

**City Of New Virginia
Council Meeting Minutes
August 8th, 2020**

The Council met in regular session on Saturday August 8th, 2020 at 7:30 a.m. for the August Council Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Huston with Council Members Galivan, Nelson, Strange, Truman and Zuercher present.

Minutes from the July meeting and Treasurer's Report were approved.

Letters giving notice to abate nuisances and junk vehicles were reviewed by the Council and will be sent out.

The City taking over operation of the fire department continues to move forward slowly.

A meeting will try to be scheduled with Dry Seal next week to discuss work to be done on the fire station.

Storm sewer projects at Knotts & Main, Maple & Elm and Dunn & Main will begin soon.

A proposed 9 hole disc golf course at GAMP Park was reviewed. The Committee recommended permanent concrete pads with removable poles. To get started, it would be approximately \$300.00 per hole. The total estimated cost for the course is \$5000.00 to \$6000.00. Grants will be researched for this project.

A culvert on the south side of Grand Street in the 500 block needs some work including a drop inlet with storm water to drain across the road to the north. Steve Savage will be contacted about this project.

The need for tree trimming at East & Taylor Streets due to reduced vision at that intersection was discussed. Josey Galivan will look into taking care of this matter.

It was discussed that there has been some citizen inquiries about recycling charges being waived when the service is not being used. The City is being charged per household on a monthly basis by Waste Management. Thusly, the recycling charge will remain as part of the monthly water bill and cannot be waived.

Steve Savage was present to discuss storm sewer projects. Savage advised an 8 inch pipe is needed for the 800 block of East Street project to run to West Street and drain to the west. There will need to be approval from the adjacent property owner(s)/easement(s) before this project can proceed. There will be an intake placed at the northeast corner of Dunn & Main Street with a pipe to go under Dunn Street and drain to the south into an existing intake. Savage was advised of the above proposed project in the 500 block of Grand Street and of the problem of water standing in the ditch in the 800 block of East Street on the east side of the road.

Approving 28E Agreements and Contracts with Virginia, Squaw Creek, Jackson and Fremont Townships was tabled per City Attorney Stuyvesant.

Replacement of grass fire truck #769 was discussed with review of price quotes. The most practical bid to date is from Karl Chevrolet for a Chevy 3500 truck with an ultra-high pressure pump and complete light & siren package for a cost estimated at \$82,000.00. Options to pay for the truck were discussed including G.O. bonds and local bank loan.

Galivan moved, seconded by Truman to assume financial responsibility of Virginia Township Fire & Rescue Account #9230 in the amount of \$6017.13 per statement date of July 19th, 2020. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Law Enforcement – The report summary from the Sheriff’s Office for the months of June & July were reviewed. Thirty-seven calls were received or initiated in the community during the month June and thirty-four in July. Five citations/warnings were written in the New Virginia area during the month of June and two in July. Officers logged in excess of 63.5 hours for the month June in the community and 61.75 in July.

Nelson moved, seconded by Zuercher to approve and resolve Resolution 2020-06 – A RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS OF THE SOUTHERN IOWA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Renewal of Alliant Energy Gas & Electric franchise agreements to include a franchise fee was discussed. Cities can charge utility franchise fees of up to 5%. Currently Alliant Energy collects a 1% local option sales tax (LOST) which generates approximately \$8,200.00 annually. By state formula, about 1% (\$82) of the LOST dollars is returned to the City of New Virginia. The majority of the city’s LOST dollars are distributed to Warren County and other cities in the county. By swapping a 1% franchise fee for the LOST on Alliant Energy electric and gas bills of customers located New Virginia city limits: The City would retain 100% of the franchise fee revenues compared to 1% of LOST. The City would achieve a net gain of approximately \$8118.00 in annual revenue. Because a utility bill cannot have both a LOST and franchise fee applied, the LOST would be removed from the Alliant Energy electric and gas bill. Discussion was held if the funds can be used for any lawful/legal purpose. Stuyvesant will be contacted to see if the funds can be used for any lawful/legal purpose.

Galivan moved, seconded by Nelson to approve a 3% franchise fee to be included with the new Alliant Energy Electric and Gas Franchise Agreements. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

GAMP FINANCIAL UPDATE

August 8, 2020

The following are the balances for the GAMP accounts: Money Market \$22472.17; Regular Account \$865.37. We are looking into opening up the GAMP Community Building for an August rental. Jennifer has been working with Capital Supply in order to find the cleaning supplies needed for sanitizing the building after each use. We have someone who has agreed to clean and sanitize the building after every rental. We will

also have a sign in regard to wearing masks and social distancing. We will operate at the 50% capacity.

NEW VIRGINIA PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE

We have not met due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Playground Committee has received an extension to complete the shelter project. We will schedule the construction on the new shelter as soon as we can. The current shelter structure will be moved to the west side of the Library to be used by the Library for activities, as well as, a place for the kids to wait for the bus. It was discussed to move the shelter to the Library before school starts. Placement of the BBQ's was discussed. Our account balance is \$11,782.82.

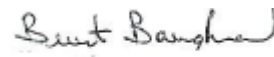
KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM

The account balance is \$7,906.58. The mural has been painted on the north side of the building at Dunn & West Street. The mural looks very nice and there has been a lot of positive comments about it. There will be another mural painted on the north side of the building along Book Alley by the bank. The project to design banner for the light poles down the business district continues. The Committee will work on fundraisers and sponsors for the banners to raise money for the project.

Truman moved, seconded by Zuercher to approve the 2020-21 fiscal year salaries: City Clerk – base \$1200.00/mth from both general & water utilities funds; Deputy Clerk - \$18.00/hr; City Treasurer - \$50.00/Qtr; City Council - \$50.00/mtg; Mayor - \$100.00/mtg. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Strange moved, seconded by Truman to approve payment of all City bills and GAMP bills. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

With no further business to come forth, Nelson moved, seconded by Galivan to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m. The September council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 8th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. **September meeting date – Tuesday September 8th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**



Brent Baughman, City Clerk

July Revenues

General Fund	24658.18
Fire/Ambulance	4669.66
Debt Service	1.37
Water Utilities	7727.79
Road Use	6083.83
LOST (local option sales tax)	<u>3455.58</u>
Total	\$ 46596.41