

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2020
CITY OF WEST LIBERTY, IOWA**

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The City of West Liberty held a budget work session at 6:30pm. We Lead and West Liberty Chamber presented on behalf of their organizations to request additional funding for the economic development, events and beautification projects for our community. Council reviewed the utility proposed budget and departmental request for purchase of capital equipment needed for utility service. The requests included sewer vacuum truck, new dumpsters, upgrade to well #2, and transformer inventory.

Mayor Robert Hartman called the regular council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the following Council Members present Council - Members Diane Beranek, David Smith, Cara McFerren, Jose Zacarias and Robert Rock. City Clerk/Treasurer Geertz, Electric Superintendent Ed Tvrs, Library Director Allie Paarsmith and Mayra Esquivel Deputy City Clerk/Utility Billing 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 04, 2020, December 2019 City Clerk/Treasurer Report, City Council Strategic Planning Report, and February 2020 Department Report. 5-0 (Beranek/Zacarias)

LIQUOR LICENSE AND/OR BEER PERMITS

1. City Council approved Class C Liquor License for the Muscatine County Fairgrounds 5-0 (Beranek/Rock)

PAYMENTS/EXPENDITURES

1. City Council approved amended Vendor Voucher Claims in the Amount of \$552,986.19: 5-0 (Beranek/Rock)

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR CORRESPONDENCE

1. Tom Junker resident of West Liberty came to discuss his concerns with additional apartment complexes in the future on Short Street. Currently the existing homes have created additional traffic and concerns of safety on the dead-end street. Mr. Junker communicated with the Sunnyview Manor Complex in addition to the residential homes, and complexes existing there are 1s a total of 94 spaces. With that being said he believes there is about 142 cars that come up and down that road. He is concerned about the volume and speed that cause on a dead-end street. He would like the City to take some time and encourages Council to possibly consider making Short Street to not be a dead-end street and have a second access or entrance.
2. Council Member McFerren also expressed her concerns about the high volume of cars going through Short Street and concerned about emergency vehicle access on that street as well.
 - Concerned on how West Liberty Foods handled the chemical leak situation they had. She believed there was a lack of communication. Citizens that were affected didn't know where to get additional information on the situation and didn't get the all clear to be able to return to their homes.
3. Josh Jackson spoke and said that they were doing a pilot live at the council meeting. He is interested to see how it goes. They are trying different things to see what works best for us. Live Streaming will allow communication to inform residents about Council Meeting information and we look to publish the video to website, you tube, and social media for accessibility.

CITY BOARDS/COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Interim City Manager Geertz with West Liberty Foods First Quarter Meeting reported the following:
 - Productive meeting. They discussed the chemical leak incident. West Liberty Foods are still investigating the incident and working with the Fire Department to provide additional training and better communication needed.
2. Council Member Rock with Employee Policies and Grievances they met and talked about the living requirements. They believe they need to expand the living requirements. They came to an agreement of 20 miles from city limits, and it will allow a good response time in emergency events. Mayor Hartman has requested the Employee Policy and Grievance committee hold a meeting to discuss updating the employee handbook to include policy for department heads authority within daily operations and employment.
3. Mayor Hartman with Moulder and Associate the process of the City Manager is still moving forward. We currently have 12 applicants. They are geographically diverse. Two from Iowa and Wisconsin, one from Texas, Nebraska, Colorado, Michigan, Kansas, and Arizona. Two are international, one from Canada and from South Africa. The job posting for City Manager closes on February 20th.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Open the Public Hearing for MAXIMUM TAX DOLLARS FROM CERTAIN LEVIES FOR THE CITY'S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET: 5-0 (Roll Call Vote-McFerren/Zacarias)
2. Public Comments and/or Correspondence - None
3. Close the Public Hearing for MAXIMUM TAX DOLLARS FROM CERTAIN LEVIES FOR THE CITY'S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET: 5-0 (Roll Call Vote-Beranek/Rock)

RESOLUTIONS AND/OR ORDINANCES

1. Resolution 20200218-08 A Resolution approving Bond Purchase Agreement for the sale of General Obligation Corporate Purpose and Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A thereunder and authorizing call of Bonds: 5-0 (Roll Call Vote-Beranek/McFerren)
2. Resolution 20200218-09 A Resolution approving MAXIMUM TAX DOLLARS FROM CERTAIN LEVIES FOR THE CITY'S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET: 5-0 (Roll Call Vote-Beranek/McFerren)

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OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Residency Requirement Exception for New Hire: 5-0 (Rock/Beranek)
2. Engineer Update by Chis Parizek:
 - Meeting for City Hall Renovation to be March 3rd
 - Demo Project for the building on East third Street is coming together and should be done by the end of February
 - Still waiting to hear back from DNR
3. Approval of Bad Debt Write-Off for Utilities sent to Income Offset in the amount of \$19,377.56: 5-0 (Beranek/Rock)
4. Approval of Bad Debt Write-Off for Utilities in the amount of \$2,185.79: 5-0 (Beranek/McFerren)
5. Set the Date for the Public Hearing Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget to March 17. 2020: 5-0 (Beranek/McFerren)
6. Miscellaneous Business - None

Adjournment at 8:17 p.m. 5-0 (Beranek/McFerren)

ATTEST:

Mayra Esquivel, Deputy City Clerk

Mayor, Robert Hartman