

Strawberry Point City Council  
Regular Meeting September 1, 2021

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers within Strawberry Point City Hall. Mayor Evans presided. Council members answering roll call were Hansel, Gould, Courtnage, Gearhart, Rowcliffe. Rowcliffe absent.

Mayor Evans recommended two amendments to the agenda: moving “Resolution Approving Agreement with Fehr Graham for Engineering Services Related to Lift Station Improvements” from “Presentations/Guests” to the “New Business” section, and tabling “Resolution Approving Contract with Johnson Controls for Civic Center Fire System Inspections”. Hansel moved to approve the agenda as amended. Gearhart seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hansel, Gould, Courtnage, Gearhart. Nays: None. Motion passes.

### **PRESENTATIONS/GUESTS**

Mitch Heims, President of the Snow Pioneers Snowmobile Club answered the Council’s questions pertaining to marking routes, communicating community expectations, and club communications with private property owners. Hansel moved to approve the Application and Agreement to Perform Work Within State Highway Right-Of-Way for Snowmobile Trails. Courtnage seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gould, Courtnage, Gearhart, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes from August 18, 2021, City Council Meeting  
Claims

Gearhart moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Hansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Courtnage, Gearhart, Hansel, Gould. Nays: None. Motion passes.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mayor Evans opened a Public Hearing at 6:10PM on the Proposed Sale/Conveyance of Easement of Real Estate. Developer Alex Stahura from Elkader presented his plans with his business partners to construct a three-bedroom, two-bathroom home with a two-car garage on the property and shared the drawings with the Council. With there being no other comments, written or oral, received, Mayor Evans closed the Public Hearing at 6:13PM. Gearhart moved to approve Resolution #21-35 Approving the Sale of Property Owned by the City of Strawberry Point, IA Locally Known as 211 W Spring Street, Strawberry Point, IA 52076. Hansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gearhart, Hansel, Gould, Courtnage. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council discussed the Chamber and Economic Development Club’s request for a financial contribution to their fundraising drive to continue their director’s position. Gearhart requested if funds are contributed, that the Club address some of the topics identified in the report provided from the Iowa Economic Development Authority’s Downtown Walk Around. City Administrator/Clerk Ashley Jasper advised of \$26,200.96 remaining of Economic Development Local Option Sales Tax dollars in City reserves. Hansel moved to contribute \$5,000 in the current fiscal year to the Strawberry Point Chamber and Economic Development Club. Gould seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hansel, Gould, Courtnage. Nays: None. Abstain: Gearhart due to membership on the organization’s Board. Motion passes. Future requests for funding will need to be taken to the City Council annually for budget preparations.

Council reviewed the default charges, and charges of other communities, in place for the Blink Electric Vehicle Charging Station service. Gearhart moved to approve Resolution #21-36 as written. Hansel seconded the motion and suggested using the display to advertise community notices and events. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gould, Courtnage, Gearhart, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

## **INFORMATION**

Public Works Superintendent Erik Sauerbry proposed a leaf pick up schedule similar to last fall. Council agreed the proposal had worked well in the past and requested advertising to notify the community of the last week of pick-up in addition to the regular advertising.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Courtnage moved to approve the purchase of hydrant (flushing valve for the main) and valve components for the water system from J&R Supply. Hansel seconded the motion. It was verified that the cost is within budget. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Courtnage, Gearhart, Hansel, Gould. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Gould moved to approve Resolution #21-37 approving the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities Iowa Safety Education Program Participant Agreement. Hansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gearhart, Hansel, Gould, Courtnage. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council discussed the proposed improvements to the north lift station and the reduction in the scope of the project due to costs. Council reviewed the Fehr Graham proposal to perform the engineering work on the reduced-scale project for the cost of their time and materials. There was a question about receiving multiple proposals for this work, and although not required, this was something the Council was interested in pursuing. Gearhart moved to approve Resolution #21-38 Approving Agreement with Fehr Graham for Engineering Services Related to Lift Station Improvements. The motion died for lack of a second. Hansel moved to solicit proposals for the Engineering Service Related to the Lift Station Improvements. Gould seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hansel, Gould, Courtnage, Gearhart. Nays: None. Motion passes. Council will provide recommendations of firms to solicit proposals from at the next meeting.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Courtnage requested an update on the solar streetlight which was delivered earlier this week; installation is pending. Mayor Evans thanked the Public Works Department for their work in cleaning up storm damage and restoring necessary services. Sauerbry also thanked the Police Department for their assistance with traffic control. Gearhart requested an update on the status of the concrete approach at the Fire Station; the project is on hold due to a delay in the availability of storm sewer pipe.

With there being no other business, Gould moved to adjourn at 6:41PM. Hansel seconded the motion. All ayes.

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Ashley Jasper, City Administrator

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Hannah Evans, Mayor