

**City Of New Virginia
Council Meeting Minutes
February 6th, 2021**

The Council met in regular session on Saturday February 6th, 2021 at 7:30 a.m. for the February Council Meeting.

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

The Council was advised of an item that needed to be added to the agenda. Zuercher moved, seconded by Strange to add A. under Water Utilities regarding approving two contracts from Central Tank Coatings, Inc. for water tower maintenance. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

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

Old business discussed. It was discussed that trees along the alley between Pine Street & Grand Avenue and the far south alley between Felton Street & East Street need trimmed. The trees are interfering with being able to remove snow from the alleys. The alley between Pine Street and Grand Avenue continues to be a problem. A property owner next to the alley parks vehicle partially in the alley. They had a snow blower used to clear snow. Rocks were thrown hitting a neighboring vehicle that caused \$900.00 in damage. This person also continues to yell at people that travel through the alley. The Warren County Sheriff's Office was contacted by a concerned citizen and was advised to consider placing snow ordinance signs at the city limits of each road coming into town. It was also suggested to have the City Attorney draft a letter to the individual with reference to the alley being City alley and other pertinent information

Citizen Input: Erin Thornburgh was present to discuss requirements of the Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant for GAMP Park. The land must be used for recreational purposes with no land transactions to take place that are not related to recreational purposes. There is wording that states any soil disturbance needs to be approved by the DNR/Department of Interior. The DNR/Department of Interior will have to be contacted regarding the addition of the disc golf course. Thornburgh would like to have the survey pins located on the east end of the GAMP property to make sure they are officially in the correct location. Zuercher advised he had a concerned citizen inform him that the pins had been pulled and relocated. The citizen was also concerned that City funds were used to purchase gravel for a citizen's personal use. There is concern regarding a proposed addition Matt Strange is considering to his building on the east side of GAMP Park. Any addition would require a variance that would require approval by surrounding property owners and the Board of Adjustment. There has been no formal request from Strange to date. Thornburgh wants to make sure that the park does not lose the privileges of the grant and have to pay back the \$50,000 received from the DNR/Department of Interior. The correct location of the survey pins will be verified.

Erin Thornburgh was present to discuss the portion of Broadway Street west of the intersection of Broadway & Border Streets. According to maps, a portion of this area is

considered Broadway Street and a portion private access. Thornburgh would like the City to consider upgrading that portion of Broadway west of Border Street and officially make it a City alley or street. The City Attorney will be contacted and inquire what needs to be done to make the above stated portion of Broadway an official City alley or street.

Water utilities discussed. Strange moved, seconded by Truman to approve two contracts with Central Tank Coatings, Inc. First Contract: To furnish and install a new 8 inch steel, schedule 40 riser pipe. From base elbow to 1 foot inside of the tank. With a stainless steel flexonic expansion joint. The new pipe to be insulated with 4 inch thick Styrofoam insulation from ground level to underside of the bowl of tank and covered with white aluminum sheeting in the sum of \$30,500.00 for the above contract project. Second Contract: To sandblast using No. 10 blast, the interior surfaces of the 50,000 gallon elevated water tank, including the underside of roof. Then painted two (2) coats of NSF approved epoxy paint, and in between coats to be painted a stripe coat on all of the seams and all coats to be applied to a total dry film thickness of at least 10-14 mils in the sum of \$25,000.00 for the above contract project. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. These two water tower projects are a part of a \$166,000.00 General Obligation Corporate Purpose Loan Agreement. Other items included in the loan agreement include replacing two existing fire hydrants with new fire hydrants and a new fire truck.

Utility Equipment Company will be contacted about water meters that can be turned off and on remotely. The City is strongly considering placing these meters in residences that habitually do not pay their water bills.

Law Enforcement – There was no report summary received from the Sheriff’s Office for the month of December.

A public hearing was held regarding passing and approving Resolution #2021-03. With no citizens present to approve or disapprove and no written or email responses regarding said Resolution, Nelson moved, seconded by Zuercher to close the public hearing. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Nelson moved, seconded by Zuercher to pass and approve Resolution #2021-03 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A LOAN AGREEMENT, PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION CORPORATE PURPOSE NOTE AND PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES TO PAY THE SAME. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Zuercher moved, seconded by Nelson to pass and approve Resolution #2021-04 – 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.

Fire Department Business: Upon recommendation of the Fire Chief, Nelson moved, seconded by Galivan to approve Alex Miller and Ryan Nady from probationary status to full member status on the New Virginia Fire Department. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Options for grass fire trucks 768 & 769 were discussed. After thorough discussion, Galivan moved, seconded by Truman to put 768 & 769 up for bids for sale. 769 will be advertised locally in the Tri Corner Express. Bids must indicate with or without the pump. No warranties apply. The City can reject any and all bids. Pictures will be posted on the city website and city facebook page. 768 will be advertised on multiple sites including fire publications and Hawkeye Trader with minimum bid to be determined. It will be published for a longer period of time, if necessary. Pictures of 768 will also be posted on the city website and facebook page.

Placing wildland sprayers on the new 769 fire truck was discussed.

A public hearing was held regarding passing and approving Resolution #2021-05 FY2022 maximum property tax dollars. With no citizens present to approve or disapprove and no written or email responses regarding said Resolution, Zuercher moved, seconded by Strange to close the public hearing. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Strange moved, seconded by Truman to pass and approve Resolution #2021-05 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING FY2022 MAXIMUM PROPERTY TAX DOLLARS. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

The Council was given sample ordinance information regarding fences around swimming pools. Truman moved, seconded by Strange to table this item of business so the information can be reviewed between meetings and be discussed at the March meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Projects in the current budget year were reviewed. The Old Settlers Park electrical update has been completed. The Hen House old kitchen area update will be replaced with redoing the outside west side of the building with stucco type material. Electrical and sheetrock work has not been accomplished in the fire station. This project is still planned to be completed before the end of June.

The proposed 2021-22 city budget was reviewed and discussed. Zuercher moved, seconded by Nelson to approve the 2021-22 New Virginia City Budget. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Final budget forms will be completed and submitted to the Indianola Record-Herald for publication. A public hearing will be held at the March 8th, 2021 council meeting to adopt the 2021-22 New Virginia City Budget. With revenues collected from the local option sales tax and most recently, revenues that will be generated from gas & electric franchise fees, the tax levy rate will go down. For a home valued at \$150,000.00, city taxes are projected to go down approximately \$51.00. Also, there will not be a debt service tax levy placed on citizens for the \$166,000.00 General Obligation Corporate Purpose Loan. The majority of the loan will be paid by funds from the local option sales tax and the gas & electric franchise fees.

GAMP FINANCIAL UPDATE

February 6, 2021

The following are the balances for the GAMP accounts: Money Market \$35272.61; Regular Account \$1016.08. The rentals for the next few months continue to be few due to the current COVID guidance. We still have a few groups utilizing the building and

with each use, we have had an extra cleaning and sanitizing process done. We have purchased hand sanitizing stations to use at the building as well. Brent hopes to get those up soon as well as the automated external defibrillator (AED). We are still strongly suggesting all who enter wear masks and social distancing. We are also asking renters to operate at the 50% capacity.

NEW VIRGINIA PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE

The New Virginia Playground Committee has not met due to COVID-19. An email has been sent out with dates for a meeting this month to discuss the Prairie Meadows Grant extension for the second shelter. This extension will end on June 1, 2021. We will make plans to accomplish the shelter before then. The account balance is \$11856.82.

KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM

The account balance is \$9781.72. There was no meeting in December. The proposal for the window panels on the second story of The Depot Restaurant was not accepted. High school students will be contacted for ideas for the window panels. The Committee has an opportunity for a grant for trees. The Council encouraged the Committee to pursue the grant and get more specific information regarding the grant. The Committee is checking into an outdoor movie night at GAMP Park.

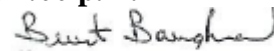
Spring Curbside Clean-Up Day will be scheduled for May 15th.

Discussion was held regarding placing an outside vending machine at GAMP Park and the fire station.

Discussion was held regarding getting rid of the old ky-bos at GAMP Park and replacing them with new ones.

Galivan moved, seconded by Zuercher 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, Galivan moved, seconded by Truman to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The March council meeting is scheduled for Monday March 8th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. **March meeting date – Monday March 8th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**



Brent Baughman, City Clerk