

CITY OF IOLA

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A regular meeting of the City Council of Iola was held on July 12, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., at the Park Community Building, 510 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

Mayor Wells, Council Members French, Myrick, Slaugh, Peterson, Kinder, and Ballard were present. Also present were Administrator Matt Rehder, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton. absent were Council Members Ford and Peters.

Mayor Wells presented a service plaque to Dan Leslie, Superintendent of the Street & Alley and the Solid Waste Departments. After 26 years of service to the City of Iola, Mr. Leslie is retiring.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Kinder to approve the agenda as revised. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Persons who wish to address the City Council regarding items on the agenda may do so as that agenda item is called. Persons who wish 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 by the Council President. Comments on personnel matters and matters pending in court or with other outside tribunals are not permitted. Speakers are limited to three minutes. Any presentation is for information purposes only. No action will be taken.

Joe Hess, a resident of Iola, presented a recommendation for a solution to the flooding at the Recreation Building. He suggested building a wall around the building approximately 3-4 feet above the ground as well as 3-4 feet below the ground.

A motion was made by Council Member Kinder and seconded by Council Member Peterson to allow Mr. Hesse two more minutes of time to speak past the allowed three-minute time limit. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Hess suggested adding drain pipes as well as high-speed pumps will help drain the water.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes Approval**
 - **June 28, 2021, Council Meeting**

- B. Appropriations Approval**

- C. 524 N. Chestnut - Demolition Approval Process**

- D. Revenue Neutral Rate - Resolution 2021-12**

Council Member French asked if the entire garage would be demolished at 524 N Chestnut. Code Enforcement Officer Hutton stated that if the City had the property demolished the entire garage would come down. If the owners hire a contractor to demolish the garage they have been given permission to keep the farthest southern building.

Council Member Ballard made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Myrick. All in favor. Motion carried.

ROUND TABLE

A.2021 Budget Presentations

- **Budget Timeline & Overview - Matt Rehder** - Administrator Rehder gave a brief overview of the budget calendar. He noted that the majority of the funds are in good shape financially. The Gas Fund as well as the Sanitation Fund are struggling with the low revenue and the budgeted transfers have caused them to have low cash balances. Staff will be reviewing future budgeted transfers for the 2021 year as well as bringing ordinances to the Council for increases to the customer charges.
- **General Fund**
 - **City Clerks & Municipal Court - Roxanne Hutton** - Stated the 2021 budget reflects the replacement of two of the 7 computers in the department. For the 2021 Court budget, there is a replacement for one of the four computers in that department also.
 - **Police Department - Jared Warner** - Noted that in the 2021 budget a new vehicle is listed. The Axon contract increased due to the addition of all officers' tasers as well as firearm camera activation.

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- Street & Alley - Dan Leslie - He stated that the 2021 budget does contain transfers to Equipment Reserve for future equipment purchases. Mr. Leslie stated that chip and seal will be done on Section 1 of 5 in 2021.
- Sanitation - Dan Lelie - Mr. Leslie noted that it is a simple department with three employees, two trucks, and some dumpsters.
- Stormwater - Dan Leslie - Mr. Leslie noted that this fund is building up for future projects.
- Mill & Overlay - Dan Leslie - Mr. Leslie noted that the fund will build up funds for the next project. Council Member French asked about the rock washer for the Chip and Seal Project. Mr. Leslie stated that this year over 3,000 cubic yards were washed. With the new street sweeper more of the extra rock from the chip and seal project is picked up and then washed saving money spent on buying rock.
- Parks & Cemetery - Berkeley Kerr - Mr. Kerr noted the technical expense increased to accommodate the new cemetery software fees. Mr. Kerr also noted that mowing is a primary task this time of year and requires purchases of mowers to replace worn-out mowing equipment. With the City obtaining more park area it creates more upkeep by the department. Mr. Kerr noted that the cemetery program will be purchased out of the Cemetery Trust Fund. This fund is used for straightening stones and making repairs to them. Since this project began 1,526 stones have been repaired.
- Fire/EMS - Chase Waggoner - Chief Waggoner reported that the 2021 budget reflects the requirement of the two transfers required within the bid to continue the County Wide ambulance service. The rest of the budget is based on historical data. Chief Waggoner also informed the council that a Wildland PPE grant was received for the department. Council Member Myrick inquired why the department would need that type of equipment. Chief Waggoner noted that the City's fire jurisdiction includes surrounding farm areas as well as woodland areas.
- Recreation - Jason Bauer - Mr. Bauer informed the council that in the 2022 budget revenues from ticket sales have been removed as well as the expense side of the line item due to the fact that ticket purchases are made online now and the department no longer handles them. Mr. Bauer noted that red shale will be applied to the baseball fields in order to keep them dry so more games can be played following a rain event. Council Member Slaugh asked how the pool paint was holding up. Mr. Bauer stated that it seems to be doing well and should last through the warranty time.
- Administration & City Council - Matt Rehder - Administrator Rehder stated that the only expense reflected in the administration budget is the purchase of a new vehicle using the funds in the equipment reserve.
- Mayor Wells addressed the Council regarding funding for the Historical Society. He noted that the funds currently come from the Tourism and

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Convention Tax; the board asks for a designated ½ mill or approximately \$15,000 funded from the Council's discretionary funds.

- Code Enforcement - Gregg Hutton - Mr. Hutton noted that an increase in the contract mowing line was necessary to accommodate the extra expenses.
- Enterprise Funds
 - Gas, Water Distribution, & Wastewater Collection- Mitch Phillips - Mr. Phillips stated that the Gas Fund is running low on revenues; it should get the fund back on track with the proposed increase. He noted that a purchase of a new trencher is in the budget. Mr. Phillips pointed out that staff replaces approximately 1500-2000 feet of bare steel main per year. Mr. Phillips reviewed the water distribution budget, noting that in 2020 3830 feet of line were replaced. Mr. Phillips stated that a pickup and a sewer camera for the wastewater budget are due to be replaced. Mr. Phillips noted that he had checked into the life expectancy of the sewer lining is 100 years.
 - Water Production & Wastewater Treatment - Toby Ross - Mr. Ross reviewed the 2022 budgets with the Oak Street Water Tower painting a priority. He also noted that cleaning sludge out of the lagoon will be needed. Administrator Rehder pointed out that the industry standard is anything above 20% sludge needs to be removed. Mr. Ross stated that a backup mower would be purchased. The mower will be used at the water plant as well as at the lagoons.
 - Electric Production - Mike Phillips - Mr. Phillips reported that the EMD Breaker Units would need replacement batteries. The overhead garage doors at Power Plant #2 are also slated to be replaced.
 - Electric Distribution - Jim Baker noted he increased the tree trimming expense line since the city's current contract with the provider expires in 2021. Soliciting for a new contract will most likely increase the cost. Mr. Baker also noted that the 69 Camber Poles that are laminated wood and are rapidly deteriorating and will need to be replaced, an estimated cost for them is \$450,000.
 - Stores/Purchasing - Corey Schinstock - Assistant Administrator Schinstock informed the Council that the only new expense is \$10,000 to repair the concrete lot at the Warehouse.
 - Industrial Fund - Corey Schinstock - This fund is used to promote business to the area and pay the city's portion of the Economic Director.
 - Convention and Tourism - Roxanne Hutton - City Clerk Hutton noted that the budget is the same as the current year except for the Allen County Historical Society portion. Money will go to the Recreation CIP for significant projects.
 - Special Trafficway - Corey Schinstock - Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that this fund collects the Gas Tax from the State of Kansas and is used for various projects.

- Capital Projects - Corey Schinstock - He noted this is the sales tax fund. The staff has budgeted funds for sidewalk reimbursement for residents and sidewalk projects done by the team.
- Major Streets Projects - Assistant Administrator Schinstock stated that he budgets funds to be transferred from the Capital Projects Fund to do a large street project. He would like to bring in a bonding agent to speak to the Council about the project for Madison Avenue. Council Member Slaugh noted that he would like to see us set aside more funds before deciding on bonding for the project.

Council Member Myrick noted that the staff did a great job on the budget presentations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Non-Elected Personnel -

Council Member Myrick motioned to recess into Executive Session for 15 minutes pursuant to personnel matters of non-elected personnel, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The purpose of the executive session is to discuss an employee grievance and shall include the Mayor, Council. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ballard. The regular meeting shall reconvene in the city council chamber at 8:32 p.m.

Council Member Myrick motioned to recess into Executive Session for 15 minutes pursuant to personnel matters of non-elected personnel, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The purpose of the executive session is to discuss an employee grievance and shall include the Mayor, Council, and City Administrator. The motion was seconded by Council Member French. The regular meeting shall reconvene in the city council chamber at 8:51 p.m.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Council Member Peters -

- Absent

B. Council Member Ford-

- Absent

C. Council Member French –

- Councilmember French stated that in the retention pond on North Cottonwood, the rocks have washed out. Staff will look into the matter.

D. Council Member Peterson–

- None

E. Council Member Ballard

- None

F. Council Member Slaugh–

- Council Member Slaugh stated that the department heads did a great job on their budget presentations.

G. Council Member Myrick–

- Council Member Myrick asked why the EMS Director was not involved in the negotiations with the County on running the EMS. Mayor Wells noted that only those directly involved with the contract negotiations, including the Mayor, who relay the council's wishes, the administrative staff, and the department head to relay policies, are necessary for the talks.

H. Council Member Kinder -

- Council Member Kinder inquired about the nursing home on North Walnut. Administrator Rehder noted that the staff had contacted the owner today and addressed the issues that need to be addressed. Administrator Rehder informed the council that Code Enforcement Officer Hutton, Attorney Johnson, and himself would be going to the site later this week to assess the situation.

I. Mayor Wells

- Noted that the City Staff has done great work during the 2020 year. With COVID and all of the obstacles, the staff stayed the course and accomplished the work that needed to be done. They should be commended.

J. Administrator Rehder

- Administrator Rehder informed the Council that the city was awarded the \$150,000 CDBG-CV3 funding for businesses affected by the COVID.
- He told the Council that \$400,00 of the ARPA funds were received.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

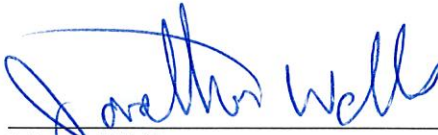
City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 26, 2021

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 9, 2021


9:01 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Ballard to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

It is approved by the City Council of Iola, Kansas, this 26th day of July 2021.





Mayor Wells



City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton