

Strawberry Point City Council  
Regular Meeting August 2, 2017

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, August 2, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Bente presided and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members answering roll call were Rowcliffe, Evans, and Kuehl. Johnson arrived at 7:25 p.m. Hansel was absent.

Council was notified that a representative of Gary McElroy had contacted City Hall and stated that they wished to be removed from the agenda. Evans made a motion to approve the agenda removing item 9) Citizen to address Council – Gary McElroy. Kuehl seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Evans, Kuehl. Nays: None. Motion passes.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes from July 21<sup>st</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>  
Liquor License Renewal for Dollar General  
Claims

Evans moved to approve the consent agenda with the additional claims. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Kuehl and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**INFORMATION**

Council had no questions or comments on the Library Board Meeting Minutes from June 21<sup>st</sup> or the June Delinquent list.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Council reviewed the proposed Boy Scout Proclamation to celebrate the NE Iowa Boy Scout Council's 100 year anniversary. The proclamation declares September 17-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 as "Boy Scouts of America Week". Evans made a motion to approve the proclamation. Kuehl seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Kuehl, Rowcliffe and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the bids for the WWTP Disinfection and Ammonia Removal Project. Bids were opened at 10:00 a.m. on August 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lucas Elsbernd of Fehr-Graham at City Hall. Elsbernd presented Council with the bid tabulation spreadsheet. Engineer estimate for the project was \$561,302.00. Six bids were received in total and were as follows: Ricklefs Excavating of Anamosa \$542,157.10, F.L. Krapfl Inc of Dyersville \$543,095.90, Blazek Corp of Lawler \$550,633.00, Calacci Construction Co of Iowa City \$566,032.00, Portzen Construction of Dubuque \$577,751.45, TriCon General Construction of Dubuque \$692,000.00. Elsbernd made his recommendation to the Council to award the bid to Ricklefs Excavating. Elsbernd stated that he has worked with Ricklefs in the past and has had no issues with that company. Council reviewed a recommendation/letter of support from the City's affidavit operator for F. L. Krapfl Inc. Elsbernd stated that he has worked with Krapfl in the past and they are a wonderful contractor to work with. The difference was noted between Ricklefs and Krapfl was noted to be \$938.80. Elsbernd stated that he spoke with Emily Hammond, the City's bond attorney from Dorsey Whitney. Hammond stated that the bid needs to be awarded to the lowest bidder unless there is substantial evidence to support choosing the higher contractor.

After consideration of the bids and the discussion held, Evans made a motion approve resolution 17-08, awarding the contract for the WWTP Disinfection and Ammonia Removal Project to Ricklefs Excavating of Anamosa, IA in the amount of \$542,157.10. Kuehl seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Evans and Kuehl. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Chief of Police, Ryan Evans presented Council with a proposal for financing the purchase of a new vehicle for the police department. The need was previously discussed on several occasions at various Council meetings. The money spent annually on repairs for the current vehicle would be better spent on making a payment on a new vehicle. Chief Evans reviewed that he had sought bids from both the state level and the local dealership. Financing options were also sought from two local banks as well

as the financing offered through the state bid dealership. It was determined that the Police Department has approximately \$3,000.00 in a capital equipment fund that it can utilize towards the first year's payments. Additionally, the money brought in once the current PD vehicle is sold, would also offset the cost. Depending on the amount received from the vehicle sale, the first year's payments on a new vehicle could potentially be completely covered. Chief Evans also discussed the potential for the police department to bring in additional revenue to the general fund by writing civil citations. This is something that is becoming more common among municipalities. Currently, if and when the PD writes a ticket, the county or the state receives the money. Civil citations could also be written for nuisance issues and minor infractions such as disorderly conduct. Chief Evans stressed that he was not looking to change the level of enforcement and did not want this to appear as though the department was going to be writing tickets to fund a new vehicle. This change would simply allow the City to be able to receive the funds rather than the County or State. It will take several months before implementation and would have to be approved by Council. After further discussion, Kuehl made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2018 police vehicle as presented for a total of \$47,467.85, financed through Citizens State Bank for a term of 84 months at 3.75% APR. Evans seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Kuehl, Rowcliffe and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the updated building permit fees which were approved by the Planning and Zoning Board at their meeting in March 2017. The new proposed building permit fees were more in line with other local municipalities similar in size to Strawberry Point. The new fee structure would be as follows:

Building Value	\$0.00 - \$10,000.00	Permit Price	\$25.00
	\$10,001.00 - \$30,000.00		\$50.00
	\$30,001.00 - \$60,000.00		\$75.00
	\$60,001.00 - \$100,000.00		\$150.00
	\$100,001.00 - Above		\$250.00

Johnson made a motion to approve the updated building permit fees. Evans seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Evans, Johnson and Kuehl. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Dean Courtnage addressed the City Council on behalf of the Fire Department. Courtnage touched on the previous request the Fire Department had made requesting funds to pay for the new sets of gear. The Strawberry Point Firefighters Association has agreed to cover the balance of the funds needed to purchase the gear. Courtnage stated that he is requesting on behalf of the Fire Department, to be able to utilize the funds in the T & A account which total approximately \$13,762.00, as well as the grant money which will be coming from the Iowa DNR. Kuehl made a motion to approve the utilization of Iowa DNR grant funds and T & A Fire funds to pay for the remaining sets of new gear. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Johnson, Kuehl and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passes. Council Member Kuehl thanked Courtnage and the Strawberry Point Firefighters Association for helping fund the purchase of the new gear.

Council reviewed the request for a sidewalk addition at the ball fields. This was based on a recommendation by Public Works, the area in question is currently "rocked". The rocks have a tendency to wash out and end up in the surrounding grassy areas. The cost is estimated to be \$3,850.00. City Administrator Osweiler stated she did not feel that this was something that needed to be immediately addressed, but more of a project we can keep in mind for the future, possibly finding a grant or using donated funds to complete the project. Council agreed the project was not necessary at this time and no action was taken.

Council reviewed three quotes for a new diving board at the pool. Public Works had discovered a crack in one of the boards just prior to the pool season open. This was not something that could be fixed. The three quotes were as follows: Central Pool Supply \$2396.00, Pool Tech \$3365.00 and Halogen \$2415.00. City Administrator Osweiler stated that the money to pay for the diving board

would come from the Capital Equipment Improvement fund for the pool. Evans made a motion to purchase the diving board from Central Pool Supply in the amount of \$2396.00. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Kuehl, Rowcliffe, and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

City Administrator Osweiler informed the Council that the Librarian had asked her to extend an invitation to everyone to attend the Potluck Picnic the library is hosting in Inger Park on Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m.. The picnic will be featuring music by Beau Timmerman.

Osweiler also mentioned that Chief Evans had previously sent out a nuisance ordinance for review. She stated that she would be emailing that out again and requested that the Mayor and Council provide feedback on items to be removed and/or expanded. The current nuisance ordinance gives the City little to no way of truly addressing nuisance issues within the City. Council Member Johnson requested that a deadline be given for responding and if someone does not respond, then we move forward without the input.

Osweiler further touched on the topic of the visibility of housing numbers from the road. Ambulance Director, Theresa Callahan has been working with all emergency services to make citizens aware of the need for visible housing numbers from the roadway. The reminder has been put out on City social media sites, as well as in a notation on the City's utility bills.

Council Member Evans extended an invitation to all, to attend the celebration hosted by Berry Tender Daycare, for their 25 years of service. The celebration is taking place on Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup> in Campbell Park.

Evans also inquired as to the pool employee hours. She reviewed the timesheets available to the Council and noted that a few lifeguards had overtime. City Administrator Osweiler stated she also felt it was unacceptable and had already addressed the matter with the Deputy Clerk, who is also the pool manager. The reason that was given was the overtime occurred due to guards teaching swim lessons but also working full shifts at the pool. Osweiler stated that it would not be happening in the future.

With no further business, Evans moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. Motion passes.

  
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Alison Osweiler, City Clerk/Administrator

  
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Jeff Bente, Mayor