

MAQUOKETA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, November 16, 2020

Mayor Don Schwenker called the regular session of the Maquoketa City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. with five members present via Zoom Chat.

Present: Kean, Lyon, Collister, Barker, and Holm Absent: Woodward and Kuhlman

Motion by Barker, seconded by Holm approving the consent agenda consisting of the agenda, November 2nd council meeting minutes, bills, and Class "B" Beer Permit Ownership Changed Filed by Happy Joes Pizza.

Motion Carried 5-0

Sara Hobbs from Jackson and Clinton County Public Health gave an overview on how the county is looking for COVID numbers. Jackson county have currently 1,215 positive cases, 532 of those have recovered, 430 of those cases have been documented since November 2nd, there have been 5 deaths reported. Jackson County rate of positivity is at 31.7%. Hospitals are decreasing elective surgeries to make room for COVID patients. The biggest hit hospitals and long-term care facilities are taking on are the staffing shortages. There is a small group of people that get really sick and require hospitalization and the other group of people get sick and get over it at home. The recommendation is to stay home when sick, practice social distancing and wear face protection. As the Holidays start happening, there is a strong urge to stay home, it is going to be tough but it is the best thing to do.

Motion by Collister, seconded by Barker approving the third reading of Ordinance No. 1178 entitled "an Ordinance Amending Section 5-1D-8 Home Occupations of The City of Maquoketa Code of Ordinances."

Motion Carried 5-0

Gerald Smith stated the Urban Renewal Report is consistent with the prior years and has the addition of number three and four.

Motion by Collister, seconded by Lyon approving the Annual Urban Renewal Report FY 2019/2020.

Gerald Smith stated the Financial report from the Auditors is a comprehensive report from the Auditors and the City is on track from past years. Gerald will also ask if the council would consider the same auditing group for one additional year due to the changes in staffing at city hall over the past year.

Motion by Collister, seconded by Barker to approve Resolution No. 2020-81 entitled, "Resolution Approving Annual Financial Report for FY 2019-2020."

Motion Carried 5-0

Gerald Smith stated last year the City certified debt should have been higher but he and the finanel clerk are erroring on the side of caution for the next year as they aren't sure what the property taxes will be set at. His recommendation is to keep it similar and not certify as much, then in the coming years play catch up. This will keep more monies in the general fund for city, schools, and county. The Annual report meets all the standards and regulation of the state.

Motion by Kean, seconded by Holm to approve Resolution No. 2020-82 entitled, "Resolution Certifying And Claiming Tax-Increment To Reimburse The City For Debts Incurred And Expenses Advanced Related To Urban Renewal Projects Authorized By The Maquoketa Amended And Restated Unified Urban Renewal Plan, As Amended."

Motion Carried 5-0

Dave Heiar stated it was discovered there were covenants on the property that the developers and the bank did not know about. Hy-Vee, developers, Maquoketa State Bank, and their attorneys came up with their agreements. The covenants required council action for them to be amended via resolution, that is why it is on the council for tonight.

Motion by Lyon, seconded by Kean to approve Resolution No. 2020-83 entitled, "Resolution Approving Covenant Amendments for Prairie Creek Center." Motion Carried 5-0-1 Abstain: Collister

Gerald Smith stated this is a hurdle to keep the project rolling and allows the city to enter into the contract with the lowest bidder, which in this case was Tschiggfrie Excavating Co. out of Dubuque. Signing the contract will allow the company and the City to have all the conversations and planning, staging, etc.

Don Schwenker stated this is a big step as they cannot move forward until this is complete. There are a lot of business owners that have questions on how this will work. The bid is a really attractive bid and does not want to lose it. The bid came in and the engineer bid was roughly 13 million dollars and Tschiggfrie's bid came in at 11 million dollars.

Motion by Barker, seconded by Lyon to approve Resolution No. 2020-84 entitled, "Resolution Accepting Bid and Authorizing the Award of Contract for Iowa 64 (Plat Street Corridor) Maquoketa Transformation Project for The City of Maquoketa, Iowa." Motion Carried 4-1
Ayes: Kean, Lyon, Barker and Holm Nay: Collister

Frank Ellenz stated this is a Bid for materials that go out every year so the city can get better pricing on concrete materials, this is not for salt.

Motion by Kean, seconded by Barker to approve Resolution No. 2020-85 entitled, "Resolution Approving the Bid for Materials from December 1, 2020 To November 30, 2021." Motion Carried 5-0

Frank Ellenz stated this is a bid for heavy snow falls, the city rents equipment to help with snow removal. Last year they used the rented equipment once.

Motion by Lyon, seconded by Collister to approve Resolution No. 2020-86 entitled, "Resolution Accepting Bids for Use of Snow Removal Equipment For 2020/2021 Snow Season." Motion Carried 5-0

Frank Ellenz stated this is a bid for sidewalks to be shoveled when they are not done in a timely manner by citizens.

Motion by Barker, seconded by Lyon to approve Resolution No. 2020-87 entitled, "Resolution Accepting Bids for Abatement Snow Removal," Motion Carried 5-0

Motion by Barker, seconded by Kean to approve paying an invoice in the amount of \$23,520.00 to Seven Hills Paving for the N. 5th Street Boat Ramp Parking Lot. Motion Carried 5-0

Gerald Smith stated on behalf of Mark Schneider this is a requirement of the CDBG grant. They require an assessment to be completed for requested funding. There is a grid system that council will be asked to fill out, so that projects around the community will have a ranking to prioritize. Although, if there is a project at a lower ranking, they city will still go after that project as there may not be availability for the higher-ranking projects.

Motion by Collister, seconded by Lyon to approve Resolution No. 2020-88 entitled, "Resolution: Establish A Public Hearing For 2020 Community Development Block Grant Community Development and Housing Needs Assessment," Motion Carried 5-0

Motion by Collister, seconded by Lyon to approve Resolution No. 2020-89 entitled, "Resolution: Establish A Public Hearing For 2020 Community Development Block Grant Sewer Application." Motion Carried 5-0

Sara Hobbs stated now that the Governor has done her proclamation, she had more to add to her audience portion. The Proclamation stated this starts on November 17th to December 10th; Masks are required for all indoor use when individuals are 6 feet from one another for 15 minutes or longer, Gathering restrictions are limited to no more than 15 people indoors and 30 for outdoors, sporting events are limited to high school, college and professional sports, no recreational sports including Y activities, high school may only have 2 spectators per athlete, bars and restaurants are to be closed by 10 and follow are standard guidelines, no bar seating and must be masked except while eating. The proclamation is on the governor's site and thanks for council for all their work.

Don Schwenker stated the council has issued the recommendation to wear masks in public setting and the county supervisors will meet tomorrow to decide if they are going to do a mask mandate, if they chose to the City will support the mandate. If you look around the community, they are wearing their masks and listening to the mandate.

Motion by Holm, seconded by Lyon adjourning at 6:41 p.m.

All Ayes

Don Schwenker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gerald Smith, City Manager