

CITY OF IOLA

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A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on March 8, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., at the Park Community Building, 510 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Wells, Council Members Ballard, Peters, French, Ford, Kinder, and Peterson were present. Also present were Administrator Matt Rehder, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton. Council Member Slaugh attended the meeting via cell phone. Absent was Council Member Myrick.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Kinder and seconded by Council Member Peterson to approve the agenda as posted. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Persons who wish to address the City Council regarding items on the agenda may do so as that agenda item is called. Persons who wish to address the City Council regarding items not on the agenda and under the jurisdiction of the City Council may do so when called upon by the Council President. Comments on personnel matters and matters pending in court or with other outside tribunals are not permitted. Speakers are limited to three minutes. Any presentation is for information purposes only. No action will be taken.

None was heard.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval

- **February 22, 2021, Council Meeting**

B. Appropriations Approval

C. KMEA Director 2- Appointment of Matthew Rehder

Council Member Ballard inquired about the propane purchase. Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that it was probably for a propane bottle during the cold weeks or possibly for a forklift. Council Member Ballard made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Kinder. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Community Development Block Grant - Becky Vorhees- Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that following the award of the CDBG for the firetruck Thrive has prepared the necessary paperwork required to continue the process.

Motion made by Council Member Ballard and seconded by Council Member Peterson to approve the agreement with Thrive Allen County to provide administration of the CDBG for \$10,000. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Council Member Ballard and seconded by Council Member Kinder to approve the agreement #21-PF-012 and necessary documents with the State of Kansas, Department of Commerce for funding a new fire engine through the Community Development Block Grant Program. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Dangerous and Unsafe Structure Removal - Public Hearings -

1. 321 N Walnut Street - Resolution 2021-06 - Mayor Wells opened the public hearing. No comments were made. Mayor Wells closed the public hearing. Code Enforcement Officer Gregg Hutton gave a brief overview of the state of the property.

Motion made by Council Member Ballard and seconded by Council Member Kinder to approve Resolution 2021-06 for 321 N Walnut and proceed to condemn property, and order the structure to be demolished and removed. Based on Sec. 8-501 of the Unified Development Code. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. 405 S Third Street - Resolution 2021-07 - Mayor Wells opened the public hearing. No comments were made. Mayor Wells Closed the public hearing. Code Enforcement Officer Gregg Hutton gave a brief overview of the state of the property.

Motion made by Council Member Ballard and seconded by Council Member Kinder to approve Resolution 2021-06 for 321 N Walnut and proceed to condemn property, and order the structure to be demolished and removed. Based on Sec. 8-501 of the Unified Development Code. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. 503 North Street - Resolution 2021-08 - Mayor Wells opened the public hearing. No comments were made. Mayor Wells Closed the public hearing. Code Enforcement Officer Gregg Hutton gave a brief overview of the state of the property.

Motion made by Council Member Ballard and seconded by Council Member Kinder to approve Resolution 2021-08 for 503 North Street and proceed to condemn the property and order the structure to be demolished and removed.

Based on Sec. 8-501 of the Unified Development Code. All in favor. Motion carried

4. 610 N Third Street - Resolution 2021-09 - Mayor Wells opened the public hearing. Jim Haskins lives next door to the property, and he stated that there had been numerous squirrels and cats going into the house through openings. He has had problems with shingles flying off the roof and landing in his yard. He stated that no one has been at the property for several years. Terry Call lives on the same block as the property in question, said that he hadn't seen any activity since they built their house over two years ago. It is a blight to the neighborhood as well as a safety issue. Mayor Wells Closed the public hearing.
Code Enforcement Officer Gregg Hutton noted that utilities to the house had not been on since 2004. His office has received numerous complaints about the property. He began sending letters to the property owner over four years ago.

Motion made by Council Member Ballard and seconded by Council Member Kinder to approve Resolution 2021-09 for 610 N Third Street and proceed to condemn the property, and order the structure to be demolished and removed. Based on Sec. 8-501 of the Unified Development Code. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. N&B Natural Gas Purchase Contract - Assistant Administrator Schinstock stated that he had received the addendum to the N&B Contract from City Attorney Bob Johnson. With the addendum, the required minimum amount the city is required to purchase was lowered to accommodate actual usage. N&B is required to do testing in compliance with KCC standards.

Motion made by Council Member Ballard and seconded by Council Member Kinder to approve the fourth supplement to a gas sales agreement with N&B Enterprises, Inc. and authorize the Mayor to sign the necessary documents. All in favor. Motion carried.

Council Member Slaugh left the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Council Member Ballard and seconded by Council Member Peters to recess into Executive Session for 10 minutes pursuant to contract negotiations, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(3). The purpose of the executive session is to prepare for future contractual discussions and shall include the Mayor, Council, Administrator Rehder, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and Fire Chief Waggoner. The regular meeting shall reconvene in the city council chamber at 6:33 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

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A motion was made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member French to approve the MOU to enter into discussions with Allen County regarding the EMS agreement between the City of Iola and Allen County. All in Favor. Motion carried.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Council Member Peters -

- Reminded everyone that City Wide Cleanup is the week of April 5th. Must call City hall no later than noon on April 1st.

B. Council Member Ford—

- Council Member Ford welcomed new City Administrator Matt Rehder.

C. Council Member French –

- Welcomed Administrator Rehder. Thanked Assistant Administrator Shinstock for his service during the Interim.
- With the new Christmas lights on order, he was asked, is it possible to put the old ones East side of town. Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that the old decorations are in pretty rough shape and use older bulbs. Staff will look at the possibility.
- He wanted to give kudos to the police officer that stopped in the middle of State Street to pick up cardboard that had blown out of a recycling dumpster.

D. Council Member Peterson—

- Welcomed Administrator Rehder. and thanked Assistant Administrator Schinstock.

E. Council Member Ballard

- None

F. Council Member Slaugh—

- Before leaving the meeting, Council Member Slaugh stated that he wanted to welcome Administrator Rehder.
- He congratulated Code Enforcement Officer Gregg Hutton for five years of service. He has been a great Code Enforcement Officer for the City of Iola.

G. Council Member Myrick—

- Absent.

H. Council Member Kinder -

- He welcomed Administrator Rehder to the City. He stated that he has been requesting that the city look into a full-time IT position and hopes that Administrator Rehder will get the ball rolling on this project soon.

I. Mayor Wells

- Mayor Wells stated that because of the two former City Administrators Carl Slaugh and Sid Flemming's work, the City of Iola is currently in a healthy economic status.

J. Assistant City Administrator Schinstock-

- He stated that the next meeting agenda would include a request from Relay for Life, a request from Humanity House for water for the Community Gardens, and a presentation from Thrive Allen County about a possible recreation area in the Cedarbrook Addition.
- Assistant Administrator Schinstock thanked everyone for their support during his time serving as Interim Administrator.

K. Administrator Rehder

- Administrator Rehder thanked everyone for their kind words.
- Noted that following a Webinar regarding the State of Kansas Loan for high energy costs for municipalities, Corey and he decided it wasn't necessary to apply for the money. The City of Iola has the funds to pay for the power's higher cost during those cold days.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 22, 2021

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 12, 2021

6:47 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Peterson to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

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It is approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas, this 22nd day of March 2021.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jonath P. Wells".

Mayor Wells

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Roxanne Hutton".

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton