

CITY OF IOLA

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05/08/2023

A regular meeting of the City Council of Iola was held on May 8, 2023, 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 Shallah, Peterson, D'Albini, Wicoff, Kinder, Peters, Slaugh, and Lohman were present. Also present were City Administrator Rehder, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Kinder, seconded by Council Member Peters, approves the agenda as presented. 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.

Ron Ballard informed the Council that he had hosted a baseball tournament in Iola last weekend. He scheduled it and rented the baseball fields from the Recreation Department over six weeks ago. When he arrived at the park on Friday evening, the fields had yet to be prepared. They had not been mowed; sticks in the grass and a softball could have injured someone because it could not be seen. The fields had not been drug. The group was not given access to the concession stand until late Friday night. They used the concession stand proceeds paid for the officials they had hired.

He noted that they were required to take care of the trash with the rental. He had concerns with this many visitors in town spending money in the stores, restaurants, and hotels. The City of Iola should have been more welcoming and prepared.

Mr. Ballard encouraged the Council to look into preparing a plan to develop a sports complex where these types of ballfields can draw visitors into the area.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes Approval**
 - **April 24, 2023, Council Meeting**
- B. Appropriations Approval**
- C. Iola Housing Authority Board Reappointment - Barb Leavitt**

Council Member Slaugh motioned to approve the consent agenda with the correction. Motion seconded by Council Member Kinder. All in favor. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION

A. Mental Health Month - Nathan Fawson, Director of the SEK Mental Health Center, told the Council that they serve a six-county area. They have received some grants to provide care for those unable to pay due to income levels.

Mayor French read the proclamation and declared May as Mental Health Month.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Cedarbrook 3rd Addition Road - Bid Award- Assistant Administrator Schinstock informed the Council that the bids exceeded the engineer's estimate.

Mr. Schinstock stated that while the lowest bid was from Heck and Wicker, he is encouraging the Council to award the bid to Mission Construction. Heck and Wicker are currently doing some KDOT projects. There are some concerns with Heck and Wicker just starting to do larger road projects.

Mayor French stated that the one thing discussed at Economic Development Meetings is that developers are searching for properties that are turn-key ready.

Council Member Peterson asked how the City would pay for the project. Mr. Schinstock stated that the money would come from the Sales Tax Fund, which currently has a balance of approximately \$2.3 million.

Motion made Council Member Kinder and seconded by Council Member Lohman made a motion to approve the bid from Mission Construction for the Cedarbrook 3rd Addition Street and storm sewer project and authorize staff to execute the necessary documents. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Iola Medical Developers- City Clerk Hutton informed the Council that Iola Medical Developers are paying off the outstanding bonds. With this process, the City of Iola has to go through the process of releasing the lease on the property. This will relieve the City of any ownership interest and obligations to the building.

Motion made by Council Member Lohman and seconded by Council Member Peters to approve Resolution 2023-15 redeeming the Series 2008 A, B, C, and D Industrial Revenue Bonds for Iola Medical Developers and authorize the Mayor to sign the necessary documents. All in favor. Motion carried.

ROUNDTABLE

A. Right-Of-Way Seating and Consumption - Central Business District - Administrator Rehder informed the council that staff has been working with City Attorney Johnson to develop an ordinance that would allow eateries within the C-1 Central Business District to use a portion of the right-of-way in front of their business to serve food and alcohol.

The business owner would have to obtain a permit through the State Liquor Division and the City of Iola to serve alcohol or CMB in the area. The business must follow all state regulations required with this type of permit.

The council was in consensus to move forward with the project.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Contract Negotiations - Motion made by Council Member D'Albini and seconded by Council Member Peterson to recess into executive session for 15 minutes pursuant to contract negotiations, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(3). The purpose of the executive session is to prepare for future or current contractual discussions and shall include the Mayor, Council, City Administrator, and Assistant City Administrator. The regular meeting shall reconvene in the city council chamber at 6:51 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Council Member Peters -

- Council Member Peters wanted to ensure that the concerns about the ballfields that were brought up would be addressed. Administrator Rehder stated that it had already been addressed.

B. Council Member Lohman–

- Council Member Lohman had nothing to report.

C. Council Member D’Albini–

- Council Member D’Albini stated that the college had revised the Improv Night at the Community Theatre, and tonight is the first performance.
- Council Member D’Albini stated that the college is serving South African Dinner night tomorrow.

D. Council Member Peterson–

- Council Member Peterson had nothing to report.

E. Council Member Wicoff-

- Council Member Wicoff had nothing to report.

F. Council Member Slaugh–

- Council Member Slaugh had nothing to report.

G. Council Member Shallah –

- Council Member Shallah congratulated the employees on their longevity.

H. Council Member Kinder -

- Council Member Kinder had nothing to report.

I. Mayor French

- Mayor French stated that he would like to appoint a task force to look at building a sports complex like others in the area and develop a cost analysis and possible businesses willing to donate to build it. Please let him know if you are interested in serving on the committee.
- Mayor French asked if some trees and or shrubbery could disguise the cemetery's dirt piles. He also noted that the Sexton building needs to be painted and spruced up.

J. Administrator Rehder

- Administrator Rehder had nothing to report.

K. Assistant Administrator Schinstock -

- Assistant Administrator Schinstock had nothing to report.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 22, 2023

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 12, 2023

7:03 p.m. Motion made by Council Member D'Albini and seconded by Council Member Peterson to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried

It was approved by the City Council of Iola, Kansas, on the 22nd day of May 2023.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steven C. French".

Mayor Steven French

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Roxanne Hutton".

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton