

MEETING MINUTES OF THE WEST LIBERTY CITY COUNCIL

WEST LIBERTY, IOWA

August 6th, 2024

Mayor Mark Smith called the Regular Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Councilmembers in attendance: Mayor Pro Tem Cara McFerren, Councilmember Omar Martinez, Councilmember Josh Shiltz, and Councilmember Tim Parizek. Councilmember Dana Dominguez was absent from the meeting. City Staff in attendance: City Manager Lee Geertz, City Clerk Shari Hoffert, Deputy City Clerk Emily Reinhardt, Communications Specialist Brittany Woodson, Public Works Director Adam Reinhardt, Electric Superintendent Cody Franklin, Library Director Allie Paarsmith, and Police Chief Josh Houser. The Council Meeting can be viewed at www.cityofwestlibertyia.org.

The City Council approved the agenda. Shiltz/Martinez (4-0)

The City Council approved the consent agenda. McFerren/Shiltz (4-0)

Reports: City Engineer Leo Foley communicated there has been communication with West Liberty Foods about the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades. This will be put together in the CIP and rate study that Veenstra and Kimm is completing. Foley communicated this should be before Council in the next month. Foley communicated that the Electric Plant roof has had no leaks since it had been fixed and Carlisle, which provides the 20-year warranty has come out and did the testing needing to be completed. Foley communicated that Well#2 integration has not yet been completed, but he has spoken with Jetco, and they should be here next week to get this completed. Foley communicated that the next coordination meeting with the City of West Liberty Department heads will be on August 16th, 2024. Mayor Pro Tem Cara McFerren communicated with City Engineer Foley that she wanted to get it put back on his radar for the speed bumps on Short St. Foley communicated he would provide information on what he is currently seeing being placed on roads in other communities. City Manager Geertz communicated that she has continued to work on the annexations with WELEAD Director Ken Brooks. Geertz communicated that there is foundation work going on at the Buysse subdivision and that there was a change in the building specs that will require a variance that will be going through the Board of Adjustments. Geertz communicated that Clerk Hoffert and herself met with Marco Technologies about the City IT system as well as with Nate Summers from UMB for the City's current debt. Geertz continues to work on the Iowa Grants and FEMA reimbursements. Geertz communicated that the City has 4 nuisance cases that have gone for legal action. Geertz acknowledged Public Works Director for his hard work with the Water Department. Geertz also recognized the work of the Water Department Staff. Geertz announced that Corporal Nick Blocker has been promoted to Sergeant for the West Liberty Police Department after the application process was completed. Geertz communicated the Police Staff has been very appreciative of Sgt Blocker's work since Chief Houser has come to the team. Chief Houser communicated that Sgt Blocker is a valuable resource who took a step forward when he came on with the department. Houser communicated that he is excited about the future of the West Liberty Police Department.

Vendor Voucher Claims List #1 in the amount of \$1,070,717.92 was approved. Shiltz/Parizek (4-0)

During the Public Comment Section: WELEAD Director Ken Brooks communicated that the business association lunch meeting will be Friday August 9th, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. and invited the community to attend. Mayor Mark Smith communicated that he has received good comments about the City Manager, City Clerk, Public Works Director, and Electric Superintendent and was appreciative of these comments. Councilmember Josh Shiltz communicated that the business district has a summer event planned on August 14th with music in the park and encouraged community members to get out and enjoy the last parts of summer and engage in the business district. City Manager Geertz communicated that the City has received its annual invitation to the Iowa League of Cities on September 18th through September 20th. Mayor Pro Tem Cara McFerren communicated follow up on the post office drive exit. Geertz communicated this would be passed on to Public Works Director Reinhardt.

There was discussion and appropriate action by the City Council of the City of West Liberty, IA to the event request application for the West Liberty Chamber of Commerce for music in the park. Chamber Director Jacob Lane communicated that this is the same as previous years. It is put on by the West Liberty Area Arts Council (WLAAC) and will be for the next four Wednesdays in August. There was a motion to approve the event request application for the music in the park. Shiltz/McFerren (4-0)

Resolution 20240806-170: A Resolution to Accept the Cost Proposal for Engineering Services to Conduct a Generation Study to Upgrade the City Generation Capacity, Explore Different Options for Fuel, Generator Types, Upgrades to Existing Equipment, and Transmission of High-Pressure Gas for the West Liberty Electric Plant was approved by roll call vote. McFerren/Shiltz McFerren-Y, Parizek-Y, Martinez-Y, Shiltz-Y (4-0) Electric Superintendent Cody Franklin communicated that this is the start of an exceptionally lengthy process. This will be a study of the entire facility and will be very in-depth. The study will look over the generation capacity, the need to grow the capacity, fuel, generation renewables, returns on investments, and invoicing through Resale Power Group of Iowa.

Resolution 20240806-171: A Resolution to Accept the Cost Proposal for Engineering Services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Electrical Service Upgrade was approved by roll call vote. McFerren/Shiltz Shiltz-Y, McFerren-Y, Martinez-Y, Parizek-Y

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(4-0) City Manager Geertz communicated that this is a project that has been in place for an extended period of time. Geertz communicated that Franklin is getting the project underway and that this is one of the phases for the Wastewater Treatment Upgrades. Franklin communicated that this project will coincide with the generation study for the electrical plant as there is a possibility to integrate 600 kw into the electrical plant capacity.

Resolution 20240806-172: A Resolution to Approve the Payment to JB's Pub at 1110 North Columbus Street in West Liberty, IA 52776 for the Temporary Construction and Sloping Easement for the Columbus Street Sidewalk Project was approved by roll call vote. Shiltz/Parizek Parizek-Y, Martinez-Y, Shiltz-Y, McFerren-Y (4-0) City Manager Geertz recognized the owner of JB's, Sara Messner, for working with the City to produce a compromise for completing this project. City Engineer Leo Foley communicated that this project will be underway when school begins.

There was a consensus by Council to set the date for the Wastewater Treatment Plant walk-through on August 20th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

There was a consensus by Council to set the date for a public hearing on a garbage ordinance update for multi-dwelling units on August 20th, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

There was a consensus by Council to set the date for a public hearing on a mowing ordinance update on August 20th, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

There was a consensus by Council to set the date for a public hearing on an open dumping ordinance on August 20th, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

There was a motion to adjourn at 8:06 p.m. Martinez/McFerren (4-0)

Mayor, Mark Smith

ATTEST:

City Clerk, Shari Hoffert