

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2019
CITY OF WEST LIBERTY, IOWA**

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The City Council and Mayor held a Fiscal 2020 Budget work session at 6:00pm prior to the Regular City Council meeting to discuss the General Fund budget with Park and Recreation Director Nick Heath, Debra Lowman, Library Director, and Police Chief Kinmonth. The General Fund currently is short \$105,000 and City Council has asked City Manager, City Clerk Geertz and Department Supervisors to go back and visit their expenses to make up for the short fall. The Library has recommended \$25,000 transfer from Library reserve funds, the Police Department has adjusted wages, removed a new car and some computer upgrades. The Parks and Recreation has cut a new maintenance building at Dutton, playground equipment reserve, and pool operations hours to assist with the shortfall. The General Fund remains negative \$41,000 and the departments will continue to look for cuts.

Mayor Robert Hartman called the regular council meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. with the following Council Members present Robert Rock, Cara McFerren, Joey Iske, and David Smith. Council Member Diane Beranek was absent. Also, in attendance were City Manager Lawrence McNaul, City Clerk/Finance Officer Lee Geertz, and Water/Sewer Superintendent George Pearl. Mayor Hartman reported the City Council Meeting was canceled on February 05, 2019 due to bad weather. February 12, 2019 was approved as the make up meeting date.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

1. The consent agenda was approved by the City Council and consisted of the Regular City County meeting minutes January 15, 2019 and December 2018 City Clerk/Treasurer Report. 4-0 (McFerren/Rock)

LIQUOR LICENSE AND/OR BEER PERMIT

1. City Council approved liquor license: EL Sarape Mexican Restaurant Class C. 4-0 (Rock/Smith)

PAYMENTS/EXPENDITURES

1. City Council approved Pre-Paid Vendor Voucher Claims in the Amount of \$615,283.51:4-0 (Rock/Iske)

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR CORRESPONDENCE

- Clerk Geertz reported the City had received a letter on behalf of the Ryan Memorial Grant communicating the Parks and Recreation Department was picked to be a recipient of \$50,000 matching funds for playground equipment. In order to receive the \$50,000, the City will need to provide financial support of the remaining \$150,000. Park and Recreation Director Heath communicated he would continue to work on fundraisers and grants to accomplish the match. If we are unable to meet the September deadline we will need to pass and re-apply at another date.

CITY BOARDS/COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Employee Committee held a meeting on February 4, 2019 at 6:00pm to discuss the City Manager and Police Chief's contract renewals. Mayor Hartman, Council Member McFerren, Council Member Rock, City Manager McNaul, and Clerk Geertz were present. Council Member Rock asked for City Staff to work on creating comparable for wages with like communities. Council Member McFerren and Council Member Rock will recommend the contract renewal for Chief Kinmonth with employee evaluation to be completed by Mayor Hartman. The recommendation for the contract renewal will be 3 years \$73,500 with COL forward. The recommendation for City Manager McNaul with evaluation completed will be renew the contract with \$95,000 COL forward and changes per attorney review.

OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. City Council approved City Manager McNaul's with the recommendation by the Employee Committee to renew contract with changes at \$95,000 annual salary. 4-0 (Iske/Rock)
2. City Council approved Bad Debt Write Off for Utilities sent to the State of Iowa Income Offset program in the amount of \$13,348.40. 4-0 (Rock/McFerren)
3. City Council tabled Bad Debt Write Off for Utilities for further review of amount.
4. City Engineer for Veenstra and Kimm update was provided by City Manager McNaul:
 - Leo and Lawrence have completed WWTP job descriptions and they will be posted in the next week.
 - Statue of Liberty cost to finish \$17,000 and the Statue will be returned to the original location in front of City Hall once completed.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- City Council set the date for a work session for February 19, 2019 at 6:00pm for budget discussions. 4-0 (Rock/Smith)
- City Council set the date for the Public Hearing for Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, March 05, 2019 at 7:30pm. 4-0 (Rock/Smith)
- City Manager communicated the Traffic Light located at the four way stop on 3rd Street and Columbus Street had been removed due to scheduled transportation of a wide load in December of 2018. Research provided the City with knowledge the light belonged to the City of West Liberty and the Iowa Department of Transportation stated the City can remove the light permanently if they wish. Electric Superintendent, Jon Meade inspected the light upon removal, and it needed costly repairs. Jon recommended to donate the light to the West Liberty Heritage Foundation for preservation and for their use. City Manager McNaul reported to replace the light could cost up to \$30,000. Mayor Hartman asked to have the City Manager donate the light to the West Liberty Heritage Foundation and City Council agreed with no vote.
- Mayor Hartman asked City Council to approve his recommended appointment to fill a vacancy with Kathy Garrido to Parks and Recreation Board. 4-0 (McFerren/Iske)

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55pm 4-0 (Iske/McFerren)

ATTEST:

Lee Geertz, City Clerk/Finance Officer

Mayor, Robert Hartman