

City of Elk Run Heights
Regular Council Meeting
June 13, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.
Located at Eddis Winstead Council Chambers

The City Council of the City of Elk Run Heights, Iowa met in regular session, according to law, the rules of said Council and prior notice given each member thereof, in the Council Chambers of City Hall of Elk Run Heights, Iowa at 6: 00 p.m. on the above date. Council members present in order or roll call: Wurtz, Galbraith, Bass, Sallis, Wurtz. Absent: McChane. Quorum present.

Bass/Sallis to approve the June 13, 2023 agenda. Ayes-four. Motion carried.

Galbraith/Bass to approve the consent agenda: a. Approve the May 9, 2023 regular meeting minutes, and May 24, 2023 special meeting minutes b. City Clerk's Reports as of May 31, 2023: Budget Report, Treasurer's Report, and Revenue and Expenditure Reports and Investment Report. c. Approval of Department reports: Building Inspection, PeopleService Sewer/Water reports, and Police. d. Tobacco Permit: i. Road Ranger #144 – effective 07/01/2023. Ayes-four. Motion carried.

Sallis/Wurtz to approve the resolution calendar: a. Resolution 4121 approving employee compensation b. Resolution 4122 approving Year End Transfers c. Resolution 4123 approving pay request #5 to Lodge Construction, Inc. of Clarksville, Iowa in an amount not to exceed \$16,691.36 d. Resolution 4124 authorizing the payment of bills and transfers. Roll call vote: Ayes-four.

Public Discussion: Ron Ratchford of 404 Everette St., asked about employee compensation, stating most places he's worked they have a wage cap.

Mike Pauling of 407 Everette St. stated he would like to see stop signs on both sides of Everette. In addition, he complained that he received a nuisance letter for vehicles and stated he legally has 30 days to license and register and new vehicle. City Clerk Eastman stated he would need to provide a bill of sale for the purchase of the vehicle, and he would have the legal amount of time needed to come into compliance.

Sallis/Bass to approve request to enter into contract for website services with Catalis for City website services. Ayes-four. Motion carried.

Engineer Reports: Mike Dryden with Willett Hofmann stated that the Mayor's Park Trail Project will be considered complete and approved soon.

Discussion: Long-term goals: Mayor Smock began the discussion by reviewing the points of interest she had received from some of the council stating once the lists are reviewed and agreed upon, she will put them into a timeline and bring them back to Council.

-Gray Street lots and the uses: Mayor Smock discussed some of the options for adding a park there, pointing out it could possibly be funded almost entirely by grants. Smock asked for some more direction, requesting additional ideas for the use of the land. Councilor Sallis pointed out that it's been for sale for several years and have had little to no interest. It was also mentioned that it would be profitable if we could get a home on the land.

- Cameras at Mayor's Park: Sallis pointed out that we have invested a lot of money there and we need to protect our investment. It was proposed that we look from grant to get cameras.

- Federal funding for the repayment of the wastewater treatment plant. Smock pointed out that the bonds that are issued are locked 10 years and it would be hard to find an organization that will allow you to hold funds for that long. Councilor Wurtz stated that when he spoke with Washington DC they implied otherwise. Discussion continued and it was mentioned that if this could happen it could potentially be relief on the sewer bills. Smock asked Wurtz if he would like to start working on this, she would be willing to help. Wurtz also mentioned this would need to be worked on with Raymond as well.

- Drainage issues on Gray St.: Smock stated she has the numbers from 2019 when the City Engineer put them together to fix the issues. At that time the cost was around \$109,000.00 and Council looked at assessing the taxes of the homeowners involved. Smock asked if this were a topic, they would like on the timeline and does everyone really feel that it is the responsibility of all of the residents to pay for these repairs.

- Developing new property tax dollars: Smock explained that in order to do this we need to form an Economic Development Committee to make a policy. Sallis and Councilor Dennis Bass agreed to start the committee.
- Plaza Drive Repairs: Smock stated there were 3 options provided to her but the most logical would be do dowel bar retrofit in the next 3 to 5 years. Which will give them time to get grants lined up to help with the costs of repairs.

Mayor's Reports: A special meeting on June 27th for fiscal year end bills and transfers was set. Smock also asked if the Council would be interested in opening the new position for Public Works sooner than January; the Council was not interested. Finally, Smock informed the Council that Evansdale would like to add water to the dog park, pointing out it is not an option to run it through the dike so the next best option would be to put in a meter and Elk Run Heights bill them for the usage; Council agreed.

Sallis/Wurtz to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Ayes-four. Motion carried.

Attest:

Lisa Smock, Mayor

Julie Eastman, City Clerk