

**CITY OF PRAIRIE CITY  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
MARCH 9, 2022**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The City Council of Prairie City, Jasper County, Iowa, met on March 9, 2022, in regular session at the Prairie City Council Chambers at City Hall and via Zoom. At 6:01 p.m. Mayor Imerman 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 Imerman; Councilors: Townsend, Alleger, Simmons, McDonald, and Taylor. Also in attendance: City Administrator and City Clerk, Jodie Wyman; Interim Police Chief, Matthew Davenport; Water/Sewer Superintendent, Carl Van Der Kamp; Library Director, Sue Ponder; City Engineer, Andrew Inhelder; and City Financial Advisor, Matt Stoffel.

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

CONSENT AGENDA: Alleger moved to approve the consent agenda after pulling out item J, approval of Joe's Old Fashioned Fun Contract for Prairie Days, for further discussion and action. The motion was seconded by Taylor.

Council Meeting Minutes from February 2, 2022:

Council Meeting Minutes from February 22, 2022:

Council Budget Workshop Minutes from February 22, 2022:

Park Board Meeting Minutes from January 19, 2022:

Economic Development Committee Minutes from November 29, 2021:

January Financials:

February Financials:

Resolution 3-9-22-1 Approving Bills and Transfers:

Approval of Luke Farland and Jordan Beem Entertainment Contract for Prairie Days:

Approval of Joe's Old Fashioned Fun Contract for Prairie Days: Pulled out for further discussion by Council. Changes or clarifications is needed to the contract provided, so no action was taken by Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments from the public.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of the site plan for IA-163 from BLS: Alleger moved to approve the site plan for IA-163 from BLS and was seconded by Taylor. The motion passed all ayes.

Approval of revised site plan for Sacred Willows Event Center per recommendation from Planning & Zoning: Alleger moved to approve the revised site plan for Sacred Willows Event Center per recommendation from Planning and Zoning and was seconded by McDonald. The motion passed all ayes.

Update on 2020 Census Challenge: Administrator Wyman informed Council that the response received from the census challenge submitted in February stated that the challenge program is currently suspended and tentatively scheduled to resume in 2023. No action was taken by Council.

Approval of Parks Board recommendation to replace roofs of shelter houses in Community Park, Henning Roofing \$4,025.00 plus dump fees: Council requested two additional bids from the Parks Board, and also requested Henning Roofing to provide an estimate for dump fees and “bad wood”. They are expecting that with these additional items the bid will exceed \$5,000.00. Administrator Wyman will put the shelter roof replacement quote on April 13, 2022, Council Meeting Agenda. No action was taken by Council.

Discussion and possible action regarding rural water: Alleger moved to remain with city-owned well operations and was seconded by McDonald. The motion passed all ayes.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 3-9-22-2 Setting the Time and Dates for Future Council Meetings: Alleger moved to approve Resolution 3-9-22-2 setting the time and date for the next regular Council Meeting on April 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall and via Zoom. Townsend seconded the motion. The motion passed all ayes.

Comprehensive Plan presentation by MSA: Chris Janson, Sarah Runkel, and Emily Huston presented the proposal from MSA to develop a Comprehensive Plan for Prairie City. Council directed Administrator Wyman to obtain two additional proposals for comparison due to the cost. No action was taken by Council.

Public Hearing on the 2022-23 Budget for the City of Prairie City: Alleger moved to open the Public Hearing on the 2022-2023 Budget. Taylor seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the motion passed all ayes. The Public Hearing opened at 7:11 p.m.

No residents were present, and no communications were received.

Alleger motioned to close the Public Hearing and was seconded by McDonald. The motion passed all ayes. The Public Hearing closed at 7:12 p.m.

Resolution 3-9-22-3 approving the Budget Certification for FY 22-23: Alleger moved to approve Resolution 3-9-22-3 Budget Certification for FY 2022-2023 and was seconded by Taylor. The motion passed all ayes.

Resolution 3-9-22-4 setting a Public Hearing for a change to the Code of Ordinances to increase water, waste water, and solid waste and recycling rates: McDonald moved to approve Resolution 3-9-22-4 setting the Public Hearing on April 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall and via Zoom to change to the Code of Ordinances to increase water, waste water, and solid waste and recycling rates and was seconded by Alleger. The motion passed all ayes.

Resolution 3-9-22-5 setting a Public Hearing for Ordinance 389 Sidewalks: McDonald moved to approve Resolution 3-9-22-5 setting the Public Hearing on April 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall and via Zoom for Ordinance 389 Sidewalks and was seconded by Alleger. The motion passed all ayes.

Approval of the Social Media Policy: Taylor moved to approve the Social Media Policy and was seconded by Alleger. The motion passed all ayes on a roll call vote.

Discussion and potential action regarding ordinance enforcement: Council has requested that staff work diligently to enforce Chapters 50-52 Nuisance Properties, Junk and Junk Vehicles, and Grass and Weed Control. The City is to notify violators via US mail, and officers are to tag vehicles with 72-hour stickers to notify violators to comply with the guidelines set forth in the above-noted Ordinances. No action was taken by Council.

Seasonal employment posting: Taylor moved to approve listing two seasonal part-time mowing positions at

\$12.00/hour until the positions are filled. McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed all ayes.

Approval of Parks Board Recommendation to purchase two soccer goals from Decker Sports for \$2,846.50 from IPAIT: McDonald moved to approve the purchase of two soccer goals from Decker Sports for \$2,846.50 from the Parks Board IPAIT account and was seconded by Townsend. The motion passed all ayes.

Tree Removal request from Sherry McGinn at 400 S Main: Council directed Administrator Wyman to contact Sherry McGinn at 400 S Main to advise that she is on the list for the ash tree in front of her property to be removed. While waiting on the contractor to remove the tree, MidAmerican will be contacted to trim around the power lines. No action was taken by Council.

Discussion and possible action to hire a grant writer: Mayor Imerman addressed Council about hiring a grant writer for Federal and State grant opportunities. No action was taken by Council.

Discussion and possible action to hire Mark Backstrom as a Reserve Police Officer: McDonald moved to approve hiring Mark Backstrom as a Reserve Police Officer and was seconded by Taylor. The motion passed all ayes.

#### CLOSED SESSION:

Closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 regarding real estate purchase: McDonald moved to enter into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 regarding a real estate purchase, and Alleger seconded the motion. The motion passed all ayes. The Prairie City Council moved into closed session at 8:07 p.m.

Possible Action from Closed Session: Mayor Imerman brought the Council back into open meeting at 8:30 p.m., with all ayes by roll call vote. No action was taken from closed session.

ADJOURNMENT: McDonald moved to adjourn the Council meeting and was seconded by Townsend. The motion passed all ayes. The March 9, 2022, Prairie City Council Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

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**Eric Imerman, Mayor**

#### **ATTESTED TO:**

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**Jodie Wyman, City Clerk**