

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY MARCH 05, 2019
CITY OF WEST LIBERTY, IOWA**

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Beranek called the regular council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the following Council Members present Council Members Cara McFerren, Joey Iske, and David Smith, and Mayor Hartman also joined the meeting at 7:35pm. Council Member Robert Rock was absent. City Manager Lawrence McNaul, City Clerk/Finance Officer Lee Geertz, and Police Chief Kinmonth was also present for meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

1. The consent agenda was approved by the City Council and consisted of the Regular City County meeting minutes February 19, 2019 and January 2019 City Clerk/Treasurer Report. 4-0 (Smith/Iske)

BEER PERMITS AND/OR LIQUOR LICENSES

1. City Council denied the Muscatine County Fair Class C with Sunday Sales liquor license renewal at this time. 4-0 (Smith/McFerren)
-Discussion: Council Member Smith asked if Chief Kinmonth had received the completed correspondence with the Muscatine County Fair Board with regards to a safety and security incident occurring in July 2018. Chief Kinmonth had not received correspondence to date and was hopeful for a positive response/outcome. Council Member Iske and Council Member Smith both communicated concerns of the issue not being resolved and lack of communication from the Muscatine County Fair Board. Iske and Smith asked for the correspondence to be completed in order to proceed. Council Member Smith made the motion to deny license until Chief Kinmonth had a resolution and communication from Muscatine County Fair Board. This was seconded by Council Member McFerren.
2. City Council approved Giri LLC, DBA Giri BP Class C Beer, Class B wine, and Sunday Sales. 4-0 (McFerren/Beranek)

PAYMENTS/EXPENDITURES

1. City Council approved Vendor Voucher Claims in the Amount of \$239,978.93:4-0 (Smith/McFerren)

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR CORRESPONDENCE

1. **City Council approved a sewer credit in the amount of \$125.84 for 511 E 8th Street. 4-0 (Smith/Iske)**
-Discussion: Property owner communicated with City Hall He had discovered leak at his rental property of 511 E 8th Street. He stated the leak was caused from a broken water pipe and he had fixed the pipe. City Water Department reported in a service request, no water had been able to go through a sewer drain and there was no drain in the basement.
-Council Member McFerren has been approached by a community member requesting the City to create a dog park. McFerren has also received inquiries on the We Lead building and asked of the progress with the structure and the barricades. City Manager McNaul clarified with City Council the We Lead Regional Learning Cultural Center is owned by the We Lead Organization. We Lead owns the building and they are responsible for the building. City Manager McNaul communicated the We Lead organization has been in strong communication with the City on the issues. The City has assisted in providing barricades, but We Lead has the responsibility to maintain the fencing and barricades for safety precautions with the community. Council Member Iske provided comments as a representative from the City on behalf of the We Lead Board, they are working on the situation with engineers and funding to fix the issues.
-City Manager McNaul communicated he as well has had inquires on the We Lead building and has advised individuals to contact We Lead Organization with questions or concerns about the building.
-Council Member Beranek reported she had received complaint on the ice in the alley behind We Lead building. City Manger McNaul communicated the Alley is the City's responsibility, but the private parking area and walk ways behind the buildings are the building owner's responsibility. The City did provide extra material to assist with the heavily iced area to the building owner. City Manager McNaul stated we have also communicated to property owners not to push snow into the streets. When snow is pushed onto street the build up will cause ice and it becomes very difficult for the Street Crew to remove. It is the property owner's responsibility to remove the snow from property and transport somewhere else.

CITY BOARDS/COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Down Town Task Force: Council Member Smith reported during the last meeting the committee had decided not to proceed at this time with the Facade Grant due to funding availability with the City. The DTFF Advisory committee held a meeting to discuss the DTFF direction due to the Façade Grant being put on hold. Council Member Smith recommends the DTFF Committee would be placed on hold due to City Funding in need of being re-directed to 115 E 3rd Street Building. Mayor Hartman communicated he agrees with Council Member Smith's recommendations. Mayor Hartman and Council Member Smith have discussed with advisory committee and we will continue to work through current nuisance signs identified by the committee, but due to the redirection of City funds we will look to place the DTFF Committee on hold until further instructions from the Mayor.
2. Ambulance Board: Table and will place on March 19, 2019 agenda for report.
3. We Lead Board: Council Member Iske reported attending the We Lead Board meeting with the topic of discussion on financial cuts with the City's contribution for fiscal year 2020. The We Lead Board will continue to work through the financial discussions along with building issues. A committee has been created to have further discussion with the City to review other opportunities.

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4. Building and Grounds Committee: Council Member Beranek reported the Building and Grounds Committee held a meeting at 6:30pm prior to the City Council meeting to discuss the Statue of Liberty progress. Engineer Leo Foley provided information and the committee recommends proceeding forward with the work and fundraise money to assist with the cost to refurbish the Statue of Liberty for City Hall. City Engineer Leo Foley will provide solid costs and plans in the two weeks. Council Member Beranek will draft a fundraiser brochure with City administrative assistance. The goal will to start work late spring and once completed a re-dedication ceremony will be planned.
5. Mayor Hartman reported he had attended a joint Cedar County Mayors Meeting in West Branch. It was interesting to be talking with towns our size who still operate with city lagoon systems, and we are about to take over the operations of the City's Waste Water Treatment Plant. Mayor Hartman said we are fortunate to have a fortune 500 company in our City.
City Engineer Leo Foley stated the WWTP facility size is for a town with a 25,000 population. The local industry here is what requires the City to have the WWTP.

OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Mayor Hartman Proclamation- City Council recognized and approved Mayor Hartman's Proclamation for the recognition of April 2019 as Child Abuse Awareness Proclamation. 4-0 (Beranek/McFerren)
2. City Engineer Update: City Engineer Leo Foley of Veenstra and Kimm communicated a meeting with City Manager McNaul, Jacobs/OMI and himself will take place in April to discuss inventory, operations, and building issues prior to the City taking over operations of the WWTP in July.
3. City Council approved March 12, 2019 at 6:00pm for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Public Hearing. 4-0 (Beranek/McFerren)
4. No work session for March 19, 2019.
5. No Miscellaneous Business to report.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:16pm 4-0 (Beranek/McFerren)

ATTEST:

Lee Geertz, City Clerk/Finance Officer

Mayor, Robert Hartman