

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in Regular session on Monday March 22, 2021. Mayor Harter called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: R. Woods, Vorwald, T. Woods, Williams, and Erickson. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Heather Prendergast, Attorney; Brian Delagardelle, Wastewater Operator; Dave Jergens, Public Works; Mike Everding, Part-Time Police Chief; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; and Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk.

Motion by Williams, second by T. Woods to approve the agenda. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, Vorwald, Erickson, T. Woods, and Williams. Nays: None.

There were no public comments.

Motion by Vorwald, second by R. Woods to approve the minutes from March 8th Regular Meeting and March 15th Special Meeting. Roll call vote- Ayes: Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, R. Woods, and Vorwald. Nays: None.

There were no public comments.

The abatement and cleanup of nuisance properties was moved to later in the meeting since Attorney Prendergast had not arrived yet.

Discussion was held on the ICAP Insurance Renewal. The premium paid last year was \$35,762.32 and this year it increased to \$45,815.00. Valuations went up which contributed to this increase. The council changed the deductible to \$5,000.00 to help bring the premium cost down. Motion by R. Woods, second by Erickson to approve the ICAP Insurance Renewal for 2021 at \$45,815.00. Roll call vote- Ayes: Williams, Vorwald, T. Woods, Erickson, and R. Woods. Nays: None.

Councilman R. Woods talked to the council about promoting Dave Jergens to Public Works Director with a raise of a dollar an hour. Jergens said he would not consider the promotion for an increase of only a dollar an hour, but he would like to talk about it because he would like to do the job. Attorney Prendergast arrived at 6:06 PM. Attorney Prendergast stated that a resolution could be modified however the council chooses. The committees will meet with Jergens and see if they can come together on a wage and decide at the next meeting. Motion by T. Woods, second by Erickson to table until the next meeting. Roll call vote- Ayes: Vorwald, R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, and T. Woods. Nays: None.

Discussion on hiring another public works employee was held. Vorwald stated that of the five candidates chosen for interviews, four responded and were interviewed. Ben Delagardelle was chosen for the job by the committee, and he was the person recommended to the council for hiring. Ben stated that he currently possessed a wastewater one certification and that he had a lot of experience in the job duties that he would need to do with the city job. The council offered to start him at \$25.00 per hour and he would then also receive a dollar an hour for each of the wastewater two and water distribution certifications when completed along with a 3% increase on July 1, 2021. Ben said he appreciated the \$25.00 an hour but would like to ask for \$25.25 per hour. Motion by R. Woods, second by Vorwald to approve **Resolution 2021-06 – Hiring Public Works Employee** to hire Ben Delagardelle for the open public works position at \$25.25 an hour with a dollar an hour increase after wastewater two certification and then another dollar an hour increase after water distribution certification along with the 3% increase on July 1, 2021. Roll call vote- Ayes: Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, Vorwald, and R. Woods. Nays: None.

The council went back to the agenda item Discuss/Approve Abatement and Cleanup of Nuisance Properties. Attorney Prendergast received notice that an abatement had been served. It was served exactly 21 days earlier and the owner was present to ask the council for more time due to the weather. Part-time Police Chief Everding stated that most of the work had been completed and that he had seen an improvement in the property. Motion by R. Woods, second by Williams to extend notice 21 more days to allow time to finish the rock area in the front, to haul away the dumpster, and to align the tree cutting. Roll call vote- Ayes: Vorwald, T. Woods, Erickson, Williams, and R. Woods. Nays: None.

Part-time Police Chief Everding stated that he went to Racom on Thursday and they were very professional. The new police vehicle is scheduled for the first part of May. Councilmen R. Woods and Williams will meet with the Part-time Police Chief to start discussions on the striping. Councilwoman Erickson and Councilman Williams will meet with the office staff to go over further details in the personnel manual.

Motion by Williams, second by T. Woods to enter into closed session at 6:32 PM pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 (1) (j) – to discuss the purchase or sale of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property or reduce

the price the governmental body would receive for that property. Roll call vote- Ayes: Erickson, R. Woods, Vorwald, T. Woods, and Williams. Nays: None.

Motion by Vorwald, second by R. Woods to come out of closed session at 6:37 PM. Roll call vote- Ayes: T. Woods, Erickson, Williams, R. Woods, and Vorwald. Nays: None. Motion by T. Woods, second by Vorwald that having received no other purchase offers or other offers from any other entities, the City of Fairbank has accepted the counteroffer from Fairbank Development Corporation for \$25,000 with the first right of refusal which would terminate on development of the lot. Roll call vote- Ayes: Erickson, Vorwald, and T. Woods. Abstain: R. Woods and Williams. Nays: None. There will be a public hearing set and a resolution drafted regarding the contract that was accepted.

Motion by Williams, second by Erickson to adjourn 6:39 PM. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, Vorwald, T. Woods, Erickson, and Williams. Nays: None.

Mike Harter, Mayor

Brittany Fuller, City Clerk