

Eldora City Council
Regular Council Meeting
May 12, 2020 -- 6:00 pm

The council gave the option to meet via conference call or by internet due to the Governor's State of Public Health Disaster, eliminating groups of 10 or more and social distancing until May 15th, 2020.

Eldora City Council met in Regular Session with Mayor David Dunn presiding. Council members Aaron Budweg, Melody Hoy, Blake Jones, and Cindy Johns were present via internet and Greg Priske and David Dunn were present in the council chambers. Also, present were City Attorney Erika Allen by phone, Chandra Kyte in council chamber. Kevin Kromminga was present at the council meeting and Jamie Witham, Matt Rezab, Rocky Reents, Julie Kofoid, David Rubow and Terry Weatherly were present by Zoom Conference.

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor David Dunn asked for a motion to accept the consent agenda. Council member Priske motioned, seconded by Johns to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda approved consisted of the April 14th minutes, the monthly claims and financials, claims for the City of Eldora, Community Garden, Veterans Memorial and Memorial Park, approval of liquor license for Eldora Firehouse Saloon & Grill, Fareway Store, Hy-Vee Food Store, Kum & Go and Mi Rancho Restaurant. Also approved were cigarette permits for Kum & Go and Casey General Store and Resolution 05-20-2878 authorizing transfers. Roll call vote: "ayes": Hoy, Budweg, Johns, Jones and Priske; "nays": none; absent: none. Motion carried.

Mayor David Dunn opened the citizens comment period and Julie Kofoid spoke on fireworks. She would like to see the fireworks banned within the City limits. There are some citizens that do not follow the rules and set them off out of the set time and day limits. Most of the fireworks do not stay on their yard but go into the neighbor's lawn.

The second reading of Ordinance 863 for Parking Regulations Chapter 69 was held. The council discussed some more wording to clarify for weight, idling time and/or parking area. They discussed other towns ordinances and how to enforce the ordinance. Kevin Kromminga said he has been parking by his house for 40 years and winters the truck out of town. If he had to get a permit to park by his house, he was fine with that. Council member Hoy motioned, seconded by Johns to approve the second reading of Ordinance 863. Roll call vote: "ayes": Hoy, Johns and Priske; "nays": Jones and Budweg; absent: none. Motion carried. The street and alley will hold a meeting before the next council meeting to get the wording set.

Rocky Reents was checking with the council on their thoughts for Pine Lake Festival this year in July. They could modify some activities to have social distancing and cancel other activities. The council will wait until the Governor made her decision on the Iowa bans that are set to expire May 27th, which could be extended.

Resolution 05-20-2879, Resolution approving application for tax exemption under the Urban Revitalization Ordinances. Jack Brekke has added another storage unit and has applied for this exemption. Council member Hoy motioned, seconded by Priske to approve Resolution 05-20-2879. Roll call vote: "ayes": Jones, Johns, Hoy, Priske and Budweg; "nays": none; absent: none; abstain; none. Motion carried.

Resolution 05-20-2880, Resolution setting hearing on proposed changes to section 91.06, Code of Ordinance, disallowing individual water meters in Mobile Home Parks. The public hearing will be June 9th at 6:00pm in the council chambers. Council member Hoy motioned, seconded by Budweg to approve Resolution 05-20-2880. Roll call vote: “ayes”: Budweg, Hoy, Priske, Johns and Jones; “nays”: none; absent: none; abstain; none. Motion carried.

Resolution 05-20-2881, Resolution approving the allocation of Interstate Light & Power Company franchise fee. This will move the start date from January 1, 2021 to October 1, 2020. The split will be the same except for the 4th quarter 2020, \$10,000.00 will be allocated to Blight and the balance split as stated in the resolution. The extra funds for Blight could help remove the two houses on 15th Avenue. Council member Priske motioned, seconded by Johns to approve Resolution 05-20-2881. Roll call vote: “ayes”: Jones, Priske, Budweg, Hoy and Johns; “nays”: none; absent: none; abstain; none. Motion carried.

Resolution 05-20-2882, Resolution setting water rate increase for fiscal year 2020-2021. If not set by resolution, the water rate increase is 5%. This year the increase will be set at 2.5% for water. Council member Johns motioned, seconded by Hoy to approve Resolution 05-20-2882. Roll call vote: “ayes”: Johns, Hoy, Jones, Budweg and Priske; “nays”: none; absent: none; abstain; none. Motion carried.

Resolution 05-20-2883, Resolution setting sewer rate increase for fiscal year 2020-2021. If not set by resolution, the sewer rate increase is 5%. This year the increase will be set at 2% for sewer. Council member Johns motioned, seconded by Priske to approve Resolution 05-20-2883. Roll call vote: “ayes”: Johns, Priske, Budweg, Jones and Hoy; “nays”: none; absent: none; abstain; none. Motion carried.

Resolution 05-20-2884, Resolution approving the hiring of Vincent Lukehart as a full-time ambulance department employee. He will start the full-time position on June 1, 2020. Council member Priske motioned, seconded by Jones to approve Resolution 05-20-2884. Roll call vote: “ayes”: Priske, Jones, Hoy, Budweg and Johns; “nays”: none; absent: none; abstain; none. Motion carried.

The council reviewed the Leave Donation Policy, where if an employee has used all their vacation and sick time, they can request time from the pooled banked time. Employees can donation their sick, vacation, comp, or holiday time to the bank. All donated time is anonymous and can be used by anyone who qualifies. Council member Priske motioned, seconded by Jones to approve the Leave Donation Policy. Roll call vote: “ayes”: Budweg, Priske, Jones, Johns and Hoy; “nays”: none; absent: none; abstain; none. Motion carried.

The council discussed the current fireworks ordinance. Julie Kofoid spoke earlier, and Terry Weatherly spoke now about fireworks being shot off out of the set time and day set by the City. The council has also received phone calls from citizens about the fireworks over the years. The council discussed banning fireworks within the City limits except for permits to hold fireworks. They would need have a fine for shooting off fireworks within the City limits. Sometimes trying to prove who shot them off is the issue. Council member Hoy motioned, seconded by Johns to set a public hearing for June 9th to change the ordinance to ban fireworks within the city limits. Roll call vote: “ayes”: Priske, Jones, Hoy, Budweg and Johns; “nays”: none; absent: none; abstain; none. Motion carried.

The council members gave their communications at this time. Greg Priske reported for the Park & Rec: he had received lots of compliments on the Memorial Park, Tina Johns requested funds for the Welcome Center repairs and painting and will hold off on this for now, the ball diamond agreement is signed and will hold off practice until the governors May 15 announcements and the Eldora Garden MOU is finalized. Cindy Johns said the Hurts Donuts had a long line and maybe next time it could be planned differently. Aaron Budweg said HR is reviewing the handbook and policies. The policies would be approved by the council, but Aaron thought some minor ones the Mayor could approve. Melody Hoy was reminding everyone to reach out to our government to make EMS an essential service. Kelly Haskin was seeing about hiring someone in the water department. He could be down one person in January. Jamie Witham said she is getting bids to remove the asbestos from the two houses on 15th Avenue and Kelly was getting a quote from Gehrke's. Since Blight's revenue is from LOST, the amount of money Blight will receive is still unknown. For this reason, Jamie does not want to take possession of any new properties in town.

Mayor Dunn asked for a motion to adjourn. Council member Priske so moved; meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

David W. Dunn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Chandra Kyte, City Clerk