

The Independence City Council met in regular session in the council chambers at 5:00 p.m., on Monday, April 24, 2023.

#### OPENING/ROLL CALL

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

This meeting was available for public attendance. The meeting was also broadcast on the local access channel in addition to being hosted electronically on Microsoft Teams.

#### APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Prusator, second by Council Member Hanna to approve the agenda as presented for the regular meeting held April 24, 2023. Ayes: All. Absent: Jensen.

Mayor Bleichner asked for a moment of silence in observance of the one-year anniversary of former Mayor Bob Hill's passing.

Mayor Bleichner read a proclamation declaring April 30 – May 6, 2023, as Municipal Clerks Week.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member O'Loughlin, second by Council Member Prusator to accept and approve the consent agenda that approves the following: 1) The minutes of the April 10, 2023, Regular Meeting. 2) Dollar General #2329 Class B Retail Alcohol License (LG) effective March 1, 2023, through February 29, 2024. Ayes: All. Absent: Jensen.

#### FINANCIALS

Motion by Council Member Callahan, second by Council Member Hanna to approve the following bills for payment. Council Member Hanna had a question about the Air Pro Duct invoice for \$6,049. City Clerk Lampe said the Falcon Civic Center had the duct work cleaned out. Council Member Hanna asked if other buildings needed this done and if it was a budgeted item. City Clerk Lampe stated she did not know what caused them to get the work done and there was funding for the expense. Ayes: All. Absent: Jensen.

ALTORFER INC	EQUIP MAINT-W	\$ 1,250.08
ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING	EQUIP CONTRACT-ALL	\$ 1,429.73
ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	VEH REPAIR-A,PD	\$ 78.35
AFLAC	AFLAC PRE-TAX	\$ 287.46
AIR PRO DUCT AND HANDYMAN	SERVICES-B	\$ 6,049.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Supplies-CH,L,PD	\$ 1,750.16
BAKER & TAYLOR ENTERTAINM	BOOKS-L	\$ 32.02
BEAM INSURANCE ADMIN LLC	VISION PRETAX	\$ 362.57
BLACKSTONE PUBLISHING	SUPPLIES-L	\$ 340.01
BOGGESS, CARTER	SUPPLIES-PD	\$ 5.00
BOLTON & MENK, INC.	SERVICES-A	\$ 10,859.30
BOUBIN TIRE & AUTOMOTIVE	VEH REPAIR-A	\$ 119.88
BRODART CO	SUPPLIES-L	\$ 851.91
BSN SPORTS, INC.	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 178.59
BUCHANAN CO EMERGENCY MGT	SERVICES-CH	\$ 1,471.81
BUCHANAN COUNTY HEALTH CE	AMB SVC-CH	\$ 15,008.38
BULS, JANET L	INSTRUCTOR-PR	\$ 308.22
CARD SERVICES-LIBRARY	MISC EXP-L	\$ 523.03
CARD SERVICES-VISA	MISC EXP-CH,PR,PD,F	\$ 1,266.88
CENGAGE LEARNING	BOOKS-L	\$ 209.01
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT	COLONIALPRETAX	\$ 640.68
CONSOLIDATED ENERGY CO	FUEL-ALL	\$ 8,283.84
CY & CHARLEY'S FIRESTONE	SERVICES-PD,W	\$ 1,045.66
DECKER SPORTING GOODS	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 3,985.95
DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA	DENTAL BENEFIT	\$ 4,092.24

DEMCO	SUPPLIES-L	\$ 321.10
DOUBLE A ARMORY	SUPPLIES-PD	\$ 119.60
E & B SCALE SERVICES INC	SERVICES-W	\$ 145.00
EAST-CENTRAL IOWA R.E.C.	UTILITY-A,PR,ST,W,CH	\$ 3,243.25
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	SAFE-T FUND-ALL	\$ 5,624.53
FAREWAY STORES INC	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 811.06
FELD FIRE	EQUIPMENT-F	\$ 4,488.56
FLOWER CRIB	SUPPLIES-L	\$ 112.72
GALLS INC	UNIFORM-PD	\$ 72.15
GOTHARD, NATE	REIMBURSE-PR	\$ 50.00
HAUSERS WATER SYSTEMS INC	SUPPLIES-ST	\$ 30.85
HAWKEYE ALARM SIGNAL COMP	MAINTENANCE-L	\$ 30.40
HAWKINS, INC.	CHEMICALS-W	\$ 1,223.50
HAYWARD, BLAKE	REIMBURSE-F	\$ 248.64
HYDRITE CHEMICAL CO	CHEMICALS-W	\$ 1,305.08
IA DEPT OF REVENUE	Sales Tax-W	\$ 9,926.50
ICMA	DUES-CH	\$ 624.00
INDEPENDENCE CHAMBER OF C	SUPPLIES-L	\$ 40.00
INDEPENDENCE LIGHT & POWE	UTILITIES-ALL	\$ 33,842.60
INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES	BOOKS-L	\$ 428.83
INRCOG	SERVICES-CH	\$ 3,920.80
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$ 24,786.89
IPERS	IPERS-PROTECTIV	\$ 31,940.87
J & R SUPPLY INC	SUPPLIES-ST,W	\$ 587.97
LL PELLING COMPANY	REPAIR-ST	\$ 833.00
MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT	SUPPLIES-ST	\$ 143.99
MAIN, TIMOTHY E	INSTRUCTOR-PR	\$ 450.00
MCDONALD, CONNIE	UNIFORM-PD	\$ 5.00
MCGRAW'S CARPETS	SERVICES-PR	\$ 400.32
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPAN	UTILITY-L,CH,PR,W,ST,PD	\$ 4,646.93
MYERS-COX CO	CONCESSIONS-PR	\$ 1,916.84
NEWBOLD CONSTRUCTION	LMI REHAB-CH	\$ 9,150.00
OFFICE TOWNE INC	SUPPLIES-PR,W,F,PD	\$ 2,599.46
PAYROLL CHECKS	TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS	\$ 74,664.09
PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE LLC	SUPPLIES-L	\$ 46.50
PENWORTHY COMPANY, THE	BOOKS-L	\$ 1,342.55
PEPSI-COLA GEN. BOT. IN	CONCESSION-PR	\$ 2,173.76
PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FINAN	SUPPLIES-CH	\$ 255.46
PRINT EXPRESS	SUPPLIES-PD	\$ 599.23
PURCHASE POWER	POSTAGE-B,CH,W,PR	\$ 479.98
R & E REAL ESTATE, LLC	RENT-PD	\$ 2,700.00
RITLAND+KUIPER LANDSCAPE	SERVICES-PR	\$ 6,362.50
RJS WELDING LLC	SERVICES-PR	\$ 140.00
RYAN EXTERMINATING INC	PEST CONTROL-PR,CH	\$ 164.92
RYDELL AUTO GROUP	VEH MAINT-PD	\$ 59.40
S & K COLLECTIBLES	SHIPPING-W	\$ 13.79
SANDRY FIRE SUPPLY, LLC	EQUIPMENT-F	\$ 244.00
SIGNS & MORE	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 5,785.86
STATE FARM	BENEFIT-CH,ST,W	\$ 63.65
STATE HYGIENIC LABORATORY	LAB ANALYSIS-W	\$ 500.00
STATE STREET BANK & TRUST	ICMA-RC \$ PRE	\$ 5,129.12
STOREY KENWORTHY - MATT P	SUPPLIES-L	\$ 82.57
STRESSCRETE INC	EQUIP REPAIR-ST	\$ 7,218.20
SUPERB CLEANING SERVICES	BLDG MAINT-L,PR	\$ 2,240.00
TAKE A SHOT LLC	TRAINING-PD	\$ 1,740.00
TASC	FLEX MEDICAL	\$ 1,259.81

TOWN & COUNTRY HOME IMPRO	REHAB-CH	\$ 9,966.00
TREASURER-STATE OF IOWA	STATE TAXES	\$ 7,157.82
TROTT TROPHIES	SERVICES-PR	\$ 855.00
TRUE VALUE HARDWARE	SUPPLIES-W,PR,ST,PD	\$ 182.53
UNUM	LIFE/AD&D INS	\$ 955.74
US CELLULAR	PHONE-L,B,PD	\$ 813.35
USA BLUE BOOK	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 1,650.61
WALMART COMMUNITY	SUPPLIES-B,PR,W,CH	\$ 1,548.22
WASTE MANAGEMENT	GARBAGE-PR,A,W	\$ 1,091.58
WELLMARK BCBS	HEALTH BENEFIT	\$ 47,214.44
WORLD TRADE PRESS	DUES-L	\$ 325.00

**CLAIMS TOTAL \$389,525.88;** General Fund \$209,391.34; Library \$29,124.57; Streets Dept-Road Use \$34,158.88; Employee Benefits \$2,081.54; Urban Renewal-LMI Housing \$19,116.00; Economic Development \$3,920.80; Cap Project-Airport \$10,859.30; Cap Outlay Savings/LOST \$9,679.86; Water Fund \$24,089.65; Sewer Utility Fund \$41,479.41; Self Insurance \$5,584.53; Self Insurance-Enterprise \$40.00.

**REVENUES MONTH TO DATE TOTAL \$2,369,130.70;** General Fund \$977,892.65; Library \$30,978.47; Streets Dept-Road Use \$67,929.70; Employee Benefits \$431,438.45; Emergency Levy \$26,393.48; Tax Increment Financing \$185,027.75; Debt Service \$361,218.41; Debt-Special Assessment \$7,975.30; Cap Project-Street Improvements \$20.00; Cap Outlay Savings/LOST \$75,136.58; Water Fund \$46,078.04; Water Revenue Bond \$7,429.84; Sewer Utility \$78,838.75; Sewer SRF Sinking Fund \$33,971.73; Sewer Sinking Revenue Bond \$16,266.66; Storm Water \$6,994.04; Self Insurance \$15,441.07; Self Insurance-Enterprise \$99.78.

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

#### **AIRPORT INSTALL RUNWAY & TAXIWAY APRON LIGHTS**

Mayor Bleichner stated, pursuant to the agenda, he will now convene a public hearing for the Airport Install Runway and Taxiway Apron Lights Project. Council Member Hanna questioned if there was documentation showing how cost effective this project would be. Airport Board Member Dan Callahan and Airport Manager Brett Soukup spoke about preliminary cost savings and the projected return of investment for this project. Mayor Bleichner closed the public hearing and stated City Clerk Lampe will note all comments in the record.

Council Member Moore with a motion to approve a resolution that approves the plans, specifications, and estimate of cost for the Airport Install Runway and Taxiway Lighting Project, second by Council Member O'Loughlin. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O'Loughlin, and Callahan. Absent: Jensen.

**Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-45 in the Official Book of Resolutions.**

Council Member Moore with a motion to approve a resolution awarding the contract for the Airport Install Runway and Taxiway Lighting Project to Voltmer, Inc. in the amount of \$423,544.00 contingent upon the receipt and execution of the grant agreement with the FAA and approval of an application for Federal Aviation Funding assistance, second by Council Member O'Loughlin. Mayor Bleichner pointed out Bolton and Menk's estimate was \$559,025 and both bids were significantly under that. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O'Loughlin, Callahan, and Huston. Absent: Jensen.

**Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-46 in the Official Book of Resolutions.**

#### **HEARINGS & ORDINANCES**

Council Member Huston with a motion to set a public hearing date of May 8, 2023, at 5:00 p.m., for Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Amendment #2, second by Council Member Moore. Ayes: All. Absent: Jensen.

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

Council Member Callahan with a motion to approve a resolution authorizing and approving a loan agreement, providing for the issuance of General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, Series 2023, and providing for the levy of taxes to pay the same, second by Council Member O'Loughlin. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Moore, Prusator, O'Loughlin, Callahan, Huston, and Hanna. Absent: Jensen.

**Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-47 in the Official Book of Resolutions.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Council Member O'Loughlin with a motion to approve the Commercial Restoration Rehab Grant with Hartig Drug in the amount of \$11,471.86 for the three sides receiving work, second by Council Member Moore. Council Member Huston asked why the City would get involved in this? Mayor Bleichner stated this is a program the City offers to businesses. Discussion was held on the Commercial Restoration Rehab program, business eligibility, business location, and program funding. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Prusator, O'Loughlin, Callahan, Huston, Hanna, and Moore. Absent: Jensen.

Council Member O'Loughlin with a motion to approve the 2023-2024 supplemental agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation, second by Council Member Callahan. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: O'Loughlin, Callahan, Huston, Hanna, Moore, and Prusator. Absent: Jensen.

Council Member Prusator with a motion to approve the proposal request for the Police Department Remodel Project, second by Council Member Moore. Police Chief David Niedert explained the work in the proposal request. The work will need to be done. The decision is to do the work now when contractors are available or try to schedule it down the road. There are American Rescue Plan funds that can be used towards this additional work for the project. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Callahan, Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, and O'Loughlin. Absent: Jensen.


**REPORTS**

The following comments were heard from Council and Staff: O'Loughlin- Helped a gentleman with trees and noticed the brush dump is getting full again. Asked when the contractor would be in? Prusator- Noted street patching work has started. Moore- Asked if mulch is sold to people? Huston- Would like the City Attorney to be present at the May 1<sup>st</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting. Mayor- Thanked the St. John's second graders for their letters. Provided a brief update on the Police Department Remodel project. City Manager- The signage by the schools has been changed. No outlet signage was installed closer to 1<sup>st</sup> Street West by Subway to alert drivers sooner. Permits have been submitted to the DNR and Army Core of Engineers for the pond on 6<sup>th</sup> Ave SW. The permits do take 60-90 days to be reviewed. The property owner is only allowed to maintain the property currently. On May 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:30 pm, Council has been invited to tour the second story housing above Hartig Drug. MHI is hosting an anniversary event on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Pop-A-Top is relocating to the carwash by Buttermilk Café. A tattoo shop is going into an empty store front on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE between Hartig Drug and the Malek Theater. Display screens in Council Chambers will be installed with the intent to remove the projection screen from the West wall. City Clerk- The contractor was scheduled to be here last week to work on the brush dump but had equipment problems. They are hoping to be here this week. Mulch is free to Independence residents to take and use. Council Members are asked to bring in their copies of the Code of Ordinances as some have not been seen in over a year. If a book is here at City Hall, it has been updated. Police- The Police, Fire, and Airport are hosting a tabletop exercise on April 26, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the Independence High School.


**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Whereupon Mayor Bleichner declared the meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

  
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Brad Bleichner, Mayor of the City of Independence, Iowa

ATTEST:

  
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Susi Lampe, IacMC, IacFO, City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Independence, Iowa