

CITY OF IOLA

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A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on March 23, 2020, 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 and Council Members Peters, Kinder, Ford, Peterson, Myrick, and French were present. Also present Interim City Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton. Council Member Slaugh via phone. Council Member Ballard was absent.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Kinder and seconded by Council Member Myrick to amend the agenda removing item #5 from the agenda due to the fact that with the virus public comments would be made to the City Staff and/or Council Members. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Kinder to approve the agenda as amended. 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 that are under the jurisdiction of the City Council may do so at this time when called upon by the Mayor. 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.

This item was removed from the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes Approval**
 - **March 2, 2020, Strategic Planning**
 - **March 9, 2020, Council Meeting**
- B. Appropriations Approval**
- C. Relay for Life Boot Block**
- D. Board Appointment - Library Board**

Council Member French asked about the payment to Iola Insurance for Columbia Metal. Council Member French noted that he remembered discussing this when he was a member

of the Council previously, the Council was looking at raising the rent to cover the cost of the insurance. The staff will look into this.

Motion made by Council Member Myrick to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Peterson. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Humanity House Community Garden Request - Interim City Administrator Schinstock noted that the Council has approved this request in the past.

Motion made by Council Member French and seconded by Council Member Peters to approve \$1,000 worth of free water at the Humanity House Community Garden. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Utility Policy Revision

1. Late Charge on Unpaid Utility Bills - Ordinance #3491- Interim City Administrator Schinstock noted that the Ordinance was prepared at Council's request to reduce the late charge from 5% to 2 ½%. Motion made by Council Member Ford to approve Ordinance 3491 amending Appendix C, Article XV, Section 15-501 of the Code of the City of Iola, changing the late fee for unpaid utility bills from 5% to 2 ½% and authorize the necessary signatures. Voting in favor of the Motion were Council Members: Ford, Kinder, Myrick, Peterson, French, and Peters. Voting against the motion was Council Member Slaugh. Motion passed by majority vote.

2. Reinstatement of Unpaid Utility Fee - Ordinance #3492 - Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Myrick to approve Ordinance 3492 amending Appendix C, Article XV, Section 15-506 of the Code of the City of Iola determining that the first reinstatement of utility charges be free each calendar year and a \$35.00 charge for each reinstatement thereafter and authorize the necessary signatures. All in favor. Motion carried.

Council Member Kinder stated that he had received a phone call from one of his constituents. He noted that if one of our residents has some concerns or comments about something that the Council is discussing the need to talk to their Council Member and/or attend a meeting. Do not take it out on the sanitation crew, or City Hall Crew. The employees only carry out the policies and ordinances the Council makes.

Mayor Wells noted that with the COVID 19 the Governor has made an executive order for utility companies to not disconnect those utilities for non-payment. Mayor Wells wondered if adding the normal fees as designated in Ordinances should be done and then rebate following the crisis.

Council Member Ford stated that we should track the amount. If the customer can pay all of their bill except the late fees and connect fees then we just forgive the amount. Staff will bring a formal plan for waiving the late charge and reinstatement fee incurred during Covid-19 at a future meeting for Council consideration.

Council Member Slaugh noted that he didn't agree with not charging the customer.

Council Member Myrick noted staff needs to track all of the extra work that employees do for this COVID19 event in case of reimbursement at a later time.

C. Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Survey - Approval - Interim Administrator Schinstock noted that in 2019 Burns & McDonnell completed the City of Iola's Wastewater Master Plan. Within the master plan, Burns & McDonnell designated a priority basin targeting inflow and infiltration (I&I) reduction. This was identified in the 2020 budget as a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Project.

Council Member French stated that he would like to see a video of the previously done lining work.

Council Member Slaugh wondered if our current city equipment could camera the lines. Interim Administrator Schinstock noted that our jet rodder and the current camera does not record. Staff will check into possibly upgrading the current camera.

Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Peters made a motion to approve Task Order #5 with Burns & McDonnell for \$101,595.00 to provide a complete sanitary sewer evaluation study and authorize the necessary signatures. All in favor. Motion carried.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Council Member Peters -

- I had received a call from a resident that had a question about their property. He forwarded the matter to Interim Administrator Schinstock. Appreciates him taking care of it.

B. Council Member Ford-

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- While we are socially distancing from people, we remind everyone to check in on people who are more vulnerable to this disease. Make sure they are ok and don't need anything.
- Watch out for the children. Since school has been cancelled they are out and about.
- Thanked the Mayor and City Staff for all of the extra meetings and work that was done during this trying time.

C. Council Member French –

- None

D. Council Member Peterson–

- Remember to social distance.

E. Council Member Ballard

- Absent

F. Council Member Slauch–

- None.

G. Council Member Myrick–

- Everyone stay safe and healthy.

H. Council Member Kinder -

- Stay safe.

I. Mayor Wells

- Thanked city staff for all of the extra meetings and work during this time. Many meetings have been held and will continue to get through this.

J. Interim City Administrator Schinstock–

- Noted that staff plans to keep the agenda's light for the next few meetings. Possible items for the agenda will be:
- Cedarbrook land sale, Mowing grass into the street. Code Enforcement Officer, Hutton is working with Attorney Johnson on an Ordinance.
- Has spoken to both Russell Stover and Gates they are continuing to stay operational.
- Appreciates the Mayor helping during this time of COVID 19. He noted that the City will delay shelter openings to the public since the City changed the group allotment from 50-10 today.
- The Recreation Department will continue to accept baseball and softball registrations and will refund if not able to have games due to the COVID 19. The pool planning process is continuing also. If things change individuals will be refunded their entry fees and/or pool passes.

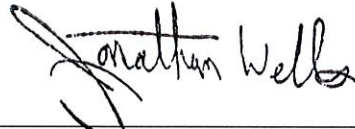
DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 13, 2020

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 27, 2020

6:39 pm. Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Ford to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas this 13th day of April, 2020.



Mayor Wells



City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton