

**City Of New Virginia
Council Meeting Minutes
January 4th, 2022**

The Council met in regular session on Tuesday January 4th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. for the January Council Meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mayor Huston with Council Members Galivan, Nelson, Strange, Taylor and Truman present.

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

Old business discussed: The water service line at 806 East has been repaired. There were numerous pinhole leaks in the copper line between the curb stop and house.

Closing alleys that have been discussed in previous council meetings was revisited. The alleys discussed are between 507 & 509 West Street; 709 Grand Avenue, 706 Elm Street & 713 Grand Avenue; 601 Grand Avenue, 603 Grand Avenue & 707 Elm Street; west side of 709 Grand Avenue. It was discussed that there are numerous alleys within the city limits that have gone unused that can potentially be vacated and officially closed. There is also a section of Pine Street between Elm & Knotts that has been discussed to be officially closed.

Citizen Input: It was mentioned that the sump pump at the Baptist Church runs frequently and dumps water in the roadside ditch just like the sump pump was doing at 806 East Street. A representative of the Baptist Church will be contacted to see if the water can be shut off at the curb stop to see if it slows down or stops the sump pump from pumping.

A citizen voiced concern about post office box numbers now needing to be used instead of street addresses for local in town deliveries. The citizen inquired if a data base with PO Box numbers could be built and made available for public use when mailing letters to local citizens. It was discussed that this is a federal government issue and there is no way the City of New Virginia could do this. Citizens need to contact the Osceola Postmaster to voice their concerns about this issue.

It was mentioned that there is a tree branch hanging over the street in front of 509 East Street.

Jeff Winslow from City State Bank was present to discuss services/loan options available through the bank. The bank offers loans for sewer & water projects; SBA loans for small businesses; 50/50 loans and farm loans. The bank has employees that can help interested clients through the process. It was mentioned if there are any programs available to support the purchase of the gas station as a co-op.

Water Utilities discussed: Omnitel has been sent a billing statement with all the invoices paid by the City for a water leak repair that was the result of a water line being hit when the fiber optic cable was bored in the 700 block of Elm Street.

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

Fire Department Business: Fire Chief Jake Zuercher was present and reported the department had a total of 156 calls in 2021 – 115 were medical calls and 41 were fire/miscellaneous calls.

Chief Zuercher advised the Council that the current ambulance billing company is not bringing in any revenue to the City. The company was originally based out of Omaha but sold out to a much bigger company based out of Pennsylvania. Zuercher inquired if the City would consider a new billing company. Nelson moved, seconded by Truman to approve the search for a new ambulance billing company. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Truman moved, seconded by Strange to proceed with the necessary paperwork and all other necessary actions if a new ambulance billing company is found. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Chief Zuercher advised the Council the parking brake on Engine 761 is not working and needs repaired.

Chief Zuercher advised the Council that the search continues for a good used truck to be used for a second grass truck.

Nelson moved, seconded by Truman to pass & approve Resolution 2022-01 - A RESOLUTION NAMING CITY STATE BANK AND IOWA PUBLIC AGENCY INVESTMENT TRUST (IPAIT) DEPOSITORIES OF CITY FUNDS. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Nelson moved. Seconded by Truman to designate the Record-Herald & Indianola Tribune as official paper for publication of city budget, State of Iowa Annual Financial Report, ordinances and any other necessary legal publications for 2022. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Nelson moved, seconded by Truman to designate the Tri Corner Express as official paper for publication of City Council Meeting minutes, public notices and any other legal publications for 2022. A roll call vote was taken 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Nelson moved, seconded by Truman to re-appoint Robert Stuyvesant as City Attorney for the City of New Virginia for 2022. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Nelson moved. Seconded by Truman to re-appoint Jennifer Baughman as City Clerk and Justin Strange as Mayor Pro-Tem. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

The council discussed re-establishing the Deputy City Clerk position. Per the City Attorney, the position must be posted along with a job description. Truman moved, seconded by Taylor to post the position in the Post Office, Library and City State Bank by 1/11/2022 with applications back to the City by 1/25/2022 and interviews to be

conducted by Mayor Huston and Councilmember Strange. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Applications are located at City State Bank.

The 2022-23 city budget was discussed. Projects and items to be considered in the budget include five sets of bunker gear for the fire department; replacement of two or three fire hydrants; street repairs including sealcoating South Street, Maple Street, Pine Street and Felton Street; add storage space to fire station. Other projects to consider for the future include a new ambulance in three to five years; sidewalk project to include East Street, Broadway and West Street with a town meeting this spring to discuss sidewalks; new Christmas lights; close remaining unmaintained alleys; communicate with Larry Reynolds about selling old ballfield for recreational use; utility replacement.

GAMP FINANCIAL UPDATE

January 4, 2022

Our rentals are still pretty steady. The concrete in front of the east door has been poured. Thank You to Mike Bethards and crew for the wonderful work.

NEW VIRGINIA PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Committee has not been able to schedule a meeting yet to finalize the sign project as well as the memorial tree. I will send out an email in order to get the two projects completed. Our account balance is \$2,550.82. Ted Lare Garden Center, Ellis Greenhouse and Busy Bee will be contacted to see what they have for flowering trees.

KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM

The account balance is \$2,955.82. The Committee did not have a meeting in December. The next scheduled meeting will include discussing plans for 2022.

The Old Settlers Fireworks Fund is approximately \$800.00 away from their goal. The Committee is researching and looking for ideas for kids 12 to 18 years old during Old Settlers Weekend. It has been discussed to have a display of old tractors and equipment on Sunday of Old Settlers.

Waste Solutions of Iowa will be implementing an increase for recycling pick up from 7.5% to 7.75% annually.

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

With no further business to come forth, Galivan moved, seconded by Taylor to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The February council meeting is scheduled for Saturday February 12th, 2022 at 7:30 a.m. **February meeting date – Saturday February 12th, 2022 at 7:30 a.m.**



Jennifer Baughman, City Clerk

December Revenues

General Fund	4181.80
Fire/Ambulance	2159.64
GAMP	382.48
Debt Service	1.35
Water Utilities	9737.14
Road Use	3677.56
LOST (local option sales tax)	<u>5180.79</u>
Total	\$ 25,320.76

**** SEE JANUARY EXPENSES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE(S) ****