

Sutherland, Iowa City Council Meeting – September 7, 2021 – 7:00 PM – 110 Ash Street – Meeting Room

Mayor Kay Gifford called the public hearing to order. Roll call showed council members present were: Johanna Homan, Jack Wallinga, Patrick Nelson, Bruce Engelke, and Chase Cox. Others present were: Brian Flikeid, Derek Nixon, Drew Gifford, Char Shriver, Bonnie Wallinga, Dennis Grant, Nancy Hill, Mark Shriver, Sharon Flinders, Connie Cody, Mari Radtke, Elijah Helton, Anthony Larsen, and Amanda Vanderhoff. Council asked a few question on the agreement provided by DGR Engineering. A motion was made by Homan seconded by Nelson to adjourn from the public hearing. Roll call: Ayes - Homan, Wallinga, Nelson, Engelke, and Cox. Motion carried.

Mayor Kay Gifford called the council meeting to order. Roll call showed council members present were: Johanna Homan, Jack Wallinga, Patrick Nelson, Bruce Engelke, and Chase Cox. Others present were: Brian Flikeid, Derek Nixon, Drew Gifford, Char Shriver, Bonnie Wallinga, Dennis Grant, Nancy Hill, Mark Shriver, Sharon Flinders, Connie Cody, Mari Radtke, Elijah Helton, Anthony Larsen, and Amanda Vanderhoff.

A motion was made by Cox seconded by Engelke to approve the agenda, previous minutes, and clerk's report. Roll call: Ayes - Homan, Wallinga, Nelson, Engelke, and Cox. Motion carried.

There were no public comments.

Dennis Grant was present as a guest to voice his concern on using chemicals around the trees at the park and the library. He is worried the chemicals will get into the root system of the smaller trees via the suckers and kill them. Council and the park board will consider the information given to them by Dennis and come up with other options to remove the suckers.

Michelle Kaup was not present.

Mari Radtke was present as a guest on behalf of the Friends of Library, who currently maintain the city sign. The sign is not working and the repair company hasn't been able to find parts for the sign because the technology is obsolete. Mari stated the repair project is too big for Friends and would like to start some form of a community forum for people from Friends, Ruritan, and Commercial Club etc. to figure out what needs to be done next.

There were a few questions asked about the bills. A motion was made by Homan seconded by Nelson to pay current bills excluding Blacktop Services. Roll call: Ayes - Homan, Wallinga, Nelson, Engelke, and Cox. Motion carried.

Mayor Kay Gifford introduced Chief Brian Flikeid from Aurelia/Marcus. Chief Flikeid has been helping the City of Sutherland navigate the Police Department. He presented information on policy and procedures, guidelines, and equipment updates the city needs to complete so they can be a credentialed department. Chief Flikeid is also assisting with the police officer hiring process, administrating psych, written, and post tests and has offered to help train a new police officer if needed. Mayor Gifford and council thanked him for this assistance and patrolling the Labor Day street dances.

Economic Development Report was given by Sharon Flinders. They did not have enough people for a quorum. She said they are continuing to work on solar panels and the housing at the Williams property.

Library Report was given by Library Director Nancy Hill. Nancy is working on the annual survey. The new sign is up and the new desk is coming. A motion was made by Engelke seconded by Homan to approve Gordy Richter for the Library Board. All in favor. Motion carried.

Fire and Ambulance Report was given by Chief Mark Shriver. They were 9 ambulance calls and 0 fire calls. They are working on getting the specs for the pumper. The a/c unit in the meeting room stopped working. Mark's Plumbing was called to look at it. The fire extinguishers in the vehicles need to be updated.

Communications and topics for discussion:

A motion was made by Nelson seconded by Wallinga to approve Resolution 2021-24: Resolution Approving Proposed Plans and Specifications, Form of Contract and Recommended Bidder Solsma Excavating for the 2021 Industrial Park Sanitary Sewer Project. Roll Call: Engelke, Nelson, Cox, Wallinga, and Homan. Motion carried.

Mayor Gifford and Johanna Homan opened the sealed bids for the city owned farm ground located at First/Birch Street. Greg Swanson bid \$405.00 per acre/ \$5,670.00 a year and Ryan Rahbusch bid \$301.00 per acre. A motion was made by Homan seconded by Nelson to award the farm ground to Greg Swanson for \$405.00 per acre/ \$5,670.00 a year. Roll call: Ayes - Homan, Wallinga, Nelson, Engelke, and Cox. Motion carried.

The City of Sutherland received 1 bid for the property at 208 E 4th Street from Bonnie Wallinga for \$100.00. Because Mrs. Wallinga is planning to rehab the house, council decided to extend the completion date to 18 months. A motion was made by Engelke seconded Cox to approve Bonnie Wallinga's bid for \$100.00 with completion date extension to 18 months. Roll call: Ayes – Homan, Nelson, Engelke, and Cox. Abstain - Wallinga. Motion carried.

The city clerk gave council information on the American Rescue Plan Act. The City of Sutherland is receiving \$88,818.10 of funding. The funds are being distributed in 2 tranches, the first amount of \$44,409.05 has been received. The clerk asked council to read through the information given so they know what the eligible uses for the funding are.

Council discussed selling the lot at 125 W 2nd to Noah's Ark Daycare. This lot will be used by the daycare for an outdoor play area for the kids. Council agreed to sell the lot for a \$1. The city clerk will contact the city attorney to have the proceedings ready by the next council meeting.

Council discussed selling the lot at 300 E Birch Street. They agreed to advertise the lot for \$5,000.00 to try to recoup the expense of the demolition and legal fees.

A motion was made by Homan seconded by Nelson to approve the liquor license for Car-Go Express. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports:

Water: 2,123,000 gallons in at the tower. The clerk will research how often the water tower needs to be inspected.

Streets: The motorcycle stands have made holes in the blacktop on Main Street.

Sanitation: 1,248,000 gallons into the ponds. Anthony Larsen received his waste water certificate.

Town Property: The clerk will put the city's car trailer up for bids with a November 1, 2021 bid date. The city has not received any bids on the lights poles or goal posts at the football field.

Park: The park board discussed Labor Day at their last meeting.

Weed and Debris: The property owner at 215 N Oak Street was ordered by the Magistrate to clean up the property in 30 days.

Lights: The flasher for the speed sign on Hiview is on order. MidAmerican will be at the park to take down the light pole and put a street light at the corner of Ash and 4th Street.

Sanitary Landfill – No report.

A motion was made by Homan seconded by Nelson to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Kay Gifford

Amanda Vanderhoff City Clerk