

Minutes
KEOTA CITY COUNCIL
225 E. BROADWAY AVE.
August 19th, 2024

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

Roll call: Mayor Cansler, Councilmen Conrad, McDonald, Bender, Greiner and Burroughs were present. City employees present were Administrator Horras and Librarian Greiner. Public present Janie Westendorf, Jessicah Mahan, Nick Mahan Jim Tinnes, Patty Tinnes, Kathy Ewald, Judy Sigler, Carl Sigler, Nicole Strand, Melanie Saresky, Diana Mather, Addyson Anderson, Amanda Anderson, Mary Pat Redlinger and Casey Jarmes from Sigourney New-Review.

Consent Agenda: Motion to Amend the agenda made by Burroughs, 2nd by Bender, and all in favor. Motion to approve Consent Agenda by Greiner, including Agenda, previous meeting minutes from August 5th Council Meeting - Budget review and payment of Bills. McDonald 2nd the motion, and all in favor.

Bills Paid July 23rd thru August 5th, 2024

Checks			Payroll:			
CARGILL, INC.	8/19/2024	\$6,502.39	ALTENHOFEN, CHERYL	280 71	Greiner, Marlee F	18.47
CARRICO AQUATIC RESOURCE	8/19/2024	\$1,433.50	Callahan, Elise	107 13	GREINER, TONIA	1,193.83
IA DEPT OF NATURAL RESOUR	8/19/2024	\$210.00	Cave, Carmelita	27 70	HARMSEN, MICAH	1,788.74
KEOKUK COUNTY TREASURER	8/19/2024	\$1,203.00	Conger, Grace R.	152 38	Horras, Alycia A	1,915.93
MENARDS	8/19/2024	\$129.99	Conrad, Brynn M.	0 00	Lyle, Elyse M.	88.66
MID-AMERICA PUBLISHING COR	8/19/2024	\$299.20	Conrad, Reese R.	484 84	Lyle, Olivia S.	583.80
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC	8/19/2024	\$362.60	Dalton, Lamaya	241 96	McCord, Calli	301.06
OLINGER ELECTRIC	8/19/2024	\$578.92	Detweiler, Lexus	42 48	Morris, Jake R.	505.68
QUILL CORPORATION	8/19/2024	\$91.12	Galindo, Aubrey	343 55	Purkeypile, Addison G.	213.33
RIVER PRODUCTS COMPANY	8/19/2024	\$4,124.95	Gearhart, Brylee R.	274 75	Redlinger, Jaylah M.	330.16
SCOTT WESTENDORF	8/19/2024	\$4,000.00	Gibson, Julie A.	905 29	Sieren, Gavin	390.39
TOWN & COUNTRY WHOLESAL	8/19/2024	\$300.89	GREINER, ASHLEY	43 02	SLAUBAUGH, KEVIN L.	1,769.79
UNITED STATES POST OFFICE	8/19/2024	\$220.00	Greiner, Ava K.	491 27	Sprouse, Tucker B.	387.87
VISION AG	8/19/2024	\$469.66	Galindo, Ayden	184.70	Swanson, Alaina	401.72
WELLMARK	8/19/2024	\$3,535.53				
WINDSTREAM	8/19/2024	\$259.28				
YS MEN AND WOMENS CLUB	8/19/2024	\$104.85				
Total Checks		\$23,825.88				

Public Forum: Jim Tinnes-610 E Broadway- Spoke about not wanting the small park removed and to stay as it is today, but with some upgrades and repairs. He asked how many people would it take to sign a petition to keep the small park and green space, to ensure the council would vote to leave it as is. Tinnes also stated that he liked Keota just the way it is and did not want it to be Washington or Sigourney. Tinnes stated that he did Not think Keota needed to grow at all and would like to see the focus to move away from that. Nick Mahan-404 N Dave St- Nick asked that there be a public vote on whether a committee can be put together to maintain and clean the small park in order to preserve it. He compared that to the work the Pool Advocates did with the new Aquatic Center. Patty Tinnes- 308 N Davis St- Tinnes stated that she was confused as to the future of the park after it being stated that the removal was a done deal and then that it was not. She is in favor of keeping the park and adding to it or bringing things like a dog park, pickleball courts etc. there for more use to this area. Diana Mather-214 N Davis St- Mather brought up the statement of affordable housing and asked what that meant to the council. She questioned if that was low-income housing, small family dwellings, etc. and is concerned for the value of other homes around that area. She is also in favor of there being parking added to the area across from the library and expanded on the activities and events that do happen there with minimal places for patrons to park. Carl Sigler-406W Broadway Ave- Sigler voiced concerns with the current state of the area of the old pool and how it is grown over. He asked that the city look at that and possibly give that back to the country club to do something with. Jessica Mahan-404 N Davis St- Mahan stated that the community can't be blamed for the misinformation or sharing things on Facebook. She believes that the park should not be completely removed and asked that with the vandalism, have the parents of these kids been addressed and asked for reimbursement of the damages done? Brett Romoser-302 W Lafayette- Romoser stated that if there is indeed a group that looks into housing and potentially low-income housing, that he would gladly be on that committee or team to work on this, as this is part of what he does for a living. He stated that the old school building that was buried under the small park has some bricks that were made specifically for that school building and that if we were to get some of those unearthed by the surveying or development, that there are people that would be interested in purchasing or having some of these. He requested that there be an option of saving some of these if possible. Romoser stated there is an issue with vandalism and that the need is to focus on that and work to remove what can be. He went on to agree with the focus on growth for the community and how this could impact our current residents as far as reduced taxes and city utilities with more housing and growth. Romoser's final comments were that keeping city business off of Facebook would be a much better way to handle things, as this only creates negativity and drama. Melanie Saresky-212 N Iowa St- Stated that there are about 12 empty houses in Keota now and wondered why these were not being filled first before building more. She questioned why the focus was not on filling these houses and issues like the poor sidewalks and such.

Department Reports:

Public Works –Harmsen reported the Carpenter Street water project is coming along nicely. As of Friday, all the new main was installed. We will need another partial shut down next Thursday the 22nd to complete the cross-street tie in. Once that is complete, we will do pressure test and send in bacteria samples. We hope to start pulling in new services starting tomorrow. Pool is running as it should. We were able to get the Kerr property prepped and seeded last week before the rain and it is looking good. Kevin has been busy keeping up with mowing and the dump. Hope to get enough time before next week to get stop signs put in on Keokuk. Water main project has taken quite a bit of time. Harmsen will be gone 8/19 to move Rylee to college.

Library – Librarian Greiner shared that the library has been running smoothly. They are planning to participate in back-to-school night this week. The next board meeting is Monday at 6pm,

Museum- Romoser asked if there was an update on the basement sealing work? He stated that he could do the epoxy work himself if the council would like to get this moving. Romoser would definitely like to see some of the bricks from the old school building saved and preserved if at all possible. He stated the there has been a YouTube channel for the museum developed and that will go live later in the year.

Clerk – Horras shared that she did get the work done and items submitted for the REAP grant last week by the deadline. She shared briefly about the BOOST grant from the IEDA that she would like to work on for the city. The next Movie in the Park is coming up this Saturday, the 24th at 8:30 and is the movie "IF". This movie and treats have been fully sponsored by Libertyville Savings Bank. Horras shared that there have been continued sponsorships and feedback on the movies thus far. Horras shared the new pool hours going forward and how that started today, the 19th. The pool will now be open Sat and Sun 1-5 for open swim and we will be open for all prebooked parties as well. There are 5 parties remaining for the season, with Sept. 8th being the last open day for the pool. There has been a total of 5471 people come to the pool not including the daily water aerobics and some party attendances. Horras shared with the council, her decision to give 70 of the green drawstring bags to the Keota Community Club to be used in the back-to-school treat bags that they make annually for the teachers and school staff. These were taken to the school today and will be given to each staff of Wednesday to enjoy as school ramps up. Horras talked briefly about our CDs that are maturing this week and how there would be more shared when we get that that item under new business.

Resolutions and Ordinances:

Resolution 2024-52 Approval of Building Permit for Baughman–Motion to approve by Conrad, 2nd by Bender, and all in favor.

Resolution 2024-53 Approval of Tax Abatement for Miller – Motion to approve by Burroughs, 2nd by Bender and all in favor.

Resolution 2024-54 Approval of submission for the Boost Grant from IEDA – Motion to approve by Bender, 2nd by Conrad and all in favor.

Resolution 2024-55 Approval of 4-year term for Museum Board Members – Motion to approve by Burroughs, 2nd by Conrad, and all in favor.

New Business:

Discussion/Possible Action- CD rates and new term for maturing CDs at LSB – Motion to approve the renewal of the city's CD to an 18mth CD made by Conrad, 2nd by Bender and all in favor. Motion to approve the Library Board to discuss and decide the term for their CD and report back to Horras for action taken, made by Burroughs, 2nd by Bender and all in favor.

Discussion/Possible Action – Approval to have Waterhouse assess the ground at our small park location South of the library for development viability. Motion to approve Bender, 2nd by Burroughs and all in favor.

Discussion/Possible Approval- Approval of payroll for Reese and Brynn Conrad- Motion to approve made by Bender, 2nd by Greiner, Burroughs & McDonald in favor and Conrad Abstains.

Discussion/Possible Approval – Approval of payroll for Ava and Marlee Greiner- Motion to approve made by Bender, 2nd by Burroughs, Conrad & McDonald in favor and Greiner Abstains.

Discussion/Possible Action Approval to move the next council meeting to Tuesday, September 3rd due to Labor Day holiday. Motion to approve made by Bender, 2nd by McDonald and all in favor.

Mayor Comments: Mayor Cansler shared that there was a lot of information shared on the small park and all needs to be taken into consideration as we address the next steps at a future date. Cansler thanked all involved with such a successful 1st season at the Aquatic Center and spoke about the hard work put into that success by all involved. Mayor Cansler stated that due to a safety concern and lack of stability, he has issued an order to have the pavilion at the small park taken down. In reviewing the condition, he found that it would be more costly to repair than to replace.

Adjournment: Motion made to adjourn meeting by Greiner 2nd Bender, and all in favor. Time 7:53pm.

Next regular meeting, September 3rd, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Attest:

Mayor Anthony Cansler

City Administrator Alycia A Horras