

**City Of New Virginia
Council Meeting Minutes
March 8th, 2021**

The Council met in regular session on Monday March 8th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. for the March Council Meeting.

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

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

Old business discussed: A drain line froze up in the old kitchen area of the Hen House during the week of sub-zero temperatures. The re-model of the kitchen area of the Hen House will now be done.

The City Attorney drafted a letter to the individual with reference to the alley between Pine Street and Grand Avenue being City alley and other pertinent information.

Regarding Broadway Street west of Border Street, the City Attorney advised that approximately the west half of that section of Broadway is actually private access to 700 Broadway Street.

Citizen Input: Karen Cooley was present and inquired if a load of rock could be placed on Maple Street south of Elm Street. Zuercher moved, seconded by Nelson to have Steve Savage placed rock on Maple Street both north and south of Elm Street. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Erin Thornburgh was present to discuss cover stories regarding the Tri Corner Express paper. The Tri Corner Express Committee has focused on cover stories in and around the New Virginia area. The City of Saint Charles is now onboard and paying for two pages in the Tri Corner. The Committee will work on getting stories from the Saint Charles area. Other communities have inquired about placing stories in the paper. It was the consensus of the Council to keep the cover stories from the New Virginia and Saint Charles areas and any other communities will have to pay to have a cover story placed in the Tri Corner.

Water utilities discussed: There was a water leak the first week of March located on Main Street south of Broadway. It was a service line off the water main. It was an extensive repair that extended over a two day period. A 25 foot section of transite water main had to be replaced with plastic pipe.

Attempts to contact Utility Equipment Company about water meters that can be turned off and on remotely have been unsuccessful. The City is strongly considering placing these meters in residences that habitually do not pay their water bills.

Law Enforcement – The report summary from the Sheriff’s Office for the month of February was reviewed. Deputies received or initiated 14 calls for service during the month. Officers spent in excess of 46 hours in the City for the month. There were no citations and/or warnings written for traffic violations that occurred within the City of New Virginia proper.

Zuercher moved, seconded by Galivan to pass and approve Resolution #2021-06 – A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND APPROVING TAX COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES RELATING TO TAX-EXEMPT BONDS. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

A public hearing was held regarding approving and adopting the proposed 2021-22 New Virginia City Budget. With no citizens present to approve or disapprove and no written or email responses regarding said proposed city budget, Nelson moved, seconded by Strange to close the public hearing. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Nelson moved, seconded by Strange to approve and adopt the 2021-22 proposed New Virginia City Budget. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

A public hearing was held regarding passing and approving Resolution #2021-07 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2021-22 NEW VIRGINIA CITY BUDGET. With no citizens present to approve or disapprove and no written or email responses regarding said proposed city budget, Galivan moved, seconded by Zuercher 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 #2021-07 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2021-22 NEW VIRGINIA CITY BUDGET. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Fire Department Business: The 2020 Annual Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Report was reviewed. In summary, the Fire Department responded to a total of 100 EMS calls. Of those calls, 42 were transports to the hospital. The average number of hours per response was 1.3 hours. The average number of personnel per response was 2.44. **The estimated dollar value of volunteerism from the members of the fire department was \$7712.87. This information only includes EMS responses, it does not include data for training meetings or staff meetings.** The Mayor and Council wish to extend a **BIG THANK YOU** to all the members of the New Virginia Fire Department for all of their hard work, dedication and many volunteer hours spent to help and care for citizens of our community in the time of need.

The City received four sealed bids for fire truck 769. Strange moved, seconded by Truman to accept the high bid of \$4200.00 without the skid from Chase Conover from Baxter, Iowa. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

No bids were received for fire truck 768. It will be advertised in the Hawkeye Trader and other fire publications through the month of April.

The southwest fire entry door was discussed. The search for a company that sales, installs and warranties doors will continue.

Jake Zuercher discussed the placement of a culvert on Grand Ave. for a new driveway. Galivan moved, seconded by Nelson to approve the placement of a culvert for a new driveway at 603 Grand Ave. at Zuercher's expense. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstained from voting. Motion carried.

The Council took no action regarding a new city ordinance requiring a fence around an above ground swimming pool. Residents personal property insurance policy requirements will determine if a fence is required to enclose an above ground swimming pool.

GAMP FINANCIAL UPDATE

March 8, 2021

The following are the balances for the GAMP accounts: Money Market \$35404.39; Regular Account \$655.58. Our rentals/groups utilizing the building has remained the same. We are still doing extra cleaning and sanitizing processes after each use. We are still strongly suggesting all who enter wear masks and social distance. We are also asking renters to operate at the 50% capacity. Brent has installed the hand sanitizing stations in the community building. He has also placed the automated external defibrillator (AED) in the community building to be used by our citizens if the need arises.

NEW VIRGINIA PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE

The New Virginia Playground Committee met March 2, 2021 at the New Virginia Public Library. We discussed our plan for the second shelter house. This will be constructed by Mike Bethards and Dryseal Roofing. Savage Excavating will be contacted to remove the old concrete pad and sidewalk. Jennifer will work with the contractors on getting material quotes for this building. Our plan will be to start construction as soon as the weather permits as our extension will end on June 1, 2021. We would like to ask the City Council if we could be able to place a grill at the GAMP Park. After discussion with ICAP (our Insurance Company), we feel we do not have room to place three grills at the Lions Park with the proper spacing. We will also start the process of designing our new sign for the park. This will be designed by John Bortell and John Allsup. Our final item for the park will be a memorial tree in honor of Mary Bates. The group decided on a Redbud tree to be placed in an area yet to be determined. Our account balance is \$11,896.82.

KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM

The account balance is \$9781.72. A kite flying activity is planned and will take place in the open area of the cemetery. The Committee is working on an Art In The Park Activity. Work is continuing on the art for the windows on the second story of the Depot Restaurant.

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

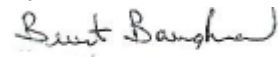
Nelson voiced his opinion that he would like to see trees that have limbs that extend into streets be trimmed to a height of 16 feet above the ground.

There was a citizen concern expressed to a councilmember regarding vehicles placed on blocks in the area of Broadway and Felton Streets.

There was a citizen concern expressed to a councilmember regarding numerous trailers parked on/near the property line on Knotts Street.

Zuercher moved, seconded by Strange 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 9:55 p.m. The April council meeting is scheduled for Monday April 5th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. **April meeting date – Monday April 5th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**



Brent Baughman, City Clerk