

Strawberry Point City Council
Regular Meeting October 6, 2021

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

Mayor Pro-Tempore Hansel recommended tabling the “Resolution Authorizing and Taking Additional Action on Proposal to Enter into a General Obligation Corporate Purpose Loan Agreement” for consideration at the October 20, 2021, City Council Meeting. Courtnage moved to approve the agenda as amended. Gearhart seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gould, Courtnage, Gearhart, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

PRESENTATIONS/GUESTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from September 15, 2021, City Council Meeting

Claims

Liquor License Renewal for JAKE & Company

Liquor License Renewal for Dollar General

Courtnage moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Gearhart seconded the motion. There was discussion about the format of the report with multiple invoices to the same vendor being summarized on one line. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gould, Courtnage, Gearhart, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Pro-Tempore Hansel opened a Public Hearing at 6:05PM on the Proposal to Enter Into a General Obligation Corporate Purpose Loan Agreement. The corresponding Resolution Authorizing and Taking Additional Action on Proposal to Enter into a General Obligation Corporate Purpose Loan Agreement will be considered at the October 20, 2021, City Council meeting. With there being no other comments, written or oral, received, Mayor Pro-Tempore Hansel closed the Public Hearing at 6:05PM.

Gearhart moved to approve Resolution #21-40 Adopting the Clayton County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Gould seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gould, Courtnage, Gearhart, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

INFORMATION

The Police Report was received and filed. Chief Ryan Evans narrated the report and discussed the automated traffic enforcement program’s status to date. The department has seen a sharp decline in the quantity of citations issued to local drivers, staff has communicated with the contracted company over several suggested improvements to the citation process, and the department is using a consistent approach to issuing citations and hearing concerns. There was also discussion on the improvements being made following the department’s nuisance abatement efforts.

The Public Works Report was received and filed. Superintendent Erik Sauerbry expressed previous concern pertaining to the lagoons following membrane replacement, but the samples have returned to within normal range. Pertaining to tree removal, it was discussed that several walnut trees are causing safety concerns and plugging storm sewers.

NEW BUSINESS

Council reviewed a request for participation in the Northeast Iowa Regional Housing Trust Fund. Due to having multiple questions about the program, the topic was tabled until a representative can speak on the topic.

Hansel moved to allow the use of the parking lot behind City Hall, and the police and ambulance garage in case of rain, for the Chamber & Economic Development Club's Pumpkin Walk activities. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gould, Courtnage, Hansel. Nays: None. Gearhart abstained due to his involvement on the Chamber & Economic Development Club's Board. Motion passes.

Gould moved to approve Resolution #21-41 Amending the Personnel Policy as it pertains to unused vacation time. Courtnage seconded the motion. It was clarified that the amendment does not add any additional vacation payout to the current policy, rather it only allows more flexibility as to when that request can be made. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gould, Courtnage, Gearhart, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council discussed the draft version of the Community Needs Assessment; no changes were recommended.

Gould moved to approve Resolution #21-42 Setting Date of Public Hearing for CDBG-CV Grant. Courtnage seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gould, Courtnage, Gearhart, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes. The Public Hearing will be held October 20, 2021.

OTHER BUSINESS

It was clarified that that Trick-or-Treating has been set by resolution to always occur on Halloween. City Administrator/Clerk Ashley Jasper congratulated Sauerbry on earning the Wastewater Treatment Grade II certification. Gearhart and the full Council shared their condolences to Theresa Callahan's family. Gearhart also reported completion of the library roof project. Courtnage shared that the Fire Department was awarded several tools and coordinating accessories, as well as a four-seater side by side, through a government surplus program.

With there being no other business, Gearhart moved to adjourn at 6:48PM. Courtnage seconded the motion. All ayes.

Ashley Jasper, City Administrator

Megan Hansel, Mayor Pro-Tempore