

**CITY OF PRAIRIE CITY  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 10, 2018**

The City Council of the City of Prairie City, Jasper County, Iowa, met on January 10, 2018, 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: Beiner, Kuecker, Lee, Lindsay and Taylor. Also in attendance: City Manager/Police Chief Bartello, City Attorney John Judisch and City Clerk Kane.

Public Comments:

Neal Smith Wildlife Refuge representative, Rich Hager, addressed Council regarding the 2018 Pedal the Prairie scheduled for May 19, 2018, at the Neal Smith Wildlife Refuge. Hager provided an overview of the activities and map of the route. He encouraged Council to promote Prairie City by offering additional activities in town for participants.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of December 13, 2017, Council Meeting Minutes: January 3, 2018, Special Council Meeting and Workshop Minutes: December 13, 2017, Library Board Meeting Minutes; December 2017 Police Department Report; December 2017 EMS Report; December 2017 Public Works Report; October 2017 and November 2017 Financial Report; Building Permit Reports; Bills and Transfers; Casey's General Store Liquor License Renewal; Mayor Alleger, Council and Committee Appointments. Resolution 01-10-2018 #1.

Councilor Beiner moved to approve and Councilor Kuecker seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Petitions and Communications:

None

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances, Resolution, Public Hearings:

Resolution 01-10-2018 #2 Mayor Alleger addressed Council setting the date for the next Council meeting on February 14, 2018, at 6:30 P.M. Councilor Taylor moved to approve and Councilor Beiner seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Jeff Davidson, Jasper County Community Coach, with Keep Iowa Beautiful spoke to Council regarding the Red Rock Prairie Bike Trail. Davidson stated the bike trail will begin at the Prairie City Entry Way Park trailhead through Prairie City and continue 8.5 miles to Monroe. The project is scheduled for completion late in 2018, early 2019. The Hometown Pride and Jasper County Conservation is applying for a \$240,000 Transportations Alternative Program (TAP) grant. The grant requires \$60,000 of matching funds. Jasper County Conservation has agreed to fund \$20,000; Monroe City Council approved \$20,000 and Davidson asked Prairie City for the additional \$20,000 in funds. Resolution 01-10-2018 #3 for \$20,000 matching funds request for Transportations Alternative Program (TAP) grant for Red Rock Prairie Trail. After a lengthy discussion, Councilor Lee strongly voiced his concern for the short time frame for approval. Councilor Kuecker moved to

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approve the \$20,000 matching funds and Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

6:40 P.M. Closed Session: Purchase/Sale of Real-Estate under Iowa Code 21.5 (1) (j)  
7:15 P.M. Returned to open session.

Old Business:

Action for City Code Enforcement Actions Relating to Abandoned Properties and Abandoned Residences. City Manager/Chief of Police Bartello addressed Council regarding abandoned properties that have no utilities, no mail service, and no maintenance. City Attorney Judisch updated new Councilmembers on the process the City would take in contacting the property owners and action to be taken by the City. Councilor Taylor moved to approve process and Councilor Beiner seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

Discussion and Possible Action for City Attorney Services Fees Increase: City Attorney John Judisch addressed Council regarding his 2018 rate. Judisch provided Council an overview of his services and proposed a new rate of \$150, a \$15 per hour increase from his previous \$135. After discussion Councilor Lee asked that other rates be provided as reference before a decision is made. No action was taken.

Drinking Water Annual Water Use Report: City Manager/Chief of Police Bartello provided Council with the Annual Drinking Water Use Report. Council had no questions.

Annual Public Safety Education Program: City Manager/Chief of Police Bartello presented Council with an overview on the Annual Public Safety Education Program for 2018 provided on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. The Public Safety Group includes Fire, EMS and Police providing training on each area of safety, including severe weather training, smoke detectors and CPR. Residents are encouraged to attend.

Library Annual Report: Librarian Sue Ponder provided Council with a handout listing the Public Library by the numbers. Ponder showed in 2016/2017 fiscal year there were 1229 registered Library cardholders, 628 people attended the 86 children's programs and 420 people attended the 78 adult programs. Ponder also stated that limited space is an issue. With 8939 physical Library books, CDs, movies and public computer area, there is not enough space when programs are held. Ponder referred to the Antique program that was held at City Hall and reading times that were held outdoors.

City Hall Flooring Estimate: Cindy Kane provided an overview on flooring for the City Hall entry way. Currently, broken tiles are covered by flooring mats. Estimates for walk off carpet tiles for the public and employee entrance are being obtained.

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With no further business to discuss, Councilor Beiner moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM. Councilor Lindsay seconded the motion. On roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

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**Chad D. Alleger**  
**Mayor**

**ATTESTED TO:**

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**Cindy Kane**  
**City Clerk**