

**CITY OF PRAIRIE CITY  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2021**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The City Council of Prairie City, Jasper County, Iowa, met on September 8, 2021, in regular session at the Prairie City Council Chambers at City Hall and via Zoom. At 6:04 p.m. Mayor Alleger called the meeting to order, and all joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Roll was called showing members present and absent as follows: Present: Mayor Alleger; Councilors: Townsend, Berger, Lindsay, McDonald, and Taylor. Also in attendance: City Administrator and City Clerk, Jodie Wyman; Police Chief, Mike German; Water/Sewer Superintendent, Carl Van Der Kamp; Library Director, Sue Ponder; and City Engineer, Andrew Inhelder.

AGENDA APPROVAL: McDonald moved to approve the agenda and was seconded by Taylor. The motion passed all ayes.

CONSENT AGENDA: Taylor moved to approve the consent agenda with the removal of the street closure for the Fire Department Car Show on September 26, 2021, and was seconded by Townsend. The motion passed all ayes.

Council Meeting Minutes from August 11, 2021:

Park Board Meeting Minutes from July 21, 2021:

Library Board meeting Minutes from July 20, 2021:

Economic Development Committee minutes from June 23, 2021:

August Financials:

Resolution 9-08-21-1 Approving Bills and Transfers:

Building Permit Report:

Liquor Permit renewal for Wilkies Garage, LLC:

Street Closure for Fire Department Car Show September 26, 2021:

August Police Report:

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jean Jennings, 603 E Jefferson, addressed Council regarding the appearance of homes and yards in town. There are many residences in town that are not being maintained, yards have junk and abandoned vehicles, and trash is being littered all over the streets. Ms. Jennings would like the City to do something about these properties to improve the appearance of the town.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval to remove existing sunken sidewalk and curb/gutter on north side of square, as part of the Marshall Street Project, by Absolute Concrete \$22,291.76 and five additional days added to the project timeline: McDonald moved to approve the removal of the existing sunken sidewalk and curb/gutter on the north side of the square, as part of the Marshall Street Project, by Absolute Concrete in the amount of \$22,291.76 and five additional days added to the project timeline. Townsend seconded the motion. The motion passed all ayes.

Public Hearing on Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Prairie City, Iowa, by adding provisions pertaining to UTV

operations: McDonald moved to open the Public Hearing on Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Prairie City, Iowa, by adding provisions pertaining to UTV operations. Lindsay seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the motion passed all ayes. The Public Hearing opened at 6:23 p.m.

Five residents addressed Council in support of allowing UTVs in the Prairie City city limits. These individuals expressed that they would appreciate being able to drive their UTV from their residence in the city limits to their farm in the county, in addition to utilizing them in town for parades and other community activities. The UTVs are actually safer to drive in town than golf carts, as they have seat belts and can actually go the speed limit.

One resident addressed Council opposing UTVs in the Prairie City city limits.

Taylor motioned to close the Public Hearing. Berger seconded the motion. The motion passed all ayes. The Public Hearing closed at 6:30 p.m.

Ordinance 387 Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Prairie City, Iowa, by adding provisions pertaining to UTV operations: Council agreed that Ordinance 387 will need to be revised to align with the Jasper County UTV/ATV Ordinance regarding sections three, six, and nine. Administrator Wyman will address these proposed changes and will set a date and time for a special meeting to be held for Council to review and hold the first reading of revised Ordinance 387. No action was taken by Council.

Resolution 9-08-21-3 waiving the second and third readings of Ordinance 387: Due to the revision of Ordinance 387, this agenda item will also be moved to the special meeting to be held at a later date and time. No action was taken by Council.

Cemetery cremation section rules review and approval : Townsend moved to approve the cemetery rules and was seconded by Lindsay. The motion passed all ayes.

Set purchase price for cremation plots (to be added to the fee schedule): McDonald moved to set the purchase price for the cremation plots at \$150.00 and was seconded by Taylor. The purchase price will be added to the fee schedule. The motion passed all ayes.

Approval of installing fixed speed camera poles by school: Taylor moved to approve the installation of the fixed speed camera poles by the school and was seconded by Lindsay. The motion passed with a vote of four ayes and one nay vote from Councilor McDonald.

MSA and Public Works update Council for possible action on Lift Station: Council viewed the recording of the televising of the sewer lines in the Commerce Drive/Buffalo area. Council has tasked Superintendent VanDerKamp with contacting the owner of the car wash to advise that we will be inspecting the pits. Council has tasked Administrator Wyman to gather and detail all costs associated with the lift station, including any known overtime hours that public works have had to incur. Upon completion of both, invite the owner of the car wash to City Hall for a meeting to view the recording of the televising of the sewer lines, discuss the inspection of the car wash pits, and provide the owner with a copy of the City Ordinance related to sewer systems and a copy of the detailed list of expenses. No action was taken by Council.

NEW BUSINESS: Prior to discussing new business, information about the Fire Department Car Show was disclosed to Council with the attendance of two Fire Department volunteer members in attendance. The map provided to Council is accurate and there are no additional street closures that need to be added to the map for the event. McDonald moved to approve the street closure for the Fire Department Car Show on September 26, 2021, and was seconded by Berger. The motion passed all ayes.

Resolution 9-08-21-2 Setting the Time and Dates for Future Council Meetings: Lindsay moved to approve Resolution 9-08-21-2 setting the time and date for the next regular Council Meeting on October 13, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

at City Hall and via Zoom. McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed all ayes.

Set the date and time for Beggars' Night: Taylor moved to set October 30, 2021, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. for Beggars' Night and was seconded by McDonald. The motion passed all ayes.

Discussion and possible action on PCBA Trunk or Treat Event on the Square during the City's Beggars' Night: McDonald moved to approve the PCBA Truck or Treat Event from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. during the City's Beggars' Night with the location to be determined at the October Council Meeting pending the completion of the Marshall Street Improvement Project. Townsend seconded the motion. The motion passed all ayes.

Update and possible action on EDC Catalyst Grant extension to December 31, 2022, from IDEA: Grant recipient, Scott DeVries, addressed Council regarding the progress of the renovation project. Mr. DeVries expects to have a roof expense of \$55,000.00 and an already completed brick work expense of \$20,000 around January 2022, which will be the 60% completion point that is needed for the first release of funds. It is not expected that the remainder of the project will be completed in time for the June 10, 2022, deadline, and Mr. DeVries advises Council that the project will likely need to request an extension of approximately six months. Councilor Townsend has set up a meeting next week with Jim Thompson with regard to the grant project and the potential need for an extension. Council requested that this discussion be tabled for this meeting, but be placed back on the agenda for the October 13, 2021, meeting. No action was taken by Council.

Discussion and possible action on Prairie City Facade Improvement program: McDonald moved to approve the Prairie City Facade Improvement Program, with Scott DeVries completing the minor changes discussed to the application, for up to three applicants (\$30,000.00) with funding provided by the EDC IPAIT account. Berger seconded the motion. The motion passed all ayes.

Discussion and possible action on IEDA Rural Leadership Grant Program: McDonald moved to approve providing a letter of Council support for the development of a Rural Leadership Grant Program and was seconded by Berger. With Councilor Townsend abstaining from the vote, the motion passed with four ayes.

Approval of Pay Application #2 for \$17,658.60 from MB Construction: McDonald moved to approve pay application #2 for \$17,658.60 from MB Construction and was seconded by Lindsay. The motion passed all ayes.

Approval to hire Mason Highland and Makannah Walters as part-time police officers: Lindsay moved to approve hiring Mason Highland as a part-time police officer and was seconded by McDonald. The motion passed all ayes.

Lindsay moved to approve hiring Makannah Walters as a part-time police officer and was seconded by Taylor. The motion passed all ayes.

Update for Council. Prairie City is the recipient of the Derecho Community Forestry Grant: The City of Prairie City has been awarded the Derecho Community Forestry Grant from the DNR. This is a dollar for dollar match to plant twelve trees at the total cost of just over \$3,000.00. The trees will be a variety of oak and maples to be planted on October 20, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. at Buffalo Park. The rain date and time is scheduled for October 22, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. The City of Prairie City has invited the PCM First Graders to come assist with planting. In addition, a representative from the DNR will be on-site. No action was taken by Council.

Approval of revised job description for Water/Wastewater Operator and new job description for Water/Wastewater Superintendent: Taylor moved to approve the revised job description for Water/Wastewater Operator and a new job description for Water/Wastewater Superintendent, and McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed all ayes.

Resolution 9-08-21-4 approving the wage increase for Carl VanDerKamp from \$28.48/hr to \$30.00/hr, retroactive to July 1, 2021: -- Taylor moved to approve Resolution 9-08-21-4 approving the wage increase for Carl VanDerKamp from \$28.48/hr to \$30.00/hr, retroactive to July 1, 2021, and was seconded by McDonald. The motion passed all ayes.

Resolution 9-8-21-5 relating to the financing of a proposed project to be undertaken by the City of Prairie City, Iowa: establishing compliance with reimbursement bond regulations under the Internal Revenue Code: Lindsay moved to approve Resolution 9-08-21-5 relating to the financing of a proposed project to be undertaken by the City of Prairie City, Iowa; establishing compliance with reimbursement bond regulations under the Internal Revenue Code and was seconded by Taylor. The motion passed all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT: Berger moved to adjourn the Council meeting and was seconded by Lindsay. The September 8, 2021, Prairie City Council Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

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**Chad D. Alleger, Mayor**

**ATTESTED TO:**

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**Jodie Wyman, City Clerk**