

December 20, 2021
Special City Council Meeting Minutes

The December 20, 2021 Special City Council meeting was called to order at 5:30PM by Mayor Pro Tem Kelchen. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and then Hosch, Knepper, Delaney, Kelchen and Rausch answered roll call.

A motion was made by Rausch, second by Delaney to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Council had authorized reaching out to a part-time seasonal employee we had hired in the past for assisting with snow removal until the full-time public works person is hired. Jim Felton has agreed to come back to help us out. Motion by Delaney, second by Knepper to approve the seasonal hiring of Jim Felton at \$20 per hour. Motion carried unanimously.

Council reviewed **Resolution #58-21**, Resolution Accepting BerganKDV's Financial Audit of the City of Cascade's 2021 Fiscal Year Which Began July 1, 2020 and Ended June 30, 2021. The only significant deficiency is lack of segregation of duties which is very normal for cities the size of ours since we only have 2 employees in the office. There were no other problems with the audit. Motion by Hosch, second by Delaney to approve **Resolution #58-21**. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Council reviewed **Resolution #59-21**, Resolution Approving an Agreement Between the City of Cascade, Iowa and Jones County, Iowa for Joint Voting Precincts. This establishes a joint voting precinct for Richland/Washington areas and voting will take place at the Cascade EMS center. Motion by Delaney, second by Hosch to approve **Resolution #59-21**. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Council then moved into the budget workshop to continue working on the budget for FY23. The City Administrator briefly reviewed the goals from the Heart & Soul process with council and one item that was a high priority was a better fence along the bridge. Pricing has been requested to place a 4' black wrought iron fence along the bridge. Some community members are on board with this and willing to get donations to place lantern lights on both sides of the bridge. This will be a good renovation since it is the gateway to our downtown. The City Administrator continued going over expenses with Council. Some money is budgeted to spray the levee where the riprap was placed. Under the street department in the General Fund, money is budgeted to do the Buchanan Street alley project and 3rd Ave SE and money to make some repairs to storm drains. It was discussed getting the bridge sealed. Cost will be reviewed and included in the budget. A few changes to the library budget were discussed including that the telephone/internet line item is increased to cover the hot spots and Hoopla is included under books. Also, money is budgeted under library capital improvements for roof updates. There are many grants available to libraries. Council then reviewed the park budget. Money is budgeted to paint the roof and shelter at the New City Park. Additionally, money is included in the budget for tree maintenance and restroom upgrades to the New City Park. It was suggested that we talk with a tree company on this and maybe between CMU and public works some of the smaller trees can get taken down. The pool budget was then reviewed. Some line items were increased due to expenses for the first full season in the new pool. Money is budgeted to cover the downtown housing grant and money to CEDC for the fees to ECIA. City Clerk and City Hall budget was reviewed. There is money budgeted to purchase 3 fire proof file cabinets, new light pole banners, new carpet for the City Hall offices, Transfers from the General Fund was also discussed. The transfer to the fire truck reserve is being increased so we will have enough to cover our half when we purchase a new truck in the next couple years. TIF was reviewed with money being included to cover any TIF rebates and business incentives and in case any new development agreements will be done in the next fiscal year. Debt for the City was discussed. In the current fiscal year, two debt obligations will be paid off including the ambulance loan and the water tower bond which saves the City \$450,000. There is some money budgeted for engineering for the Hwy 136 South project. This project is being delayed until FY24 due to the DOT needing to move it back a year. There will be another budget workshop on Thursday, January 6th at 5:30pm.

With no other business, Hosch moved and Delaney seconded to adjourn the special meeting at 6:29p.m. Motion carried.

Deanna McCusker, City Administrator

Andy Kelchen, Mayor Pro Tem