

## April 2, 2018

The Keota City Council met on April 2, 2018, in the city hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Anthony Cansler.

Council Members answering roll call were Greiner, Westendorf, K. Conrad, Bender, and Hill. Employees present were Hammes, Slaubaugh, and Conrad. Also in attendance was Chad Sieren, Dan Flynn, Cory Greiner, Morgan Pilcher from *The Keota Eagle*.

Motion was made by Greiner to amend the agenda to add Ragbrai Route Change as item 12.5. Bender seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Bender to approve the amended agenda. Greiner seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Westendorf to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Citizens Comments: Dan Flynn addressed the Mayor asking if the Mayor would be able to answer his ethics question over the cell phone issue with Officer Conrad he had back in November. Mayor Cansler responded that it was discussed in closed session, therefore, he could not make specific comments. He did state that the Council explained to Officer Conrad what they would like him to do moving forward with the cell phone. Mayor Cansler also stated that he contacted the City Attorney, Robert Michael, to ask if Officer Conrad violated the Iowa Code. Mr. Michael's response was that it would be a judge's decision to determine whether or not the Iowa Code was violated.

Slaubaugh presented the Public Works Report. There has been some work progress at the ball fields in Keota. Four light poles have been taken down to make room for the new ones. Slaubaugh requested that the Council document who owns what at the ball fields to have for future reference. Del Lyle requested to put a headstone for his deceased twin brothers at the cemetery next to the baby lot. The council said no to the request. The reason there is a baby lot at the cemetery is for those who need to bury an infant, but can't afford to purchase a lot, so they don't want to sell the lots that are there. Melinda Eakins requested that 4-6 trees be taken down at the ball fields. This would mean all the trees, but one, would be removed from the east side of the fence. The original bid to have four of the trees removed was \$1500.00. The Council asked Kevin to mark the trees for the Council to take a look at before they decide. Due to the lack of lifeguard applications, Slaubaugh recommended that it would be a good year to have the pool close to make the necessary renovations. The street sweeper is ready to go and he will clean the streets once it warms up. Slaubaugh and Hammes went to the Crossett Apartments and straightened out the water meters. Dan Flynn's water meter and another apartment were switched in the system. A refund will be credited to Flynn's account for the overcharges for the past year. Motion was made by Hill to approve the Public Works Report. Bender seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Officer Conrad presented the Police Report. There were fifteen service calls/complaints. Two assault, one weapon, one controlled substance, one family/children, two other criminal violations, one suspicion, two suicide, two assist and serve, one dog/cat/misc. animal, one domestic abuse, one harassment. Conrad said it has slowing down for him. Bender stated that he talked with a Ragbrai Committee Member about the additional police officers for Ragbrai and was told that it won't be necessary because State Troopers will be stationed in town that day. Motion was made by Conrad to approve the Police Report. Bender seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Conrad to table the two additional police officers for Ragbrai due to the recommendation

of the Ragbrai Committee. Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Hammes announced that the City of Keota received the Paint Iowa Beautiful Grant for 310 E. Broadway Avenue and 205 E. Broadway Avenue. A total of seven cans of paint were awarded to the project.

Motion was made by Westendorf to approve the building permit for 409 E. Lafayette Avenue. Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Discussion was held on hiring a new rental/housing inspector for the City of Keota. Conrad has talked with someone that is interest in doing it. The possible inspector would like to see invoices, a list of properties and guidelines before making a decision. Mayor Cansler will deliver the information to the possible candidate.

Motion was made by Bender to approve the new Ragbrai route through Keota. The new route will be Harper Road – Washington Avenue – Lincoln Street – Broadway Avenue – Keokuk Washington Road. Greiner seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes –Bender, Hill, Westendorf, Greiner, Conrad; Nays – None; Absent: None. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Chad Sieren and Cory Greiner, Keota Ragbrai Committee, spoke with the Council about the Ragbrai Meeting on Saturday, April 7 in Ames. After the meeting, they will come back to talk with the Council about what they learned and what needs to be done moving forward for this event. After more information is gathered, the Council will send out a letter to local organizations with information about Ragbrai coming to Keota.

The first reading of Ordinance 262: Amending Provisions Pertaining to Customer Deposits was read by Hammes. Conrad motioned to waive the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading of the Ordinance. Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Bender to approve Ordinance 262: Amending Provisions Pertaining to Customer Deposits. Greiner seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes –Bender, Hill, Westendorf, Greiner, Conrad; Nays – None; Absent: None. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Westendorf to approve the Cyber Liability Insurance Policy. Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Westendorf to approve the Payment of Bills. Conrad seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Clerks/Council/Mayor Comments: The clerk commented that only three lifeguards have turned in applications. The Council asked to have the deadline extended to May 1, 2018. The Council requested ads be placed in the area newspapers in Washington, Wellman, Kalona, Sigourney, and Keota. Also, the clerk was asked to see if local schools in the same towns would announce the need for lifeguards at the Keota pool during their morning announcements if possible. The clerk called Action Services to get a quote on porta potty rental. It will be \$800.00 for twelve including a handicap accessible one for Ragbrai. Greiner requested a letter be sent to 302 N. Green Street to have their yard picked up as junk is starting to accumulate there. He also stated that if property owners that were sent letters following the previous meeting have not made progress on their properties then they need to be ticketed. Conrad did a recap on the Daycare Committee meeting that was held on Tuesday, March 27. The group took a tour of a facility to get a visual on what Keota's could potentially look like. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 10 where they will discuss who to contact to get estimates on the cost of the build. It was determined to give the property owner at 508 N. Davis Street until Monday, April 16 to decide on what they want to do with their property. Citations will start on Tuesday, April 17 if no decision is made. Bender requested that it be mandatory that all city employees work on Friday, July 27 when Ragbrai comes through

Keota. The rest of the Council was in agreement that all city employees will be working that day. Bender commented that he feels the city employee benefits are very high and that other options need to be looked into. He also asked about a performance plan for Conrad. Dispatch signed off on Officer Conrad's timesheet, but it was requested that the city clerk call over to Keokuk County Sheriff's Office and see if the Council could receive a monthly sheet from dispatch listing when Officer Conrad calls in. Bender was also concerned about the amount of call back time Officer Conrad has accumulated. Discussion was held that when Officer Conrad has time off, then he needs take the time off and let Keokuk County handle the calls. Cansler had the city clerk make some contacts at the Fairfield Habitat for Humanity office. Hammes is waiting for replies.

Motion was made by Westendorf to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m. Bender seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next Keota City Council Meeting will take place on Monday, April 16, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.

---

MAYOR ANTHONY CANSLER

ATTEST:

---

CITY CLERK TOMISHA HAMMES