

**CITY OF PRAIRIE CITY
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 8, 2017**

The City Council of the City of Prairie City, Jasper County, Iowa, met on November 11, 2017, at City Hall in regular session at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Chad D. Alleger called the meeting to order and asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll was called showing members present and absent as follows: Present: Mayor Alleger; Councilors: Kuecker, Engle, Downey, Burkett and Beiner. Also in attendance: City Manager/Police Chief Bartello and City Clerk Kane.

Public Comments:

John Lee addressed Council regarding the Rec Park security lights approved at the October 2017 Council. Mr. Lee reported that the lighting has not been installed and requested a follow up with the electrician. City Manager/Chief of Police, Joe Bartello, responded that he has reached out to Kamp Electric and they should be installed in the next week.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of October 4, 2017, Council Meeting Minutes, Department Reports; Police October 2017; Fire Report October 2017; EMS Report October 2017; Public Works October 2017; Building Permit Report; Financial Report (August 2017 and September 2017); Park Board Minutes September 2017. Liquor license renewal Wilkie's Garage. RESOLUTION 11-8-2017#1 APPROVING BILLS AND TRANSFERS. Councilor Beiner moved to approve. Councilor Downey seconded the motion. On roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Petitions and Communications:

Mason Nickols addressed Council regarding the current fireworks ordinance. The current ordinance follows the State of Iowa regulation allowing fireworks June 1 through July 8 and December 10 through January 3 of each year. Nickols suggested a shorter, more appropriate timeframe. After discussion the issue was tabled for follow up at the special Council meeting on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 6:00 PM.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances, Resolution, Public Hearings:

Councilor Burkett introduced and moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 11-8-2017#2 RESOLUTION SETTING the next regular Council meeting for WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL." Councilor Downey seconded the motion. On roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

City Manager/Chief of Police, Joe Bartello, introduced the current 2017 City of Prairie City Fee Schedule for council review. Bartello stated the need for current schedule to be updated for citizens and City Staff to reflect the October 2017 changes to the Building Permits requirements. Councilor Burkett stated that the valuation of new buildings in his opinion should be changed to a flat fee. Mayor Alleger requested the topic be tabled for the Special Council Meeting on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 6:00 PM.

Sara Kappos with Veenstra and Kimm addressed Council regarding the North Side Sewer Rehab Project. With the project now complete, Kappos suggested that the 9th and Final Pay Estimate be paid to Municipal Pipe and Tool. Councilor Burkett responded that various buildings sewer access were capped off without Councils knowledge and should be opened back up. City Manager/Chief of Police, Joe Bartello stated he wanted to reach out to City Staff for additional information.

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Old Business:

Recreational Park and Pond Update - City Manager/Chief of Police Bartello informed Council that muskrat trapping has begun at the Rec Park Ponds. Bartello has been in contact with the DNR and would keep Council updated.

City Staff Update - City Manager/Chief of Police Bartello informed Council that Mason Burkman began work as the new Public Works Support/EMT Position. He has already provided assistance on several ambulance calls. Part-time and seasonal workers' positions have ended.

Employee Insurance Renewal with Bearence Management Group – the annual City Employee insurance renewal is due. Brad Riemann with Bearence Management Group addressed Council at the October 2017 meeting, outlining three options for review. City Clerk Kane suggested to Council that Option #1, Wellmark Complete Blue 2250 HMO Silver. This plan is a close option to our current plan and will provide a small savings in premiums. Councilor Beiner made a motion to approve, Downey seconded the motion. On roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Trees Please Grant – City Manager/Chief of Police, Joe Bartello, informed Council that with the assistance of Public Works employee, James Clark, 13 trees were planted at the north entry way park and throughout the City parks. This was funded by the 2016 Trees Please Grant.

Real-Estate Property - City Manager/Chief of Police, Joe Bartello, informed Council that the exploration of three City owned properties have been identified as potential to be put out for sale. Council now has the information to review and make a determination to proceed.

Interim City Manager Position - City Manager/Chief of Police, Joe Bartello, stated his 90 day probation period had been completed. He requested an additional 90 day probation period to continue through budget season. Councilor Downey made a motion to approve, Councilor Kuecker seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, Councilor Engle, yes; Councilor Downey, yes; Councilor Kuecker, yes; Councilor Beiner, yes; Councilor Burkett, no.

New Business:

Resolution 11-08-17#3 to Approve Downtown Revitalization Incentive Program Application – Prairie City Historical Society Two Grants for exterior façade \$1700 and \$800. City Manager/Chief of Police Bartello stated that in 2014 the previous Council extended the Downtown Revitalization program until 2019. After discussion regarding conflicting information on the application, our bonding attorney, John Danos, advised that the decision is ultimately up to the Council. Councilor Beiner made a motion to pay the \$1700 grant, Kuecker seconded the motion. On roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Downey made a motion to pay the \$800 grant. Beiner seconded the motion. On roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

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Mayor Alleger asked Council Burkett if he performed any work on the Historical Building repairs. Councilor Burkett replied he did, but it would not be a conflict of interest, since he was already paid for the work by the Historical Society.

City Manager/Chief of Police, Joe Bartello presented Council with the estimated cost of materials to re-do Clothing Closet roof. In October, Christy Lindsay discussed the need for roof repair at the City owned building. Council discussed the liability and upkeep of the building as the general condition of building is poor, no water, no heat and possible mold. The discussion was tabled for additional discussion.

With no further business to discuss, Councilor Downey moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 PM. Councilor Beiner seconded the motion. On roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

Chad D. Alleger
Mayor

ATTESTED TO:

Cindy Kane
City Clerk