

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

CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The City Council of Prairie City, Jasper County, Iowa, met November 9, 2022, in regular session at the Prairie City Council Chambers at City Hall and via Zoom. At 6:02 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Townsend 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 Pro Tem Townsend, Councilors Simmons, Holland, Ingle and Laidig. Also in attendance: Water/Sewer Superintendent Carl Van Der Kamp; Library Director Sue Ponder, City Attorney Erin Clanton from Brick Gentry P.C., and Ryan Glenn from Group Benefits LTD.

Mayor Pro Tem Townsend announced Eric Imerman turned in his resignation that morning vacating the office of Mayor effective immediately. Mayor Pro Tem Townsend stated there were some changes needed on the agenda as follows: Item 7d has additional information added by the asterisk, item 7f was added (discussion with no action of Mayor Vacancy), items 8 and 9 Iowa Code references were updated, and item 9b removed (possible action on hiring a city administrator.) Library Director Sue Ponder will act in the role of city clerk for this meeting, taking minutes and doing roll call votes for the meeting.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Simmons moved to approve the agenda with the changes as presented, Laidig seconded, motion passed all ayes.

CONSENT AGENDA: Simmons pointed out the spelling of Dianne Taylor's first name needs corrected in the minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Townsend said Nancy Earles provided financials but was still working on the CDs and IPAIT accounts; Earles is working with staff to access the information. Townsend also mentioned that Earles was reconciling the credit card statement with receipts from staff. Ingle motioned to approve the agenda with the correction, and the motion was seconded by Simmons. Motion passed, all ayes.

Council Meeting Minutes from October 26, 2022

Christmas on the Prairie Permit

Police Report

Building Permit Report

September Financials

Resolution 11-09-322-1 Approving Bills and Transfers

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments from the public.

OLD BUSINESS:

Insurance Renewal: Ryan Glenn from Group Benefits, LTD provided options for the employee insurance renewal. Councilor Simmons met with Mr. Glenn and staff covered by the insurance. Her recommendation for renewal was to offer employees the option of choosing one of two plans: the current plan Complete Blue 4000 and the Enhanced Blue Primary with the HRA benefit schedule as outlined in the handout provided by Mr. Glenn. Simmons moved to offer both plans to eligible employees. Motion was seconded by Ingle. On a roll call vote, the motion passed with three yes votes (Simmons, Ingle and Holland) and two no votes (Townsend and Laidig).

Mr. Glenn reviewed the dental plan. Simmons shared her recommendation was to continue the dental option without changes. Motion to offer current dental plan by Townsend, seconded by Simmons. Motion passed all ayes.

Simmons explained she asked Mr. Glenn to include information about coverage for vision through Delta Dental. After discussion, Laidig made the motion to offer vision coverage through Delta Dental with the employees covering both the employee and dependent premium. Holland seconded the motion. Motion passed, unanimously on roll call vote.

Public Works equipment quotes: Carl Van Der Kamp provided a quote for the new Tool Cat from Bobcat with all the necessary equipment and accessories. Only one quote was provided because it is state contract pricing, so it is a set price. Item was tabled until we could talk with Nancy Earles to get the current balance in the Public Works Equipment Revolving Fund. Van Der Kamp was asked to obtain a quote with the trade-in of the existing Tool Cat included.

Third reading of the UTV Ordinance 394: Simmons made the motion to approve the third reading of Ordinance number 394. The motion was seconded by Laidig and passed unanimously.

Library Director Sue Ponder provided an update of fundraising efforts for the new library.

Setting the Time and Dates for Future Meetings: Ingle moved to set the next regular Council meeting for December 14, 2022, at 6:00 pm. Holland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Simmons suggested that before work starts on the budget, a Council workshop be held to discuss and prioritize the items on the CIP. Simmons moved and Holland seconded to hold the workshop on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at 6 p.m., Motion passed unanimously.

Adding Prairie Days to Fee schedule. After discussion it was determined that the fees for Prairie Days vendors are covered under the vendor fee in the City Fee Schedule. No action was taken. Holland will communicate this to the Celebration Commission.

Resolution 11-09-22-2 accepting the 2022 Annual Urban Renewal Report – Townsend moved to accept the 2022 Annual Urban Renewal Report. Motion was seconded by Laidig and passed unanimously.

Resolution 11009-22-3 approving the Annual Jasper County, Prairie City TIF Certification Report - Simmons moved to accept the Annual Jasper County, Prairie City TIF Certification Report. Ingle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Resolution 11-09-22-4 Hiring of Nicholas Aldrich as a Part-Time Officer – Simmons moved and Ingle seconded to hire Nicholas Aldrich as a Part-Time Officer. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Vacancy – After discussion, it was decided to hold a special meeting on Thursday, November 10 at 8:30 p.m. to discuss the method for filling the vacancy. Sue Ponder will post the information to adhere to the open meetings requirements.

ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO IOWA CODE 21.5.1.j – Simmons made the motion to enter closed session. Laidig seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The Prairie City City Council moved into closed session at 8:12 p.m.

The Council returned to open session at 8:58 pm. No action was taken from the closed session.

ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO IOWA CODE 21.5.1.i. Laidig moved to enter into closed session. Simmons seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The City Council moved into closed session at 9:04 p.m.

The Council returned to open session at 9:37 p.m.

9a. Possible Action on hiring a City Clerk - Ingle made the motion to extend an offer to the applicant for the City Clerk/Treasurer position at the wage discussed in closed session, contingent upon the results of the background check. Holland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Simmons made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Ingle seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Deb Townsend, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTESTED TO:

Sue Ponder, Library Director