

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE DAVENPORT CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 26, 2022**

ROLL CALL

Mayor Brad Sweet called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council Members present were Johnathan Chapman, Cory Hollis, Patrick Katz, and Jessica Smith.

Absent: Heath Becker, Chris Ruiz, and Lance Strite.

Motion to Excuse: Johnathan Chapman made a motion to excuse Heath Becker, Chris Ruiz, and Lance Strite from the meeting. The motion was seconded by Cory Hollis. The motion carried.

Also, present were, Greg Aguirre, Fred Bell, David Bingaman, Jim Buchanan, Steve Goemmel, Dave Leath, and Jared McLagan.

***The meeting was conducted through digital media due to the novel corona virus pandemic. The City Council met in person.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jessica Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2022, meeting. The motion was seconded by Johnathan Chapman. The motion carried.

POLICE REPORT

Sargent Jared McLagan reported 135 calls for service in the month of October. He told the City Council that 58 of those calls were traffic stops. Jared commented that the traffic flow in Lincoln County is very heavy this year. Cory Hollis asked Jared if the deputies were patrolling the skate park regularly. He commented that there seems to be a lot of problems in that area. Sargent McLagan told the City Council that he would have his guys patrol the area more often. Mayor Sweet thanked Jared for his report and his service to the community.

PUBLIC HEARING

1.Public Hearing for the 2023 Preliminary Budget @ 7:05 p.m.

Mayor Sweet opened the public hearing at 7:05 pm. The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments on the updated draft budget? There were no comments from the public. The Mayor explained the adoption process for the 2023 Budget and asked the City Council to review the documents in preparation for the last public hearing on December 23, 2022.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Mayor Sweet Moved Executive Session to item number seven and move the rest of the agenda items down a spot.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1.Executive Session at 7:09 p.m. to Discuss Possible Legal Action Against the City at the Airport. City Attorney David Bingaman will be present via telephone. Mayor Sweet asked the city council to adjourn to executive session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss pending legal action against the City of Davenport. City Attorney David Bingaman was present by telephone. The Mayor estimated that the council would return at 7:20 p.m. Mayor Sweet returned to the council chamber and asked for ten more minutes. He said, "the council will return at 7:30 p.m."

Mayor Sweet and the City Council returned to the council chamber at 7:30 p.m.

COMMENT / SIGN IN

Greg Aguirre signed in to address the City Council by Zoom. Greg introduced himself as the CEO of Capital Rivers, Inc. He said, “my company is a small development company and is building a hanger on land at the Davenport Airport.” He told the council that his company signed a lease with the City of Davenport for the spot that Air Lift N.W. operates out of. Air Lift N.W is a medical helicopter rescue service affiliated with the University of Washington. Greg told the council that he provides some of the capital for these types of projects out of his own pocket, but he must finance the remaining amount to complete the project. He said, “my bank is requiring that the city sign a consent agreement which is pretty common for these types of projects.” He said he was working with City Attorney David Bingaman to find an agreement that both parties could agree on.” Greg told the council that a lack of agreement affects more than just himself. He said, “without financing, I cannot pay the subs who are all local and the rescue helicopter will stop flying.” Greg asked the council to work with him, and his company to find resolution to this issue. He thanked the council for the opportunity to talk to them and said, “I look forward to working with the Mayor and the City Council in the future.”

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP FOR THE 2023 BUDGET @ 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Sweet called the annual budget workshop into session at 6:00 p.m. The mayor told the City Council that the 2023 budget includes construction of Phase Two of the Sports Complex Trail and a possible purchase of a tank at the airport for Jet A Fuel. Both projects are subject to grant funding.

The Mayor told the City Council that the projected budget revenues for 2023 were static and he recommended that the city ask for a one percent increase in the annual tax levy. He said, “the preliminary budget includes a three percent increase in water and sewer rates plus a contractual five percent increase in the garbage rate.” He stressed the importance of continuing to update and repair the water and sewer systems. He commented that Sunshine Disposal asked for the increase in the garbage rates due to the high cost of fuel and labor.

Mayor Sweet suggested changing the current ordinance that governs how COLA’s are given to city employees. He suggested an ordinance that allows the City Council to give no less than a two percent COLA and no more than four percent at the upper limit. This would be contingent upon the City Council approving a COLA. The City Council agree to giving a COLA in 2023 and suggested a four percent increase. The mayor pointed out that L&I rates and health care costs were increasing too. He urged the council to review the preliminary budget before the adoption on December 23, 2022.

Mayor Sweet closed the City Council Budget Workshop at 7:00 p.m.

MAYOR’S REPORT

No Report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Jim Buchanan’s request to vacate the South 20’ of Sinclair Street between 10th and 11th Street; and a request to vacate all of Lot 1, Block 61, Essigs Addition, to the City of Davenport. Patrick Katz told the City Council that after further review, the assessment on the value of the lot was based on the wrong marking pin on the property. He said, “there were actually three pins to measure from, and since most of the lot is in the creek, the assessment was done from the middle pin which wasn’t accurate.” Patrick told the City Council that the lot only has 625 usable square feet. Jim Buchanan told the City Council that he wants to build a shop on his land, but he can’t make the setbacks without buying the city lot. Mayor Sweet suggested that rather than buying the lot, maybe he should apply for a variance on the setbacks because the land isn’t usable for anything other than a wild area and Jim didn’t cause the problem. The Mayor asked the City

Council to agree to selling Mr. Buchanan the land for the vacation and having him apply for a variance to make the setbacks

John Chapman made a motion to have City Administrator Steve Goemmel draft an ordinance for the next meeting to vacate the south 20 feet of Sinclair Street between 10th and 11th Street to Jim Buchanan. The motion was seconded by Cory Hollis. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution 2022-20 Adopting Changes to the Personnel Policy Manual Setting Forth Policies, Rules, and Regulations Concerning City Personnel. City Administrator Steve Goemmel told the City Council that this resolution gives each vested city employee an extra floating holiday in lieu of closing city hall for the Juneteenth federal holiday.

John Chapman made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-20. The motion was seconded by Patrick Katz. The motion carried.

2. Resolution 2022-21 Authorizing the Approval of a Third Amendment to the T-Mobile Water Tower Lease Agreement. City Administrator Steve Goemmel asked the City Council to approve an amendment to the City's current lease with T-Mobile. T-Mobile wants to add a generator which requires more space.

John Chapman made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-21. The motion was seconded by Cory Hollis. The motion carried.

3. First Reading of Ordinance 1178 Making Necessary Changes to Chapter 2.36 of the DMC Dealing with Salaries of the City Employees. City Administrator Steve Goemmel asked the City Council to consider this ordinance which sets guidelines for Cost-of-Living Increases to City Staff when the City Council deems that one is needed. This ordinance would repeal Ordinance 1122 in its entirety.

John Chapman made a motion to pass Ordinance 1178 at its first and final reading. The motion was seconded by Jessica Smith. The motion carried.

4. First Reading of Ordinance 1184 Establishing the Regular Tax Levy for the Year 2023. City Administrator Steve Goemmel told the City Council that this ordinance is required by state law to establish our levy rate for 2023.


Patrick Katz made a motion to accept Ordinance 1184 at its first and final reading. The motion was seconded by John Chapman. The motion carried.

APPROVAL TO PAY BILLS

John Chapman made a motion to approve Claims/Voucher #18905 -#18921 in the Amount of \$24,713.39. The motion was seconded by Jessica Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Patrick Katz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jessica Smith. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



David M. Clerk/Treasurer



Mayor Brad Sweet