLINGA, DIXON & HITE	65.00		
		35,985.76	6,802.04

Public Forum: Keota resident, Julie Gibson stated that when the change was made to make N Ellis St. at the school entrance block, into a One-Way Street, there needed to be some clear signs and markings for student crossing. She would recommend the addition of a "student crossing" sign and some painted hash marks on the road to indicate that parents/guardians need to be cautious in this area to allow students to safely cross the road before and after school. She also shared that there is an area near the library with a 4 way stop that also needs this signage and markings to ensure the safety of our students. Julie further shared that there is a need to look into the City Easement ordinance in pertaining to dead/damaged trees that are located in the easement of a resident's property. There has been some unsettled discussion about a tree in her area that she would like some clarification on, as her concern is that if the tree was to fully collapse, it would land on her home. Keota resident Cynthia Thompson inquired about the discussion to look into moving to rural water through the city. She brought some pictures and shared what she has seen deteriorate since the new water tower was switched over. She stated that these things were not half the issue that they are now that we have switched and wanted to advocate for the continued research and consideration for going to rural water for Keota.

Department Reports:

Public Works –Harmsen reported that they have been busy trying keep up with all of the snow fall and keeping the streets open and cleaned as much as possible. With this weather clearing up, there has been some work done on preparing the new water meter implementation. Harmsen and Slaubaugh have been working with Andy Conrad on getting things in place to be able to put the new antenna/receiver that is needed to work with the new meters and system, on the top of the water tower. They have also worked on replacing Slaubaugh's water meter first to test this out and ensure proper functionality before fully transitioning our city to the Badger meters. Slaubaugh has finished with the removal of the trailer at 505 S Green St.

Library – Greiner shared that the library boiler was inspected this week. She purchased a CO2 meter to comply with the inspection results. There has been a great turnout for coffee club and quilting. Saturday there were 34 kiddos that attended the Little Friends of the library. The Princess Party is set for March 9th at 9am.

Clerk – Horras reported that there were 2 new residents. She has been working with the budget to ensure we are ready to go for FY25. Horras is working with gWorks to get all the information needed to start the build on the Utility Billing module for implementation. The Winter MPI training will be Wed – Friday this week, so City Hall will be closed Wed., Thurs., and Friday morning for that zoom training. She has worked with Maggie Burger from Speer Financial to look at our sewer revenue to ensure that our current rate is adequate and it is. Horras completed the submission for the Catalyst grant for Kevin Miller on the Hinkel building project. Horras met with interested students at KHS with information on the openings at the Aquatic Center for Summer 2024. Lots of information and questions were shared and there seemed to be a lot of interest in working at the new pool this summer. The closing for the purchase of the property at 506 S Fulton St was

moved out a week to allow for all parties to be back in IA.

Resolutions and Ordinances:

RESOLUTION 2024-05 Approval of Title/Position change for Micah Harmsen - Motion to approve by Burroughs, 2nd by McDonald, Conrad & Greiner in favor and Bender absent.

New Business:

Preview/Possible Action – Opening closed bid on Trailer located at 505 S Green St. Motion to reject the bid due to inaccurate information on the bid that was made, was made by Burroughs, 2nd by Conrad, Greiner & McDonald in favor and Bender absent. Motion to reopen the bidding window on the trailer to February 29th, was made by Burroughs, 2nd by Greiner, Conrad & McDonald in favor and Bender was absent

Motion to table both 20AE agreement discussions that were on the agenda, due to Councilman Bender’s absence. Motion made by Burroughs, 2nd by Greiner, Conrad & McDonald in favor, and Bender absent.

Debate/Possible Action – Future of the Police Department. – Discussion on the possibility of posting for and hiring part time police coverage for the city. This would entail up to 10 hours weekly and could be 1 or more officers. Motion to have the City Administrator move forward with posting for part time police patrol coverage was made by Burroughs, 2nd by McDonald, Conrad & Greiner in favor and Bender absent.

Discussion/Possible Action – Agreement to post for 2024 Cemetery Mowing Contract. The motion was made to move forward with posting by Burroughs, 2nd by Conrad, Greiner & McDonald were in favor, and Bender was absent.

Discussion/Possible Action – Approval of Delta Industries bid for Sewer Plant parts. Motion to approve made by Conrad, 2nd by Burroughs, Greiner & McDonald in favor and Bender absent.

Mayor Comments: Mayor Cansler gave a sincere Thank You to Alycia, Micah, Kevin, Toni and the Library board, Karen and the Museum Board, Councilman Burroughs and Councilman Conrad for all the hard work and prework done to ensure the most efficient budget meetings this council has had. Mayor Cansler also shared his appreciation for our residents in sharing their feedback on the signage and route for our school kids’ safety and the WRWA discussion.

Adjournment: Motion made to adjourn meeting by Burroughs, 2nd by McDonald, Conrad & Greiner in favor and Bender absent. Time 7:45pm.

Next regular meeting, February 20th, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Attest:

Mayor Anthony Cansler

City Administrator Alycia A Horras