

CITY OF IOLA

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06/27/2022

A regular meeting of the City Council of Iola was held on June 27, 2022, 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, Council Members Peterson, Peters, D'Albini, Slaugh, Shallah, Wicoff, and Lohman were present. Also present were City Administrator Rehder, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, Attorney Robert Johnson, and City Clerk Hutton. Absent was Council Member Kinder.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Peters and seconded by Council Member Shallah to approve 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 and under the jurisdiction of the City Council may do so when called upon. Comments on personnel matters and matters pending in court or with outside tribunals are not permitted. Speakers are limited to three minutes. No action will be taken.

Jessica Thompson and Jonathon Goering, representatives from Thrive Allen County, informed the Council that they would be applying for a Rural Housing Grant for \$73,000. The grant will assist low-income families with their homes to make them more energy-efficient. This grant can also be used for landowners' rental property if they commit to renting to individuals that fall within the income guidelines.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes Approval**
 - **June 13, 2022, Council Meeting**

- B. Appropriations Approval**

Council Member Peters inquired about the charges to West Side Bait Shop for ammunition charged to the Fire Department. Fire Chief Isbell informed the council that as a Fire Investigator, he must qualify with target shooting and therefore require ammunition to shoot.

Council Member Slaugh made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member D'Albini. All in favor. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Elm Street Water Tower - Staff has brought this agenda item back from the previous meeting. The Council requested Attorney Johnson to advise them if they added covenants on an RFP to sell the tower.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A.Attorney/ Client Matters

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Motion made by Council Member Peterson and seconded by Council Member Shallah to recess into Executive Session for 15 minutes pursuant to attorney/client communications K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2). The purpose of the executive session is to discuss confidential data relating to attorney/client matters and shall include the Mayor, Council, City Administrator, Assistant City Administrator, and City Attorney. The regular meeting shall reconvene in the city council chamber at 6:27 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Elm Street Water Tower - Max Grundy, interested in the property to turn it into an air BNB gave a brief overview of his career and how his family arrived in Iola. He stated that he would make the property safe and install an elevator.

Motion made by Council Member Lohman to direct staff to solicit bids for the property as per the purchasing policy. Motion seconded by Council Member Shallah. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Council Member Lohman to have staff solicit bids for the water tower per the purchasing agreement. Motion seconded by Council Member D'Albini. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor French presented resident Jim Smith with the very first "Eleanor Award" for all his community volunteer service. Mayor French noted that Mr. Smith was one of the silent individuals who would do anything to help make things better within the city.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Allen County Fair Board - Request - City Clerk Hutton informed the Council Members that the Allen County Fair Board had requested to have a beer garden at the rodeo portion of the fair events. The group also requests to extend the curfew until 2:00 a.m. to accommodate a live band following the rodeo.

Motion made by Council Member Shallah and seconded by Council Member Peterson to approve Resolution 2022-13 allowing the Allen County Fair Association to sell CMB products for the special event on July 29, 2022, through July 31, 2022, within the designated area at Riverside Park. While also allowing the Allen County Fair Association to extend curfew in Riverside Park until 2:00 a.m. on the date mentioned above to accommodate the live music following the rodeo. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Convention & Tourism Funds Disbursement - Roxanne Hutton, Convention and Tourism Committee Member, stated that the committee met on June 14, 2022, and submitted their recommendations to the Council for approval.

Council Member Peterson asked Donna Houser if the money dispersed to the Trolley Board would be enough for the repairs needed. Mrs. Houser noted that it was impossible to tell what would happen to the trolley next. Hopefully, they can get the necessary repairs made.

Motion made by Council Member Peterson and seconded by Council Member Lohman to approve the distribution of funds as recommended by the Convention and Tourism Committee. All in favor. Motion carried.

ROUND TABLE

A. 2023 Budget Presentations

1. **Clerks/Utilities - Roxanne Hutton** - Clerk Hutton informed the group that the Clerk Department budget for 2023 was not much different from 2022. Initially, a new server was added to the budget. However, that was pulled from the budget to make the General Fund solvent. Ms. Hutton noted that Accounts Payable Clerk Debbie Troxel had recently retired from her office. The decision was made not to rehire the position. The department will absorb the duties.
2. **Police Department - Jared Warner** - Chief Warner reviewed his department budget for 2023, noting that he is purchasing one patrol car in 2023 and increased his fuel line item.

3. **Parks & Cemetery - Berkeley Kerr** - Mr. Kerr gave an overview of the Parks and Cemetery Department 2023 budget, noting that he is trying to push the deweze mower another year. Mr. Kerr said that t new mower on the market would replace the deweze. It is a remote-controlled mower. The company demonstrated the mower for the department recently. Mr. Kerr stated that it would be nice to have, but the price is too high currently to justify purchasing.
4. **Fire/EMS Department - Corey Isbell** -Fire Chief Isbell stated that in his 2023 budget, his department is trying to purchase outdated equipment that is incompatible with the current gear. Chief Isbell is also monitoring the fuel costs for the current year and 2023.
5. **Administration - Corey Schinstock**- Assistant Administrator Schinstock stated that the 2023 budget for Administration, as well as the City Council, remains the same as the current year with minimal increases for salaries.
6. **Code Enforcement - Gregg Hutton** - Code Officer Hutton told the Council that the 2023 budget is not much different than the current one. He is setting aside money in equipment reserve to replace one of the two pickups within the department in the future.
7. **Industrial Fund - Matt Rehder** - Administrator Rehder noted that the 2023 budget shows a 1.5 mill levy increase. The goal is to increase the amount the City of Iola pays to Thrive Allen County for Economic Development and to contact the other entities paying for the service to grow. This will allow the Economic Development Director to travel to events to promote the area.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Council Member Peters -

- Council Member Peters had nothing to report.

B. Council Member Lohman—

- Council Member Lohman had nothing to report.

C. Council Member D'Albini—

- Council Member D'Albini commended Police Officers Mike Ford and Bob Droessler on their length of service to the City of Iola.

D. Council Member Peterson—

- Council Member Peterson had nothing to report.

E. Council Member Wicoff-

- Council Member Wicoff noted that while Council Member Slaugh wanted a report on the increases within the 2023 budget, he would also like to see the cuts the department managers made.

F. Council Member Slaugh--

- Council Member Slaugh would like a one-page report on the increases within the 2023 budget.

G. Council Member Shallah –

- Council Member Shallah had nothing to report.

H. Council Member Kinder -

- Council Member Kinder was absent.

I. Mayor French

- Mayor French commended the Department Managers on cutting back their department expenses for the 2023 budget.

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, July 11, 2022

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 25, 2022

7:30 p.m. Motion made by Council Member D'Albini and seconded by Council Member Peters to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried

It was approved by the City Council of Iola, Kansas, on the 11th day of July 2022.





Mayor Steven French



City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton