

Minutes

KEOTA CITY COUNCIL

225 E. BROADWAY AVE.

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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

Roll call: Mayor Cansler, Councilmen Conrad, McDonald, Greiner, Bender and Burroughs were present. City employee present were Horras and Librarian Greiner. Public present Karen Sypherd, Janie Westendorf, and Casey Jarmes from Sigourney New-Review.

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

Bills Paid March 5<sup>th</sup> thru March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Checks

Payroll:

ALL AMERICAN PEST CONTROL	70.00
FARMERS CO OP ASSN	2,540.67
LORI HAMMES	40,000.00
MENARDS-Iowa City	39.00
Michelle Fuller	100.00
SEMCO Landfill	259.20
Sigourney Lumber	34.65
USCELLULAR	144.75
US POSTAL SERVICE	200.00
WELLMARK	3,535.53
WINDSTREAM	249.14
	<b>47,172.94</b>

Ashley R Greiner	75.72
Tonia Greiner	1,060.20
Micah Harmsen	1,857.79
Kevin L Slaubaugh	1,783.79
Alycia A Horras	1,915.68
	<b>6,693.18</b>

Public Forum: Chad Greiner inquired about the Cities discussions on going to Rural water and shared some information on possibilities of utilizing more of a whole water de-chemicalization system rather than water softeners within residences. He shared that with the Cities water softener already in place, residences that have their own individual water softener as well, is not necessary and is adding more salt/chlorides to the waste water, which in turn could be affecting our negative test results. There was discussion on pulling samples from Chad’s residence to see if this system would have more favorable test results, along with testing a few other areas of interest. The council agreed to look more into each option before any final decision to go to rural water was made.

Cody Branstad from the Vet Clinic talked about rabies vaccinations and stated that there is an increase in numbers of past due vaccinations or missing vaccinations in our dog population. He talked to the council about taking new measures to ensure that these dogs are getting the vaccinations needed to ensure our publics safety. The council agreed with being more proactive to ensure that pet owners are following the requirements per our ordinance and state law. Councilman Burroughs asked Cody to provide a list of dogs and owners that have unvaccinated dogs and of any owners that have changed their vet care, so that we can reach out to them about the need to vaccinate or show proof of vaccination to be in compliance. Councilman Burroughs also asked Cody about documentation of a dog’s breed within their records and if there was a request to change a dog’s breed, what would the action be for the vet clinic. Cody stated that he would not change a dog’s documentation about breed as that would be considered malpractice.

Department Reports:

Public Works –Harmsen reported that Spring clean up is scheduled for April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. He has been in contact with Cox Sanitation and we are all set up. We will fun the same hours as in the past 12 – 4pm on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 8 – 12 on the 13<sup>th</sup>. They got a bunch of seeding and fertilizing done at the pool site and park last week before the rain. They have been doing a lot of end of season maintenance and cleaning on winter equipment, as well as working on spring equipment and getting everything serviced and ready to go for warmer weather. Trent Greiner came to town last Friday and removed the tree in the right of way at 405 S Hamilton St. Harmsen also had him trim up the trees in form of the library as we have had some issues with branches falling off in the right of way and street. They did get a few of the signs replaced last week that were knocked over in the storm. They did talk to Tom Waltering and he is planning on spraying the cemetery this Spring. Harmsen talked to Ryan Bakker last week and they are planning on helping out the ball association when they do the Spring clean up at the ball field sites in April before games start. There are 3 bids gathered for the proposed UTV for the City. Kevin went out to RJ Motorsports and SFM in Iowa City. Both agreed that the one we needed to look at was the same machine. Harmsen priced a comparable John Deere Gator from Sinclair in Sigourney as well. Harmsen and Slaubaugh would like to know if it is ok to start working on parking lot prep at the 506 S Fulton St location? Harmsen met with Goodwins again Friday to look at the basement waterproofing project. Enclosed in the packets are both bids from Goodwins and Harris Boyz on proposed work. If the council agrees with them, we would like to start that work process ASAP. Water Plant-We had some issues with the dosing pump and weren’t able to dose the caustic in February. Unfortunately, this process has just been a bit of a battle. We did get the pump swapped out, we got the chemical onsite, and everything finally appears ready. We’re shooting for March 25<sup>th</sup>. I coordinated with Micah about the lead service line inventory. He will make notes about the service lines as he changes out the water meters. I will put the information into the proper template. Lagoons-Iowa Rural Water is coming at the end of the month to help us fix the aerator head that blew off.

Library –There was a great turnout for the Princess Party and there was a request from a little boy for a Super Hero party next. Toni has been working with the art teacher at the school to potentially put student artwork in the Story Walk at the Kewash Trail. Wednesday’s early out will have the Keokuk County Conservation here. Board meeting is Monday at 5pm.

**Museum-** The museum received a great gift from Dave Fisch that was given to Mike Williams and then donated to the Museum. It was a bench pad that was used by the girls' basketball team around the early '70s time frame. Board meeting Wednesday at 6:30pm.

**Clerk** – 2 new resident accounts. Horras worked to submit 2 grants last week by the 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. 1 to the WCRF for \$38000.00 to continue with Phase II of the pool/park build to add security lighting, a dedicated AED unit, a sound/PA system and to begin work on the parking lot at 506 S Fulton. The second Grant was to the Representative Miller-Meeks Project funding for \$2mil to help with the potential of bringing in Rural water. We received 20 applicants for pool staffing for the 2024 summer season and will start work on setting up interviews. We have continued to get inquiries and to sell summer memberships along with a few pool rentals already. We also had someone talk to us about a Free Swim sponsorship. Upcoming events are the Easter Egg Hunt, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am, City wide Clean Up is set for March 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, City Wide Garage Sales are set for March 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, and the Rural Road trip is set for March 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>. Horras has been working with Julie Scott from the Washington Paper to get all of Keota's events from now to the end of August in the paper.

**Resolutions and Ordinances:**

**New Business:**

**Discussion/Possible Action** – Keota After Prom, storage for items. - Motion to have City staff look at all viable spaces to see if this is feasible made by Burroughs, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Conrad and all in favor.

**Preview/Possible Action** – Bids for Side by Side for City employees to use – Motion to approve the Sun and Fun bid, leaving the option to Micah to look at possible purchasing the roof and windshield outside of the dealer and installing ourselves, made by Burroughs, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Greiner and all in favor.

**Preview/Possible Action** – Bids received for basement work at City Hall – Motion to check the feasibility of getting another bid for vent removal and reinstall this week and then to move forward with both the Goodwin and Harris Boyz bids if we cannot get that done or if another bid is not lower, was made by Burroughs, 2<sup>nd</sup> by McDonald, and all were in favor.

**Debate/Action** – Finalize interview dates and hiring committee for 2024 pool staff – Motion to appoint the following for the pool hiring team: Alycia Horras, Karen Sypherd, Nick Beinhart and Heath McDonald; and to allow this team to set the interview date, made by Burroughs, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Greiner and all in favor.

**Closed Session** Iowa Code 21.5 Sub Section J – Possible Acquisition of Real Estate – motion to go into closed session made by Greiner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burroughs and all in favor. Time is 8:31pm.

Motion to adjourn the closed session was made by Conrad, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burroughs and all in favor. Time is 8:42pm

Regular meeting called to order at 8:45pm

**Mayor Comments:** Mayor Cansler has reached out to the 2 applicants for the part time PD position, to let them know that we are still working on the best option for the city. He requested to have Councilman Bender reach out to the Sigourney Safety Committee to initiate another meeting with them to further discuss the 20AE agreement that they have presented. Mayor Cansler shared that the police evidence that was located in the office area, has been moved and secured in a new location and will remain there for now. Cansler will be out of town for the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**Adjournment:** Motion made to adjourn meeting by Conrad, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Greiner, and all in favor. Time 8:52pm.

**Next regular meeting, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 7:00 pm.**

Attest:

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Mayor Anthony Cansler

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City Administrator Alycia A Horras