

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday August 25, 2025. Mayor Kayser attended the meeting via Microsoft Teams and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Members present: R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, and Gruetzmacher. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Nick Kuker, Public Works Director; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk.

Motion by Williams, second by T. Woods to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

There were no public hearings.

Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by Erickson to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: August 11th Regular City Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

During the informal public comment, Kevin Bodensteiner the Fairbank Assistant Chief of EMS was present along with Dan Walter from Buchanan County EMS Association to talk to the council about the proposed EMS Essential Service Levy. It did not pass in 2024 and they are preparing for the 2025 election as it will be on the ballot and will need 60% of votes to pass. They hope to get more information out to the public and encourage everyone to reach out if there are any questions.

Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by Erickson to approve **Resolution 2025-30 – Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Certain Loan Agreement, Providing for the Issuance of \$1,000,000 General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, Series 2025, and Providing for the Levy of Taxes to Pay the Same.** This resolution was the final step in the approval process for the loan agreement, and it authorized the issuance of the bonds. Roll call vote- Ayes: Gruetzmacher, Erickson, T. Woods, and R. Woods. Nays: None. Abstain: Williams. Councilman Williams abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest, as he is employed by the financial institution involved in the awarded bid.

Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by Williams to approve **Resolution 2025-31 – A Resolution Declaring the Property Located at 506 Patterson Street, Fairbank Buchanan County, Iowa, to be a Nuisance, Safety Hazard, Dangerous, and Dilapidated; Authorizing Demolition; and Clarifying Demolition Purposes and Asbestos Notice for Bidding Purposes.** Roll call vote- Ayes: Gruetzmacher, Williams, R. Woods, Erickson, and T. Woods. Nays: None.

Bryce and Cody Kleitsch from Section 6 Inc. dropped off a quote of \$5,300.00 to remove the house located at 506 Patterson Street, which also included removal of the park shelter at Veteran's Park. The council agreed the quote was fair and expressed support to move forward with the project. Motion by R. Woods, second by T. Woods to approve the quote from Section 6 Inc. for removal of the house at 506 Patterson Street and the park shelter at Veteran's Park in the amount of \$5,300.00. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, T. Woods, Erickson, and Gruetzmacher. Nays: None. Abstain: Williams. Councilman Williams abstained due to a conflict of interest, as he is employed by the financial institution utilized by Section 6 Inc.

Motion by Williams, second by R. Woods to approve **Resolution 2025-32 – Resolution Establishing New Energy Cost Adjustment (ECA) Rate.** The ECA was lowered from \$0.03107 per kWh to \$0.00 per kWh, as the updated Electric Rate Ordinance already accounted for the \$0.03 that was previously charged through the ECA. Roll call vote- Ayes: Williams, R. Woods, Gruetzmacher, Erickson, and T. Woods. Nays: None.

A sidewalk removal application was submitted to the council from Keith and Marilyn Westpfahl at 409 W Wisconsin Street. The request was to remove the section of sidewalk along the south side of the property, extending both east and west. The sidewalk was noted to be in poor condition and did not connect to any other sidewalk leading north or south. Mayor Kayser explained that even if a nuisance sidewalk is approved for removal, the city may still require it to be reinstalled in the future. Motion by R. Woods, second by Williams to approve the sidewalk

removal application for the portion of sidewalk located at 409 W Wisconsin Street. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, Williams, Gruetzmacher, Erickson, and T. Woods. Nays: None.

The FY25 City Street Finance Report, prepared by the City Clerk, was presented to the council. The report provided the financial information for the city's streets department for the previous fiscal year and is required to be submitted to the DOT by December 1 each year. Motion by R. Woods, second by Williams to approve receipt of the report. Motion carried.

Randy Kaune, owner of Randy's Lawn Care, and an employee were present to discuss city park mowing services with the council. Mayor Kayser explained that the discussion was intended to address general observations regarding the mowing in the city parks. The council shared some concerns, but they did mention that recent rain and heat have caused the grass to grow faster than usual for this time of year. Randy explained that with notice they can mow the parks twice a week if needed for special events. The Mayor and council discussed maintaining open communication with Randy via email and the Mayor would follow up as needed to address any specific concerns. The council thanked them for attending.

The city's security camera policy requires council approval for viewing cameras via phone. Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by Williams to approve phone access to only a few specific security cameras for Lonnie Brewer and Ken Schnor. Motion carried.

During the council/mayor reports, Councilwoman Erickson stated that the music in the park that past Thursday went very well. Councilman Gruetzmacher stated that slow-pitch softball was over and that the scoreboards were getting installed next week. He also stated that Midwest Concrete Inc. offered to donate the concrete needed for the batting cages. Mayor Kayser said that the Fourth Street Sidewalk Project had moved fast and that the city was chosen randomly to review the easements acquired for the project and that the audit went very well.

During the department reports, Nick said the trash basket was installed in the northeast lift station. The gas project in Oelwein is almost finished and some of the homeowners are moving into them next week already. Lonnie and Ken attended a water class. He also stated that he had been working with Chris West, the Fairbank Fire Chief, on getting a gas barrel for a non-ethanol blend gas needed for some of the city's equipment.

Motion by Williams, second by Gruetzmacher to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 PM. Motion carried.

Jason Kayser, Mayor

Brittany Fuller, City Clerk