

CITY OF IOLA

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01/08/2024

A regular meeting of the City Council of Iola was held on January 8, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., at the Park Community Building, 510 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor French called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor French and Council Members, Peters, Wicoff, Lohman, Shallah, Peterson, Slaugh, and D’Albini were present.

Others present were City Administrator Rehder, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton.

Absent was Council Member Kinder.

SWEARING IN OF MAYOR- City Clerk Hutton swore in Mayor French.

SWEARING IN OF COUNCIL MEMBERS - City Clerk Hutton swore in Council Members Peterson, Shallah, Grundy, and Wells.

Mayor French thanked former Council Member Slaugh for his service and wished him well in his future endeavors.

Mayor French and Council Members, Peters, Wicoff, Lohman, Shallah, Peterson, Grundy, Wells, and D’Albini were present.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Member Wells motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member Shallah seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Persons wishing to address the City Council regarding items on the agenda may do so as they are called. Persons wishing to address the City Council regarding items not on the agenda may do so when called upon. Comments on personnel matters and matters pending in court or outside tribunals are not permitted. Speakers are limited to three minutes. No action will be taken.

No public comments were heard.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes Approval**
 - **December 11, 2023**
- B. Appropriations Approval**
- C. Kansas Community Empowerment Program - Resolution 2024-01**
- D. Veterans Administration Request**

Council Member Lohman motioned to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded by Council Member Wells. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. City Council President - Appointment - Nomination for Council Member Shallah to be appointed Council Member President made by Council Member Peters. Nomination seconded by Council Member Wells. All in favor. The appointment of Council Member Shallah to Council Member President was approved unanimously.

B. Dangerous / Unsafe Structure Removal - Code Enforcement Officer Hutton stated that the four houses listed below have been prepared to go through the condemnation process in 2024. The first step is setting the public hearing for each one at the February 26 Council Meeting. This hearing allows the owners of the property to express why the home is worth salvaging.

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member D'Albini to approve Resolution 2024-02 for 116 N Fourth setting a public hearing on February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. based on section 8-501, of the Unified Development Code. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Council Member D'Albini and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve Resolution 2024-03 for 306 S Kentucky setting a public hearing on February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. based on section 8-501, of the Unified Development Code. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Council Member Shallah and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve Resolution 2024-04 for 602 E Lincoln setting a public hearing on February 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. based on section 8-501, of the Unified Development Code. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Council Member Shallah and seconded by Council Member D'Albini to approve Resolution 2024-05 for 1014 N Sycamore setting a public hearing on February 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. based on section 8-501, of the Unified Development Code. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. City Flag Discussion & Direction- Max Grundy presented some new colors for the Clock Tower Flag as well as new designs of the beams.

Discussion centered on the colors and the changes made. It was decided by the Council that the cream and blue with the new design of the beams and the land and water flag would be presented to the citizens on social media as well as a ballot box within city hall for a vote of the desired flag.

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Council Member Peters -

- Council Member Peters thanked outgoing Council Member Slaugh for his service.
- Council Member Peters read an article from the KBI stating that with the support of the Iola Police Department suspects were arrested in Meade County on a previous warrant. The suspects had Methamphetamine and Fentanyl in their possession. Council Member Peters thanked the Iola Police Department for their assistance in identifying the suspects within the City of Iola and notifying the KBI.
- Council Member Peters noted that he had been in conversation with the local dealership in Chanute about obtaining an EV Charger directly from them. The dealership discovered that not only did they have to purchase the chargers from the corporation for \$4,500 each but they had to pay for the installation of a new transformer at the location to service the chargers. This cost is over \$40,000 and would prevent the dealership from installing more than two chargers on their property. He will continue to pursue other options for EV Chargers.

B. Council Member Lohman—

- Council Member Lohman thanked outgoing Council Member Slaugh for his service.
- Council Member Lohman also thanked the employees who take care of plowing snow ahead of the predicted snowfall.

C. Council Member D'Albini—

- Council Member D'Albini asked if he would need to bring a written report of the decision on warming stations to a future meeting. He will get with Assistant Administrator Schinstock about a report for the Council.

D. Council Member Peterson–

- Council Member Peterson had nothing to report.

E. Council Member Wicoff-

- Council Member Wicoff welcomed the new members of the Council and thanked outgoing Council Member Slaugh for his service.

F. Council Member Wells–

- Council Member Wells reported he was glad to be back on the Council.
- Council Member Wells thanked outgoing Council Member Slaugh for his service and noted it was a pleasure to work with him throughout the years.

G. Council Member Shallah –

- Council Member Shallah stated that winter is here. She reminded everyone to leave their faucets dripping, bring their pets inside, and drive with caution.

H. Council Member Grundy-

- Council Member Grundy thanked outgoing Council Member Slaugh for his service and noted that his friendship over the time Mr. Grundy and his family have been in Iola has been appreciated.

I. Mayor French

- Mayor French had nothing to report.

J. Administrator Rehder

- Administrator Rehder reported that the city was officially denied the EV Charging station grant.

K. Assistant Administrator Schinstock -

- Assistant Administrator Schinstock had nothing to report.

L. City Clerk Hutton

- City Clerk Hutton informed the Council Members that the Clerk/Utility Office at City Hall had been renovated and safety measures were implemented. She invited all members to come and see the improvements.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 22, 2024,

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 12, 2024,

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6:31 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Peterson and seconded by Council Member D'Albini to adjourn the meeting.

It was approved by the City Council of Iola, Kansas, on the 22nd day of January 2024.



Mayor Steven French



City Clerk Roxanne Hutton

