

**City Of New Virginia
Council Meeting Minutes
November 7th, 2020**

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

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

The Council was advised of an item that needed to be added to the agenda. Truman moved, seconded by Nelson to add #3 to Other Miscellaneous 15. D. regarding amending Resolution 2020-12 or approving new resolution requesting reimbursement from the Iowa COVID-19 government relief fund. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

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

A public hearing was held regarding passing and approving Resolution #2020-13. 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: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Zuercher moved, seconded by Nelson to pass & approve Resolution #2020-13 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING A REVENUE PURPOSE STATEMENT FOR THE USE OF REVENUES FROM ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS FRANCHISE FEES. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

A public hearing was held to consider adoption of Ordinance #112 (Note – the Council has the authority to waive the second and third readings of said Ordinance). With no citizens present to approve or disapprove and no written or email responses regarding said Ordinance, Zuercher moved, seconded by Truman to close the public hearing. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Truman moved, seconded by Nelson to approve the first reading and adopt Ordinance #112 – AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 75, AND GRANTING TO INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, A NON-EXCLUSIVE TWENTY-FIVE YEAR FRANCHISE TO ERECT, CONSTRUCT, RECONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE PLANT AND SYSTEMS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF NATURAL GAS TO THE CITY OF NEW VIRGINIA, IOWA AND TO SELL, DISTRIBUTE, AND SUPPLY NATURAL GAS TO SAID CITY AND ITS INHABITANTS, AND REQUIRING SAID COMPANY TO PAY A FRANCHISE FEE TO THE CITY. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Zuercher moved, seconded by Galivan to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance #112. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

A public hearing was held to consider adoption of Ordinance #113 (Note – the Council has the authority to waive the second and third readings of said Ordinance). With no citizens present to approve or disapprove and no written or email responses regarding said Ordinance, Zuercher moved, seconded by Galivan to close the public hearing. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Galivan moved, seconded by Zuercher to approve the first reading and adopt Ordinance #113 – AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 76, AND GRANTING TO INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, A NON-EXCLUSIVE TWENTY-FIVE YEAR FRANCHISE TO ACQUIRE, CONSTRUCT, ERECT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE AN ELECTRIC SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF NEW VIRGINIA, IOWA AND TO FURNISH AND SELL ELECTRIC ENERGY TO THE CITY AND ITS INHABITANTS, AND REQUIRING SAID COMPANY TO PAY A FRANCHISE FEE TO THE CITY. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Nelson moved, seconded by Galivan to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance #113. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

The Council was updated on the City taking over operation of the fire department. There will be an Emergency Services Advisory Board created consisting of one Trustee from each Township served by the City, one elected official of the City, the Fire Chief or designee and the EMS Director or designee. The Board will consider and advise the City Council on annual budget for the operation of the Fire Department and for all major expenses and purchases of new vehicles and equipment. Tentative meeting dates will be November 30th, 2020 and May 24th, 2021. Both meetings will be scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the fire station meeting room. The Township Clerks of each Township will be contacted so a Trustee can be assigned to attend the Emergency Services Advisory Board meetings.

28E Agreements and Contracts for fire protection and emergency response services between the City of New Virginia and Virginia Township, Squaw Township, Jackson Township in Warren County and Fremont Township in Clarke County were reviewed for approval.

Galivan moved, seconded by Nelson to approve 28E Agreement and Contract for fire protection and emergency response services between the City of New Virginia and Virginia Township in Warren County, Iowa. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Galivan moved, seconded by Zuercher to approve 28E Agreement and Contract for fire protection and emergency response services between the City of New Virginia and Squaw Creek Township in Warren County, Iowa. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Nelson moved, seconded by Truman to approve 28E Agreement and Contract for emergency response services between the City of New Virginia and Jackson Township in Warren County, Iowa. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Truman moved, seconded by Nelson to approve 28E Agreement and Contract for fire protection services between the City of New Virginia and Fremont Township in Clarke County, Iowa. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

A conference call with Bond Attorneys from Dorsey & Whitney LLP regarding financing the new fire truck was discussed. There will have to be a date set for a public hearing on the amount of the bond and the terms of the loan will have to be approved. This process will take two council meetings to accomplish. The start date of the process is tentatively set for the January 9th council meeting. The Attorneys inquired if there were any other projects that the City would like to finance that could be combined with the fire truck. Water tower maintenance, replacement of two fire hydrants and replacement of five sets of fire department bunker gear were discussed as potential projects to be included on the bond with the fire truck. Cost estimates will be obtained for these projects to determine if they will be considered for placement on the bond.

Replacement of the walk-in door at the southwest corner of the fire station was discussed. There has been only one quote received to date from Doors Inc. for \$2375.00. Morton Builders and Walsh Doors have been contacted as well but no written quotes have been received to date. Delta Doors will be contacted as well.

Potential repairs due to possible mold behind the sheet rock at the fire station was discussed.

Law Enforcement – The report summary from the Sheriff’s Office for the month of September was reviewed. Thirty calls were received or initiated in the community during the month. There were two citations/warnings written in the New Virginia area during the month. Officers spent in excess of 52 hours in the community for the month of September.

With no citizens present to discuss the annual financial report and no written or email responses, Zuercher moved, seconded by Nelson to approve the New Virginia 2019-20 Annual Financial Report. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

There was only one bid received for snow removal. Nelson moved, seconded by Truman to approve Huston’s Lawncare & Snow Removal bid of \$75.00/hr. for snow removal from city streets, alleys and sidewalks to include GAMP property for the 2020-21 winter season – also included in the bid is fuel and salt for sidewalks and intersections. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

The city-wide Christmas lighting contest will be held again this year. Previous sponsors will be contacted to see if they will sponsor again this year. There will be an ad placed in the Tri Corner Express stating the City is sponsoring the 2020 city-wide Christmas lighting contest and looking for other individual sponsors and business sponsors. Judging will be done December 6th by one of the local youth organizations.

GAMP FINANCIAL UPDATE

November 7, 2020

The following are the balances for the GAMP accounts: Money Market \$35655.50; Regular Account \$1245.13. There were a few rentals in the month of October at the GAMP Community Building. A few groups also utilized the building and with each use an extra cleaning and sanitizing process has been done. Hand sanitizing stations have been purchased to use at the building as well. It is strongly suggested to all who enter the Community Building that masks be worn and social distancing guidelines be followed. Renters are also asked to operate at the 50% capacity. The garbage disposal had to be replaced after being used at the truck pull.

NEW VIRGINIA PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE

The New Virginia Playground Committee has not met due to COVID-19. We hope to schedule a meeting after the first of the year. We are currently working with Prairie Meadows to grant an extension on our grant for the second shelter house. Placement of the BBQ grill stands will need to be discussed. The account balance is \$11796.82.

KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM

The account balance is \$8255.80. There are 16 sponsors for banners. More citizens have asked for banners. Banners will be placed on light poles along Broadway for the citizens that are interested in sponsoring a banner. The banners do have their own hardware if the existing brackets for Christmas lights will not work. The mural to be painted on the north side of the Jesus Right Hand building has been tabled due to the weather until spring. The window panels on the second story of The Depot Restaurant will be painted with a Home Town Theme. Lighting up the tree in Old Settlers Park was discussed. It was also discussed to possibly light up the Lions stand and to try and place some of the old city Christmas light decorations around the support poles of the stand, as well as, the electrical hook-up poles around the perimeter of the park.

The Council discussed the possibility of placing an ice skating rink in Old Settlers Park or the GAMP pulling track.

More information was presented to the Council regarding the proposed disc golf project. The cost of hardware for a 9 hole disc golf course is \$3298.00. The hardware will be ordered.

The Council was updated on the City website. More information for the fire department is being placed along with a fire department email address. Information regarding GAMP rentals has been posted. The continuation of New Virginia history is being posted as well. The City website is newvirginia.com.

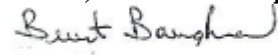
Zuercher moved, seconded by Truman to pass and resolve Resolution #2020-14 – A RESOLUTION REQUESTING REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE IOWA COVID-19

GOVERNMENT RELIEF FUND. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

The Three trees cut down in the 800 block of West Street have been placed on the west side of GAMP Park. If anyone wants any of the trees for fire wood, the ground must be dry or frozen before driving into the Park where the trees are located. Use the west drive off Knotts Street.

Nelson moved, seconded by Truman to approve payment of all City bills and GAMP bills. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

With no further business to come forth, Truman moved, seconded by Zuercher to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m. The December council meeting is scheduled for Monday December 7th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. **December meeting date – Monday December 7th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**



Brent Baughman, City Clerk