

City of Durant City Council Meeting  
Council Meeting 01/28/2019

Regular session of the City Council was called to order at 6:00p.m. by Mayor Scott Spengler. Roll call of members present: Utter, Quiram, Sterner, and Schulz. Member Mundt arrived at 6:20p.m. City staff present: PW Dir. Jared Semsch, Police Chief Orville Randolph, and City Opr. Ofcr/Clerk Deana Cavin. MSA Engineer Kevin Bailey and Consultant Mark Brockway were present.

Consent agenda: Member Quiram motioned, seconded by Member Sterner, to approve the city bills, minutes from prior council meeting and agenda with one date correction from December to November.

Ayes: Utter, Quiram, Sterner, Schulz Nays: None Motion carried. Public Input: None

Discuss/Consider Eagle Scout project for numbering residences that have no house numbers-Nate Werner, of Durant, attends Assumption High School. He presented council with his Eagle Scout proposed project, "Saving Lives with Numbers"- through Davenport Troop 664, to install house numbers for residents that do not have numbers. Emergency responders will have an easier time finding the addresses and create faster response times. He is working with the Durant Police, Fire and Ambulance services. There are approximately (163) one hundred sixty three homes without numbers. Building Inspector Terry Goerdts reported this is a requirement by the City and National Housing Code that every house has a number and it must be able to be seen clearly from the street. The numbers must be 4-inches minimum. Any residents with a private lane may have a post with the numbers on it at the beginning of the lane. Nate explained more information will be in News & Views and letters to the property owners will be mailed in the near future. Clerk explained a grant through Wal-Mart was applied for but it will be sixty days before the city will be notified. She is requesting the expense for the project to be funded through city hall budget. The Scouts will install the numbers. Member Sterner motioned, seconded by Member Schulz, to approve the Eagle Scout project and approve funding not to exceed \$1,500. Ayes: Schulz, Utter, Quiram, Sterner Nays: None Motion carried.

Public Works Update: Discuss/Consider Res. 2019-10 approval to fulfill open public works full time position: Member Utter and Member Schulz, with PW Dir. Semsch and Clerk interviewed four candidates out of thirteen, last Thursday for the position. Member Utter explained it came down to two very comparable individuals and the scoring was very close. The recommendation was approval to hire Ryan Tappendorf for the position. Member Utter and Member Schulz encouraged the other applicant to apply again, as soon as an opening comes available. Member Sterner motioned, seconded by Member Quiram, to approve Res. 2019-10 hiring Ryan Tappendorf for the full time public works position starting February 4, 2019 at \$17.91 per hour. Ayes: Sterner, Quiram, Utter, Schulz Nays: None Motion carried.

Discuss/Consider renewal of Garbage & Recycling contract with Oveson Refuse and Recycling: Clerk reported two other garbage companies were asked for pricing for comparison but both declined. Ron Oveson reported there will be an increase in the garbage fees only, all other stickers will remain the same price. The increase is due to tipping fees and insurance cost increases. The fees are locked in for the next five years. 65-gal totes will be \$19/month and 95-gal totes will be \$20.50/month. Member Utter inquired how the recycling program was working. Ron explained China has stopped taking recycling items. Therefore some items such as glass, he has to pay to have hauled away instead of being paid for the load. Cost of cardboard has dropped. Overall the town is doing a good job, there can always be more recycling. Council thanked him for the great service with the garbage and recycling. Member Sterner motioned, seconded by Member Utter, to approve the renewal of a five year contract from April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2024 with the garbage service increase. Ayes: Schulz, Sterner, Quiram, Utter Nays: None Motion carried.

Discuss/Consider Res. 2019-09 Authorizing City of Durant to pay for attendance to Chamber Banquet for city officials: Member Sterner motioned, seconded by Member Utter, to approve Resolution 2019-09 authorizing city to pay for council members and staff to attend Annual Chamber of Commerce banquet. Member Quiram and Mayor Spengler will attend. Member Sterner motioned, seconded by Member Utter, to approve Resolution 2019-09. Ayes: Utter, Schulz, Sterner, Quiram Nays: None Motion carried.

Discuss/Consider Renewal of Alcohol License: Member Sterner motioned, seconded by Member Quiram, to approve the renewal of the license for The Creamery. Ayes: Mundt, Sterner, Quiram, Utter, Schulz Nays: None Motion carried.

Discuss/Consider Third Reading Ord Amendment 2018-04 UTVS/ATVS allowed for snow plowing Nov. 1 through April 1. Member Quiram motioned, seconded by Member Sterner, to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance 2018-04 Allowing UTVs and ATVs to be utilized for snow removal from Nov. 1 through April 1. The ordinance will be in effect after publication as required by Iowa Code. Ayes: Utter, Quiram, Sterner, Mundt, Schulz Nays: None Motion carried.

Police Dept: Discuss/Consider Clarification by council for Snow Emergency Procedures and interpretation of Ordinance for parking /snow removal from sidewalks: Clerk has been working with Chief Randolph and PW Dir. Semsch concerning several ordinances from snow emergencies to snow removal from sidewalks. The ordinance requires no parking on city streets or right of ways during a snow emergency; clerk noted the Police Department has been ticketing vehicles that are on the pavement impeding plow drivers' attempt to clean the street surface width. The PD have been working with certain citizens that have no option of a drive way or off street parking. Chief Randolph stated normally people can find a place in their yard. If the vehicle is not moved in twenty four hours after a ticket, it will be towed. The amount of violators has decreased with each event. The information for the effective snow emergency is announced on city website ([www.cityofdurantiowa.com](http://www.cityofdurantiowa.com)) city's Facebook page, KWQC TV6, WQAD-8, and Cedar Rapids Chanel KWVL. The Wireless Emergency Notification (WENS) system is also used. Anyone can sign up for the WENS on the city website for text, call or email notification. Clerk reported there are a few rental properties that landlords do not allow renters to utilize the driveway or garage, and asked Building Inspector Terry Goerdt if there was a requirement for land lords to provide off-street parking in other areas in town because it is required on 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Terry reported it is not a requirement in city code for other areas but could be added. Chief Randolph also reminded the public there is no parking from 2AM to 6AM from 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue on 5<sup>th</sup> Street. On November 29<sup>th</sup>, the Chief posted 68 doorknockers for people to clean off sidewalks, and on 1/16/19 he posted 20. Again the City has been lenient with so much snowfall, however, all sidewalks are required to be cleaned off within 48 hours or the city will hire it done. This will be enforced after this week on a more stringent basis. It does not matter if the sidewalks lead to nowhere, all sidewalks should be cleaned off. It was also general consensus of council no one should be pushing snow from their property across city streets to another's property; property includes city boulevards. Member Sterner stated unless the person has the permission to place the snow there, keep the snow on your own property, including commercial businesses. Violators will be contacted. Discussion followed if there was a better way to alert people about a snow emergency. Posting barrels with signs was discussed for downtown, or some kind of lighting system similar to Davenport downtown area. No decisions were made on the signage. City staff will continue to monitor events and recommend any changes with the next code codification.

Community Center Report: Discuss/Consider waiver of rent for Chamber of Commerce Bridal Show: Clerk reported the Durant Chamber of Commerce pays rent for the Bingo nights and have requested the city to waive the fee for the bridal show, a fund raiser for the Chamber. Member Sterner motioned, seconded by Member Utter, to waive the rental for the Bridal Show March 23, 2019. Ayes; Schulz, Mundt, Sterner, Quiram, Utter Nays: None Motion carried.

Engineer Report: Discuss/Consider approval of MSA conducting Feasibility study for Yankee Avenue and West of Industrial Park in right of ways: Kevin Bailey explained the feasibility study will consist of four components; 1.) Water extension in right of way of Yankee Avenue 2.) Sanitary Sewer Main Extension 3.) Water and Sewer concepts west of existing industrial park on north side of Old highway 6. 4.) Analyzation for future lift stations, water pressure testing, and written material to equip city council, staff, and developers with information regarding the cost, timeframe, and infrastructure needs should prospective new development be presented in the future. The cost of the study would be \$45,900. Member Quiram motioned, seconded by Member Mundt, to approve the contract for \$45,900 with MSA Professional Services. Clerk clarified, no private property easements will be needed for the study, and no

installation of infrastructure will take place. Ayes: Utter, Quiram, Sterner, Mundt, Schulz Nays: None Motion carried.

Kevin reported he has discussed the easements for the storm water and detention basin for Sunset Farms with Mike Dryden, engineer for Mike Ingleby. Ingleby was provided the easement documents two months ago but no word on the status. Kevin stated the documents were only for drainage swale and there also has to be one for retainage ponds before construction is allowed. Mayor Spengler inquired of Mr. Brockway if he had any update on the status of the sub division but he did not.

Mark Brockway reported the Downtown Task Force met last Wednesday with Council Member Kevin Mundt attending. The group was happy to hear Kevin will attend future meetings as well. A report about the Governor's plans to empower rural Iowa with housing needs and leadership in small cities was emailed to the council members.

Discuss/Consider approval of street sweeping contract Kluesner Construction Inc.: Member Mundt motioned, seconded by Member Sterner, to approve the street sweeping price at \$123.00 per hour for Kluesner Construction, for one spring sweep of the city. Ayes: Schulz, Mundt, Sterner, Quiram, Utter Nays: None Motion carried. PW Dir. Semsch reported he has received his and the City's license to be certified for spraying of parks. The department continues to haul snow out of the downtown area.

Discuss/Consider Res. 2019-11 approval of Union Contract for Police Dept. and Public Works Dept. Council was provided a salary survey the City of West Branch completed last week. Council was provided the new contract between the City and Teamster Union 238 representing the Police and Public Works Departments. Members Brian Utter and Dave Schulz met with union representative, and city clerk. Most of the recommendations involved cleaning up of the language in the existing contract; there was a 4% increase for three years; and increase in Part Time officer pay. Member Utter explained, the wage increase for 4% wage increase was considered in order to bring the employees up to wages comparable to other area cities. Member Schulz stated because the city has invested a lot of time and funding into training and certifications of employees which is hard to replace. Member Schulz stated the city has invested in equipment and needs to invest in their employees to retain them. The contract terms are July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022. Member Mundt motioned, seconded by Member Utter, to approve Resolution 2019-11 approving the contract as presented. Ayes: Quiram, Sterner, Mundt, Schulz, Utter Nays: None Motion carried.

Clerk report: Clerk updated council that vendors are starting to request emailing invoices to the city and having the city electronically pay vendor bills. She checked with the Iowa League of Cities and was told not many cities are utilizing this because of the risk of fraud and hacking accounts. She will continue to monitor the requests and keep council informed.

Discuss request from ECIA for Brownfield Coalition documentation: Clerk reviewed information concerning a request that the city join a coalition through ECIA for brownfields development through a grant received by ECIA. ECIA would determine up to fifteen projects in their region that could benefit the grant funding. The clerk raised concerns if ECIA does not choose the City's project, the language states no coalition member is allowed apply for a grant on their own. Mark Brockway stated he has been in direct contact with Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources and he does not feel there is any benefit to join the coalition. He feels the city is better off dealing directly with IDNR.

Clerk reported she will attend a meeting on January 30<sup>th</sup> with Police Chief Randolph, and Fire Chief Jared Semsch at Cedar EMA to update the Hazardous Mitigation plan.

Clerk provided information on preliminary budget numbers for remaining 2019 and for 2020. A list of items that were specifically included in each budget were provided. Clerk provided council with the loss of revenues due to the property tax rollback directly affecting the General Fund at \$66,585 for 2019 & \$78,817 for 2020. The backfill is only estimated to fund about \$31,000 of the loss. The general fund covers library, parks, community center, police department, city hall, planning and zoning departments along with down town revitalization. Clerk noted the council may have to authorize larger transfers from local option sales tax in the future years to keep the general funded. She will meet next week with the budget committee and bring updated information to next council meeting.

With no other business before council, meeting was adjourned at 7:15p.m.

Scott Spengler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Deana Cavin, City Operations Officer/Clerk

City of Durant	Claims List 1-28-2019	
Vendor Name		
7G Distributing	CC bar beer	453.20
Alliant Energy	Scott Co Electric-lift station & St lights	96.94
Batteries Plus Bulbs	Wa-batteries	4.02
Brockway Land Planning Assoc	Consulting fees	1046.25
Central States H & W Funds	Health & Life Insurance	9038.40
Durant Chamber of Commerce	Chamber Dues 2019	50.00
EFTPS	Fed/FICA tax	8000.99
Fleck-Iowa Beverage	CC bar beer	150.00
Images in Ink	Business cards-R. Smith	20.00
Iowa Interstate RR LTD	Norfolk Dr. sign/maint/elec	250.89
IPERS	IPERS	7669.00
John Deere Financial	Parks-loader tractor switch	15.36
Menards	Misc supplies	41.94
NCL of Wisconsin Inc	WWTP-lab supplies	416.88
Price's Htg & AC	CC-repair NW & SE furnace	94.50
Price Oil Co Inc	Fuel	566.49
Quad City Times	CC bridal fair ad	599.00
Sam's Club MC/SYNCB	CC-dance wax	44.99
Staples Credit Plan	Office Supplies	346.02
Teamsters Local Union 238	Union Dues	117.00
Teamviewer GMBH	CH-Teamview plus add on channel	983.40
Treasurer of Iowa-IA-WH	State Tax	1674.00
Turkle Tree Service	CC park Oak trees trim (2)	500.00
USA Bluebook	Wa chemicals	49.99
Voelker's Plumbing Inc	WWTP-repair copper line	270.35
Walt Lambach Fire Protection	Police-fire extinguisher refill explorer	49.00
Payroll		13855.15
<b>Total</b>		<b>46,403.76</b>

<b>Fund Totals</b>	
General	29,872.56
Road Use Tax	4,271.53
Fire Department	164.53
Water	4,395.96
Sewer	7,699.18
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,403.76</b>

