

The Independence City Council met in regular session in the council chambers at 5:00 p.m., on Monday, June 26, 2023.

OPENING/ROLL CALL

Mayor Bleichner opened the meeting by calling the meeting to order with Council Members Callahan, Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O’Loughlin, and Jensen in attendance.

This meeting was available for public attendance. The meeting was also broadcast on the local access channel.

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Prusator, second by Council Member Moore to approve the agenda as presented for the regular meeting held June 26, 2023. Ayes: All.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Police Chief Niedert introduced Gabriel Christensen as the new patrol officer at the Independence Police Department.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member O’Loughlin, second by Council Member Jensen to accept and approve the consent agenda that approves the following: 1) The minutes of the June 12, 2023, Regular Meeting. 2) Wapsie Valley Creamery’s street closure request for Tuesday, July 4, 2023. Ayes: All.

FINANCIALS

Motion by Council Member Hanna, second by Council Member Callahan to approve the following bills for payment. Council Member Huston asked a question about the claim to S.T.A.N Development. City Clerk Lampe explained it was related to the catalyst grant close out from Iowa Economic Development Authority. Ayes: All.

ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING	EQUIP CONTRACT-ALL	\$ 1,429.73
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-PD	\$ 1,832.81
AVFUEL CORPORATION	EQUIP RENTAL-A	\$ 20.00
BOLTON & MENK, INC.	ENGINEERING-A	\$ 1,384.50
BUCHANAN COUNTY HEALTH CE	AMB SVC-CH	\$ 15,008.33
BUTLER, JOHN R	REIMBURSE-F	\$ 43.55
CARD SERVICES-LIBRARY	MISC EXP-L	\$ 3,258.06
CHRISTIE DOOR CO, INC.	REPAIR-F	\$ 280.50
CIVICPLUS	SOFTWARE-B,CH	\$ 16,170.00
CORNWELL, KAYLA	REIMBURSE-PD	\$ 42.79
DAN'S OVERHEAD DOORS	REPAIR-A	\$ 240.11
DAVE SCHMITT CONSTRUCTION	HWY 150 RECON-ST,W	\$ 10,784.00
DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA	DENTAL BENEFIT-CH	\$ 41.04
DIAMOND VOGEL PAINTS	SUPPLIES-ST	\$ 8,808.16
EAST-CENTRAL IOWA R.E.C.	UTILITY-A,ST,W,CH	\$ 2,124.84
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	SAFE-T FUND-ALL	\$ 2,329.93
FELD FIRE	EQUIPMENT-F	\$ 7,990.00
FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUR	TRAINING-FD	\$ 50.00
FRONTLINE PUBLIC SAFETY	SERVICES-PD	\$ 2,050.00
GALLS INC	UNIFORM-PD	\$ 1,040.35
GREEN PRO SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES-ST	\$ 2,459.79
HAWKEYE ALARM SIGNAL COMP	REPAIR-F	\$ 475.00
HAWKINS, INC.	CHEMICALS-W	\$ 2,176.00
HILLTOP MOTORS INC	VEH REPAIR-A	\$ 2,577.65
HOTSY CLEANING SYSTEMS	EQUIP REPAIR-ST	\$ 219.74
IA DEPT OF REVENUE	SALES TAX-PR,W	\$ 10,444.60
IA LEAGUE OF CITIES	DUES-CH	\$ 3,353.00
IA STATE UNIVERSITY	TRAINING-CH	\$ 224.00
IMPACT DOG CRATES	CANINE PURCH-PD	\$ 1,039.20

IMWCA	WORK COMP PREMIUM-ALL	\$ 74,659.36
INDEPENDENCE LIGHT & POWE	UTILITIES-ALL	\$ 24,281.88
INRCOG	SERVICES-CH	\$ 3,257.55
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$ 27,181.77
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SUPPLIES-F,ST,W,A	\$ 746.44
LYNCH, DAVE	SERVICES-ST	\$ 3,148.20
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPAN	UTILITY-CH,PD,ST,W	\$ 1,974.10
MOODY'S INVESTORS SERVICE	SERVICES-PR,ST,W	\$ 14,500.00
MORONEY, CREIGHTON	SERVICES-ST	\$ 4,750.00
MULTIFORCE SYSTEMS CORP.	FUEL SYSTEM-CH	\$ 633.00
MYERS POLARIS	EQUIPMENT-W	\$ 16,965.02
OFFICE TOWNE INC	SUPPLIES-PD	\$ 2,505.20
P & N CORPORATION	FUEL PROFITS-A	\$ 325.04
PAYROLL CHECKS	TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS	\$ 90,505.71
POWERDMS INC.	SERVICES-PD	\$ 2,662.50
PSYCHOLOGY ASSOCIATES	SERVICES-PD	\$ 225.00
PURCHASE POWER	POSTAGE-CH	\$ 8.68
RACOM CORPORATION	EQUIPMENT-F	\$ 17,614.46
RETROFIT ENVIRONMENTAL	WASTE AMNESTY-CH	\$ 3,858.00
S & K COLLECTIBLES	SHIPPING-PD,W	\$ 61.82
S.T.A.N. DEVELOPMENT	GRANT REIMBURSE-CH	\$ 40,504.81
SEILER INSTRUMENT & MFG	SERVICES-W	\$ 295.00
SPAHN & ROSE LUMBER COMPA	CANINE PURCH-PD	\$ 29.90
STATE FARM	BENEFITS-CH,ST,W	\$ 63.65
STATE STREET BANK & TRUST	ICMA-RC \$ PRE	\$ 4,741.90
STOREY KENWORTHY - MATT P	SUPPLIES-PD	\$ 275.94
STRAND ASSOCIATES	SERVICES-W	\$ 45,000.00
TASC	FLEX MEDICAL	\$ 1,259.81
THOMAS ELECTRIC MOTOR SER	REPAIR-A	\$ 178.00
TRAVELERS PDCM INSURANCE	INSURE-CH	\$ 2,706.00
UMB BANK NA	BOND FEES-CH	\$ 1,300.00
UNUM	LTD-ALL	\$ 480.12
US CELLULAR	PHONE-PD,B	\$ 571.89
VISION SERVICE PLAN	VISION INSUR-CH	\$ 1,205.83
WALMART COMMUNITY	SUPPLIES-L	\$ 242.83
WELLMARK BCBS	INSURANCE-CH	\$ 229.90

CLAIMS TOTAL \$486,846.99; General Fund \$163,195.50; Library \$14,138.64; Streets Dept-Road Use \$27,589.67; Employee Benefits \$69,757.22; Economic Development \$43,762.36; Debt Service \$1,300.00; Cap Project-Street Improve \$4,783.44; Cap Project-Bridges \$2,316.16; Parks & Rec Projects \$2,824.58; Cap Project-Airport \$1,384.50; Cap Outlay Savings/LOST \$26,722.73; Cap Project Highway 150 \$10,784.00; Water Fund \$23,993.67; Sewer Utility Fund \$87,084.10; Storm Water Dept \$304.67; Storm Water Projects \$4,575.82; Self Insurance \$1,995.48; Self Insurance-Enterprise \$334.45.

REVENUES MONTH TO DATE TOTAL \$816,756.13; General Fund \$200,326.35; Library \$37,831.96; Street Dept-Road Use \$93,615.36; Employee Benefits \$14,467.69; Emergency Levy \$829.37; Tax Increment Financing \$4,471.24; Economic Development \$73,913.81; Police Forfeiture \$158.01; Debt Service \$15,833.95; Debt-Special Assessment \$800.00; Cap Project-Airport \$126,702.57; Cap Outlay Savings/LOST \$4,381.52; Water Fund \$81,085.35; Water Revenue Bond \$7,429.84; Sewer Utility \$88,675.79; Sewer SRF Sinking Fund \$33,971.74; Sewer Sinking Revenue Bond \$16,266.66; Storm Water \$7,966.17; Self Insurance \$7,658.22; Self Insurance-Enterprise \$370.53.

The June 2023 budgeted monthly transfers and the revenues and expenses by department to date were available for council review and discussion.

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Lisa Kremer, Buchanan County Economic Development, gave an update and introduced Jill Chemin as the new Buchanan County Tourism Director.

NORTH AIRCRAFT PARKING APRON PROJECT

Mayor Bleichner stated, pursuant to the agenda, he will now convene a public hearing on the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and cost estimate for the North Aircraft Parking Apron Project. City Clerk Lampe stated no comments were received. Carl Byers, Bolton & Menk, spoke about the project's plans and how the project will address three goals the Independence Municipal Airport has been working towards in recent years. Mayor Bleichner closed the public hearing and stated City Clerk Lampe will note all comments in the record.

Council Member Jensen with a motion to approve a resolution that provides for a notice of taking bids for the North Aircraft Parking Apron Project, second by Council Member Moore. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, and Callahan.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-58 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS

Council Member Jensen with a motion to approve a resolution of necessary transactions that approves additional monies being transferred between funds, second by Council Member Callahan. Mayor Bleichner explained this resolution is a catch-all for the auditors. City Clerk Lampe explained that last fiscal year she was authorized to transfer a certain dollar amount and the actual amount transferred was higher. This resulted in an audit comment. She spoke with the auditing firm to verify if a resolution to authorize the additional monies being transferred would be acceptable and to avoid a future audit comment. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, Callahan, and Huston.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-59 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

Council Member Jensen with a motion to approve a resolution to endorse the Enterprise Drive Trail Phase 2 project for State Recreational Trails funding, second by Council Member O'Loughlin. Mayor Bleichner stated this resolution is a part of the grant application and spoke on the proposed trail location. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Moore, Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, Callahan, Huston, and Hanna.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-60 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

Council Member Jensen with a motion to approve a resolution showing support for the Baseball/Softball Complex Turf Project for a Black Hawk County Gaming Association Grant, second by Council Member O'Loughlin. Mayor Bleichner explained this grant is another potential revenue source for the project. Council Member Hanna asked how much is being applied for with this grant. City Manager Schmitz said \$50,000 is being applied for. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, Callahan, Huston, Hanna, and Moore.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-61 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Member O'Loughlin with a motion to approve the annual renewal of the listed Tobacco, Hauling, and Home Occupation permits, second by Council Member Hanna. Council Member Jensen asked if there was any follow-up work done with the Home Occupation permits. City Clerk Lampe said the initial application is sent to Planning and Zoning before coming to Council for approval. Some applicants do require the Building Inspector to do a site visit and others might have inspections from State agencies depending upon the nature of their business. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: O'Loughlin, Jensen, Callahan, Huston, Hanna, Moore, and Prusator.

Council Member Callahan with a motion to approve Change Order #5 for the Highway 150 Reconstruction Project in the amount of \$20.00, second by Council Member Prusator. Council Member Moore asked if this was related to the traffic light work. City Manager Schmitz and Mayor Bleichner, both explained it was related to the traffic lights and the liquidated damages of the project not being finished. City Clerk Lampe shared the Highway 150 Reconstruction Project has not been accepted as being completed yet. Mark Crawford, Crawford Engineering, stated this change order is referencing work done by two different contractors. He also explained the additional work needed to synchronize the traffic signals on 2nd Street SE with the signals on 1st Street E. General discussion was held on why it took seven months for this change order to be presented and the itemization of costs related to the traffic signal work. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Jensen, Callahan, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, and O'Loughlin. Nays: Huston.

Council Member Jensen with a motion to approve the Commercial Restoration Rehabilitation Application for the property at 112 2nd Ave SW in the amount of \$15,318.00, second by Council Member Callahan. Mayor Bleichner

reviewed the memo attached to the packet for Council Members to review. Council Member Huston asked if this building was going to become a convenience store. City Manager Schmitz said it would be a small grocery/convenience store. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Callahan, Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O'Loughlin, and Jensen.

Council Member O'Loughlin with a motion to authorize the City Manager to sign the Statement of Work and enter into a contract with CivicPlus for Permitting Software, second by Council Member Jensen. City Manager Schmitz spoke on his work on increasing efficiency and transparency city-wide. He outlined the new permit software's capabilities and how much more user friendly it appears than the current system. The implementation cost is being split between the current fiscal year and the next fiscal year. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, and Callahan.

Council Member O'Loughlin with a motion to cancel the Monday, July 3, 2023, Committee of the Whole Meeting, second by Council Member Jensen. Council Member Hanna asked what Department Heads were scheduled to be at the meeting. City Manager Schmitz said those departments come to the August meeting or there will be a one-page summary from all departments. City Clerk Lampe said the departments scheduled for the July Committee of the Whole Meeting are Parks and Recreation, Fire Department, Library, and Police Department. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, and Callahan. Nays: Huston.

REPORTS

The following comments were heard from Council and Staff: Huston – All is well. Hanna – Volunteers are still needed for July 4th activities. Is there an update on the neighborhood grant? Prusator – Asked if there was an update for the sound system in Council Chambers? O'Loughlin – Has received numerous requests to get a pickleball court in Third Ward Park. Jensen – Asked if there is an update about the childcare grant? City Clerk – Park and Rec Director Beatty does have plans to put in more pickleball courts, but it comes down to funding and timing. All the council member reviews for the city manager review have been turned in. The three-person committee will need to set up a time to meet to compile the answers. The final report will need to be turned in by 4 pm on July 5, 2023. City Manager – The City needs to submit payment to the vendor for the new video equipment after July 1st. ISU students were here last week to do the neighborhood walk-throughs. They have not sent out a report from their visit. Park and Rec Director Beatty is looking at creating a part-time janitorial position due to CC's Floors & More announcement of no longer providing services. Chamber sidewalk art event will be held later this summer. Building Inspector Sherrets is working on the code complaint list he received. He will be out of the office tomorrow with the City Clerk for an Economic Development Meeting and will then be out of the office Friday and Monday. Mayor – The childcare study grant was awarded, and the actual study is to be done later this year. This study will see what the needs are for childcare in Independence. There is the Police Department Open House this Wednesday from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm for the public. Police – If there are any Council Members that can't attend the open house, please reach out to him and he will set up a private tour.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Council Member O'Loughlin, second by Council Member Jensen to adjourn. Ayes: All.

Whereupon Mayor Bleichner declared the meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.



Brad Bleichner, Mayor of the City of Independence, Iowa

ATTEST:



Susi Lampe, IaCMC, IaCFO, City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Independence, Iowa