Minutes

KEOTA CITY COUNCIL

225 E. BROADWAY AVE.

October 2nd, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Cansler.

Roll call: Mayor Cansler, Councilmen Bender, Conrad, Burroughs, and McDonald was present. City employees present were Horras and Librarian Griener. Public present at the meeting Karen Sypherd, Janie Westendorf, Seth Milledge and Casey Jarmes from Sigourney New-Review.

Consent Agenda: Motion was made by Conrad to approve Consent Agenda, including Agenda, previous meeting minutes from September 18th Council Meeting - Budget review and payment of Bills. McDonald 2nd the motion Bender & Burroughs were in favor, and Greiner was absent.

Bills Paid September 19th thru October 3rd, 2023

Checks

	84,764.14				\$6,145,41
	2,622.09	382075 10/02/23	Horras, Alycia A	9/30/2023	\$1,423.82
WELLMARK	40.01	382074 10/02/23	Kurth-Minard, Davn M	9/30/2023	\$60.37
VERIZON	168.73	382073 10/02/23	HARMSEN, MICAH		
Mid-America Publishing Corp	162.48	382072 10/02/23		9/30/2023	\$1,628.46
MALLEY HARDWARE & APPLIANCE	60,000.00	382071 10/02/23	ALTENHOFEN, CHERYL	9/30/2023	\$94.66
KEOKUK COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE LORI HAMMES	45.00	382070 10/02/23	GREINER, TONIA	9/30/2023	\$1,060.51
JILL BAETSLE	35.36	382081 10/03/23	GREINER, ASHLEY	9/30/2023	\$ 75.72
IOWA ONE CALL	25.20	382069 10/02/23	SLAUBAUGH, KEVIN L.	9/30/2023	\$ 1,737.23
GFC LEASING-WI	1,960.00 177.14	382067 10/02/23 382068 10/02/23			
FRENCH RENEKER ASSOCIATES INC	1,487.30	382080 10/03/23			
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA	62.01	382066 10/02/23			
COX SANITATION & RECYCLING INC DEARBORN LIFE INS COMPANY	4,067.55	382065 10/02/23			
CASH	66.05	382064 10/02/23			
CARGILL	5,979.77	382063 10/02/23			
BRETT ROMOSER	78.19	382079 10/03/23			
BANYON DATA SYSTEMS	395.00	382062 10/02/23			
ALYCIA HORRAS	330.78	382061 10/02/23			
ALLIANT ENERGY	7,061.48	382060 10/02/23			

Public Forum: Karen Sypherd shared a Thank You card from Jacquelyn J Singmaster Murphy, thanking the Keota Pool Advocate, the City Council and anyone that has worked towards the success of the Aquatic Center. "I am very proud and honored to have the pool called the Jacquelyn J Singmaster Murphy Aquatic Center, since I want to keep the Singmaster name alive in Keota. The article and picture of the pool on the front page of the News Review was excellent. I'm sorry Dan Flynn didn't live long enough to see how great the pool project turned out."

Department Reports:

Public Works – Clerk Horras shared Harmsen's notes in his absence. Harmsen reported that he had talked to Cox Sanitation again that morning and we are all set for the Fall clean up. Dumpsters will be open Friday from 12 – 4pm and Saturday from 7 – 11am. Harmsen and Slaubaugh started compiling a list of properties that are out of compliance on the tree over hang over the streets and sidewalks. They will finish that up next week. Harmsen talked to Blaine about the progress report and he assured him that Splash would be down this week to camera the popes so we can locate were the potential water loss is coming from in the pool vessel. They are also working to lock down a winterization time. They started the dirt work process for getting the pool seeding done last week. They are a little short on blade dirt and Slaubaugh is working on getting a few more loads hauled in so they can get seed down yet this fall. Looking at doing the Fal fire hydrant flushing Oct. 18 & 19. Will get the street sweeper out as more leaves start to fall as well.

Library – Greiner shared that Keokuk County Extension had a program for the after-school kids last Wednesday and Washing County Conservation will be at the Library Oct, 18th for the early out program. There will be paint with Lori Gifford on Oct 12th and a meeting on 23rd. Library will be closed Oct. 9th. **Museum** – Sypherd reported the museum had a tour last week with 3 local people and 1 from out of town. There was great conversation and stories

shared and the Museum has been told they will be getting some nice conations from that tour with pictures and the stories with the pictures. Clerk - Horras shared that she was working with the gWorks program to finalize the payroll module set up. Horras attended the IA League of Cities Conference in Cedar Rapids last week and was able to network with many great resources to help with our vision as a city, as we move forward. The cut off days for city election are complete and we have all candidate's paperwork turned in with no withdrawals or petitions. CH was open until after 5pm both on the 21st and 26th of Sept. to comply with this. Horras attended the REAP/DNR assembly in Ottumwa on the evening of the 25th. She picked up some great information and resource materials as we continue to look at our park, trail and outdoor areas. Horras was asked to be a delegate for Keokuk County and attend the annual meeting in Des Moine, January 18th as well. Two representatives from Libertyville Savings Bank came to do an ACH review with Horras and to meet in person on the 26th. Horras shared info. on the Fall Display Contest that the city put together and shared pictures from the participants and the category winners. Horras will again have MPI training on 10/4 – 6 and she is planning to have CH closed on the 4th and 5th, with it reopening on 6th at 1pm. Horras has gotten the abstract for the property on S Green St that the city is purchasing and Keokuk County Abstract is working on the continuation to move forward with closing. In follow up to the public comment on the trashcan in the smaller city park, Horras did find a good replacement to look into from one of our vendors and is looking to add this in, along with an additional trash can with the items from the KCEF grant that she has applied for. Jim from VJ Engineering was here on the 27th to look at he structural stability of the Hinkle building. Horras asked Councilman Conrad to share on that inspection. Conrad shared that VJ did an inspection on both sides of the building and from bottom to top in each. There were 3 major issues that need remediation and the report will share all the info needed on those. This report will be shared with both owners and the city will work with both owners to determine where the responsibility for those remediations lie.

Resolutions and Ordinances: None

New Business:

Discussion/Possible Action – Afternoon pick up changes for School pick up. Seth Milledge attended to share a mock up of what the school would like to propose for a change in the One Way Road in front of the school. There was much discussion and debate on this topic with several options talked about. Seth shared that the main objective is the safety of the kids. A motion to have Ellis St open up to 2-way traffic would be effective immediately, as the school has communicated to the parents what the new route is going to be. Motion was made by Burroughs, 2nd was made by Bender, McDonald and

Conrad were in favor and Greiner was absent. A motion was made for public works to put up signs for No Parking on N Ellis on either side of the street. Motion made by Burroughs, 2nd by Conrad, Bender and McDonald were in favor and Greiner was absent. A motion was made to have public works add Snow Removal Signs were needed as well along Ellis, so that residents know not to park in front of their houses during this time. Motion made by Burroughs, 2nd by Bender, McDonald and Conrad were in favor and Greiner was absent.

Debate/Possible Action – Direct Deposit of Payroll and Changing the Pay Date for City Employees for this change. Clerk Horras discussed the ability to go to direct deposit and what that would entail to be able to happen. Burroughs made a motion to approve moving to direct deposit with the pay periods remaining the 1st – 15th and the 16th – month end, as it stands now; with the payroll depositing no later than 3 business days following this pay period. Bender 2nd the motion, Conrad and McDonald were in favor and Greiner was absent. Burroughs made a motion that each employee have the option to opt out of direct deposit if that does not work for them. Bender 2nd the motion, McDonald and Conrad were in favor and Greiner was absent. **Debate/Possible Action** – Holiday Business Display Contest approval. Bender made a motion to approve the contest. McDonald 2nd the motion, Conrad and Burroughs were in favor and Greiner was absent.

Discussion/Possible Action Strengthening Communities Grant research and submission approval. Conrad made a motion for approval, 2nd was given by Bender, McDonald and Burroughs were in favor. Greiner absent.

Mayor Comments: Mayor Cansler shared that the employee evaluation team, would set a time to meet with and complete each employee's evaluation the first part of the following week to be ready for discussion at our next meeting. Cansler also stated that he would gather the names of the potential part time deputies that are looking to possibly gain some hours from patrolling for the city of Keota.

Adjournment: Motion made to adjourn meeting by Burroughs, 2nd by Bender with Conrad and McDonald in favor. Time 8:07pm. **Next regular meeting, October 16th, 2023 at 7:00 pm.**

	Attest:
Mayor Anthony Cansler	City Clerk Alycia A Horras