

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on July 22, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., at the Bowlus Fine Arts Center, 205 E Madison Avenue, Iola, Kansas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

Mayor Wells and Council Members Peterson, Franklin, Ford, Myrick, and Martin were present. Also present were Administrator Fleming, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton. Council Members Peters, Ballard, and Mathew were absent.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Wells read the following statement:

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.

Following Mayor Wells reading of the aforementioned statement, he asked members of the audience if they wished to address the Council.

Larry Walden stated he would like to see that the stoplights at Madison and Buckeye are removed since they are no longer needed since the school children do not walk to the Bowlus for classes. He brought this up at the last meeting and noticed that they are still up.

Larry Walden stated that the Water Fund could be balanced by taking money from reserves in other funds and pay the loan for the Water Plant.

Larry Walden stated that he was able to negotiate a purchase of 250,000 gallons of water sales to another entity. Wondered if the Council should form a committee to search for other sources to purchase the city's water.

Larry Walden noted that the 12% increase in Health Insurance should be added to the employee's family premium.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes Approval**
 - **July 8, 2019**
- B. Appropriations Approval**
- C. National Guard Request**

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Dangerous and Unsafe Structure Removal - 1008 East Street - Code Enforcement Officer Gregg Hutton stated that the owner of the home had informed him that the buyer backed out of the deal. The owners have torn off the back porch and are in the process of adding siding.

Code Enforcement Officer Hutton stated he had sent a letter to the owner on July 1, 2019, requesting they come to his office to obtain a building permit and information on the Neighborhood Revitalization Program.

The owners of the home arrived at the meeting. They stated that since the sell of the house fell through they have been trying to get to Iola to make the necessary repairs to the home. They stated with farming and over-the-road truck driving they haven't been able to get to Iola to work on the property.

Code Enforcement Officer Hutton stated that the neighbors are concerned the outside of the house and property is decreasing the property value of their homes.

Mayor Wells asked what kind of a timeline the owners needed in order to do the necessary improvements to the outside of the house.

Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Martin to extend the time for getting the home up to standard per city ordinances for another 120 days. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Dangerous/Unsafe Structure - Bid Award - At the January 14, 2019 City Council meeting Code Enforcement Officer Gregg Hutton presented information regarding 330 S Kentucky, 530 S Fourth, 602 South Street, and 701 South Street for demolition as dangerous/unsafe structures.

The owners of the properties have made no attempt to demolish the properties. Staff solicited bids for removal of the properties. One bid was received from Ray's Metal Depot for a total of all four properties in the amount of \$10,900.

Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Peterson to approve the bid submitted by Ray's Metal Depot for a total project cost of \$10,900 and proceed to demolish the structures and clear the properties based on Section 8-501 of the Unified Development Code. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Fire Service Mutual Aid Agreement - Anderson County Rural Fire District 1 has requested an update to their existing mutual aid agreement with the City of Iola Fire Department.

Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Peterson to approve the Agreement for Fire Service Mutual Aid between Anderson County Rural Fire District 1 and the Iola Fire Department and authorize the necessary signatures. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Set Budget Hearing - A public hearing regarding the 2020 budget must be set and held prior to adopting the budget. The notice of the hearing must be published ten days prior to the date of the hearing.

Administrator Fleming noted the changes that were made from the budget roundtable meetings held last week.

Motion made by Council Member Martin and seconded by Council Member Peterson to set a public Budget Hearing for the proposed 2020 Budget at the next regular City Council meeting on Monday, August 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Park Community Building. All in favor. Motion carried.

ROUND TABLE

A. 2020 Budget Work Session - Administrator Fleming noted that a new software was put into the Recreation Budget that would interface with customers on a more user-friendly platform. The cost of the software is \$54,000.

Council Member Ford stated that it would be better to hold off on this software for another year.

Council Member Franklin noted that he felt we should take care of the amenities the City has for the Recreation Department and not invest in this software at the moment.

Administrator Fleming informed the Council that he had met with Larry Peterson, Finance Director, of the hospital and Loren Korte, Hospital Board President, concerning the funding provided by the hospital. They were in agreement to a phase-out method over the next few years.

Jim Gilpin spoke on behalf of the Hospital. He stated that if the agreement becomes final with St Lukes, they have agreed to take over the debt payments. St Lukes has stated that the funding from the City and County sales taxes would be utilized for Capital Outlay and building maintenance.

Mayor Wells noted that putting the line item in the 2020 budget does not obligate the city to pay the hospital. It is used as a placeholder in case it is agreed upon to disperse funds.

Council Member Franklin agreed with the phase-out method. He noted that the city needs to reallocate the funds to projects such as large street projects.

Council Member Myrick stated that citizens he had spoken with were against the City committing to give the hospital more funding. The money needs to be used for city projects.

Council Member Ford stated that while she sees both sides of the issue making it a tough decision. She also agrees that since the county has a larger tax base and can reach all citizens of the county it would be best for the city to phase-out of the contribution and allow the county to pick up the necessary funding.

Council Member Peterson stated that while she has a conflict she feels it is important to not jeopardize the hospital.

Administrator Fleming noted that the Water Utility Fund includes no transfers to the General Fund and no CIP transfers. The Water Master Plan will be available soon and will help staff and Council determine the necessary projects for the system.

Mayor Wells stressed the importance of getting the water rates where they need to be so the fund doesn't continue to lose money.

Council Member Ford noted that the fund is set up to fail. When the water plant was built the governing body did not adequately fund it. Now the current governing body has to make it right as quickly as possible.

Changes will be made as proposed and a final budget will be presented to the council at the August 12th meeting for approval.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Council Member Franklin –

- Thanked the City for the support for the Farm City Days concert.

B. Council Member Myrick–

- None

C. Council Member Mathew –

- Absent

D. Mayor Wells–

- Seems that the Council has come to an agreement to leave the stoplight at the intersection of Madison and Buckeye, therefore; it will not be placed on the agenda.
- Encouraged employees to drink plenty of water and be aware of the heat.

E. Council Member Ballard –

- Absent

F. Council Member Peterson–

- Has noticed that the stoplight at the intersection of Madison and Buckeye seems to be slow to change.

G. Council Member Ford–

- Agrees that the stoplight needs to stay where it is.

G. Council Member Peters–

- Absent

I. Council Member Martin -

- Removing the stoplight is an awful idea. It is there for safety measures. It should be left where it is.

J. Administrator Fleming—

- Presented the training opportunities to the Council.
- If any members are interested in attending the LKM Conference in October please let him know immediately so lodging can be secured.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

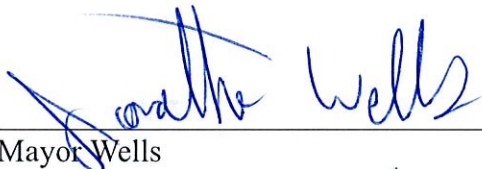
City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 12, 2019

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 26, 2019

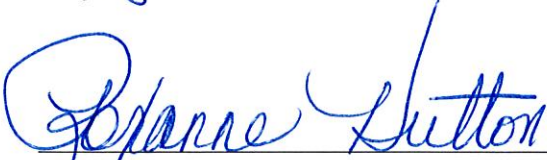
7:37 pm. Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Martin to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas this 12th day of August 2019.





Mayor Wells



City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton