

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE DAVENPORT CITY COUNCIL
October 9, 2019

ROLL CALL

Mayor Brad Sweet called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council Members present were Patrick Katz, Nathan Hansen, Cory Hollis, Chris Ruiz, Pete Schweiger, Lance Strite, and Theresa Telford.

Also present were Fred Bell, Gabe Gants, Steve Goemmel, and Dave Leath.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Theresa Telford made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 25, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded by Pete Schweiger. The motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Preliminary Budget and Proposed Revenue Sources for the 2020 Budget at 7:05 p.m. – Mayor Sweet opened the public hearing at 7:05 p.m. The Mayor told the City Council that this public hearing was to discuss a preliminary budget, and the proposed revenue sources for the 2020 Budget. The Mayor presented a preliminary budget to the City Council and to the public. The Mayor asked if there were questions or comments. City Administrator Steve Goemmel reminded the City Council that amount budgeted for the Airport Capital Improvement Fund reflects an FAA Grant for the Airport Runway Extension Project at the airport. Steve told the City Council that the City’s match would be five percent if WSDOT approves a grant for the project otherwise, the City’s match would be 10%. Mayor Sweet asked for questions or comments from the public. There were none.

Proposed Revenue Sources for 2020 – Mayor Sweet presented a reported on the proposed revenue sources for the 2020 budget. He explained the static nature of the City’s revenue sources. He suggested that the City Council consider an increase in the utility rates for 2020 to keep the water, sewer, and garbage funds healthy. He reminded the City Council that Davenport will need a new well in the next ten years and that our reserve funds need to be maintained in case of an emergency. The Mayor detailed the various revenue sources for the rest of the City’s funds.

The Mayor presented a 2020 budget cycle calendar to the City Council. He reminded the City Council that the council budget workshop will be at October 23, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. With no further comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

POLICE REPORT

Deputy Gabe Gants reported 147 calls for service. He said, “65 of the calls were traffic issues.” Gabe gave an update on the staffing levels at the Sherriff’s office and he told the City Council that they should be fully staffed by summer. The Mayor thanked the Deputy for his report and his service to the community.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

No Changes.

COMMENT / SIGN IN

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Lance Strite reported that the Committee met to discuss the 2020 budget and the third quarter 2019 financial results. Lance told the City Council that the 2019 budget is in good shape. Expenditures are below the budgeted amounts and revenues are a little bit above what we expected.

Lance told the City Council that the Committee discussed the preliminary 2020 budget and they are suggesting a utility rate increase for 2020. They also reviewed cost of living increases for the staff and they suggested funding an “assistant superintendent” position in the public works department. Lance pointed out that this job description is in the personnel manual already and the Committee thinks that funding this position will serve as incentive for the public works guys to get the proper certifications to qualify for this position.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Sweet read his annual budget message to the City Council. The Mayor highlighted the static nature of the revenue streams for the City. He went through all the revenue sources and possible grant opportunities available in 2020. He told the City Council that it’s his intention to continue to invest in infrastructure and to promote use of the Davenport Water Park, the Sports Complex, and the Davenport Airport.

The Mayor told the City Council that the city has two outstanding sewer loans and no outstanding water loans which puts the City in a good position to consider rehabbing our existing wells or drilling a new well altogether. The Sports Complex bond is in its ninth year of a 20-year payout. The Mayor commented that he’d like to see a multipurpose field for soccer developed at the complex.

He went on to say that the City has funds set aside by the FAA for a major airport rehab project. In future years, funds will have to be set aside for the design and construction phase of this project. He commented that municipalities, by nature, do not make a profit and simply collect enough revenue to provide the best service possible to the public.

To fulfill these goals, he presented a budget that allows enough money to support ongoing projects and new ones set out in the respective water and sewer plans and to meet the needs outlined in the six-year street plan and the comprehensive plan for the City of Davenport. There have been no salient changes from the previous year in appropriations or revenues so the Mayor would like to see a three percent increase in utility rates for 2020. This increase will help the City be able to continue to put funds aside for well development and other projects.

OLD BUSINESS

Fourth Reading of Ordinance 1143 Amending the DMC and Adding Title 19 Compliance and Enforcement. City Administrator Steve Goemmel told the City Council that this ordinance is a second draft from the city attorney. Steve told the them that this ordinance is ready for City Council’s consideration and approval. Patrick Katz voiced his concerns that the ordinance could be too restrictive which might allow a different City Council to use the ordinance in a prejudicial manner. Theresa Telford commented that we need more compliance for code violations, and this ordinance does give citizens the option to appeal before the City Council and plead their case. The City Council discussed the ordinance at length and Mayor Sweet asked for a motion.

Lance Strite made a motion to pass Ordinance 1143 at it’s fourth and final reading. The motion was seconded by Nathan Hansen. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution 2019-17 Allowing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement for Legal Services. – Mayor Sweet asked the City Council to consider this resolution that allows him to sign a contract for legal services with Northwest Corporate Counsel. The Mayor commented that our current attorney was sent a letter terminating his services and he accepted the letter was accepted.

Pete Schweiger made a motion to accept Resolution 2019-17. The motion was seconded by Nathan Hansen. The motion carried.

APPROVAL TO PAY BILLS

Nathan Hansen made a motion to pay Claim/Voucher #15927 in the Amount of \$272.02; Claims/Vouchers #15953- #15984 in the Amount of \$240,456.44 and Payroll/Vouchers #15928 - #15952 in the Amount of \$59,432.82. The motion was seconded by Lance Strite. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Theresa Telford made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Lance Strite. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

David M. Leath
City Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor Brad Sweet