

STATE CENTER  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 2, 2024  
State Center City Hall

- Mayor Pfantz opened the meeting at 6:55, the FY25 proposed property tax levy rate public hearing having closed at 6:35 p.m. Present were Darrow, Grant, Nichols, Quick, and Shaffar. Absent: None. Also present were L. Bearden, M. Kielly, Chief Thomas, Chief Pfantz, J. Toyne, P. Pitzen, K. Yates, R. Hobbs, Ray Kohnert and several fire department members.
- Tyler Maddick, volunteer firefighter asked if he could make a public comment, Mayor Pfantz consented. He asked some general budget questions which were answered. He addressed council regarding the need for the new station and the difficulty council seems to have getting this accomplished, the fact that the department has a minimal budget compared to other departments, and the volunteers feel undervalued and that may lead to volunteer resignations.
- Motion by Grant, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darrow to open the public hearing to hear comments on the proposed FY24 Budget Amendment #1. Motion passes 5-0. There were no oral comments made. The clerk reported that there had been no written comments submitted. Motion by Darrow, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Quick to close the public hearing. Motion passes 5-0.
- Motion by Nichols to adopt Res. 23-53 approving FY24 Budget Amendment #1 bringing the not-to-exceed total expenses & transfer outs to \$9,017,346.00. Grant 2<sup>nd</sup>, Res. 24-53 adopted 5-0 roll call.
- The public hearing for disposal of property was table to the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting so that the publication could be reviewed.
- Electric committee Darrow reported that as a result of a committee meeting held prior this evening, the committee recommends that acting electric superintendent Jesse Toyne, upon successful 6-month review, be promoted to Electric Superintendent with a wage of \$39.36/hour. With the committee recommendation standing as a 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passes 5-0 roll call.
- R. Kohnert addressed the council regarding the golf association's request for approval of up to \$28,000.00 to replace the decks at the course's club house. The decks are 44+ years old. Kohnert will oversee the project. The funds will come from the dedicated golf course fund which is funded by the annual rent the association pays to the city. Motion by Quick, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Grant to approve the project, motion passes 5-0.
- Darrow moved to approve the 2024 agreement between the YMCA, WM Schools District and the City for 2024 swim lessons. Quick 2<sup>nd</sup>; the agreement is approved 5-0.
- Grant moved to approve the hiring of 2 lifeguards for the 2024 swim lesson season at \$12.00/hour. Motion passes 5-0.
- Darrow moved to advertise for the 2024 mowing position at \$14.00/hr. Nichols 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passes 5-0.
- Darrow moved to adopt Res. 24-54 setting the public hearing for the full FY25 budget for April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30 p.m. Grant, 2<sup>nd</sup>; Res. 24-54 is adopted 5-0 roll call.
- The clerk shared sewer rate information from Northland Securities, municipal advisor for the lagoon project, and some information she and Kielly had worked on for council consideration. A public works committee meeting will be set for further consideration of the information.
- The clerk shared that the UPRR has finally communicated that the railroad will not consider anything less than \$50,000.00 for the land the city hoped to purchase for a future brush area. The city will look for other alternative sites.
- At 7:27 p.m. there was motion by Grant, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darrow to enter into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5(1) j. To discuss the purchase or sale of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property or reduce the price the governmental body would receive for that property. Motion passes 5-0 roll call.
- At 7:55 p.m., Grant moved to return to open session. Darrow 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion is approved 5-0 roll call. Present were full council, the mayor, clerk, deputy clerk, M. Kielly and R. Hobbs.

- Motion by Shaffar that Kielly continue with negotiations with intent to purchase property. Darrow 2<sup>nd</sup>; motion passes 4-1 roll call with Quick voting nay.
- There being no further business, motion by Grant, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Terry to adjourn meeting the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

  
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Craig Pfantz, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Lori Bearden, City Clerk