

CITY OF IOLA

Page 1

08/28/2023

A regular meeting of the City Council of Iola was held on August 28, 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, D'Albini, Peters, Slaugh, Peterson Wicoff, and Lohman were present. Others present were City Administrator Rehder, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton were present. Council Member Kinder was absent.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Peters, 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 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.

Donna Houser thanked the city staff who helped during the July 14th storm cleanup and repairs of electric lines. She has been through several towns since then, and they are still working on cleanup.

Gary McIntosh informed the Council that he is starting a committee to help raise funds for ACARF. He is asking the city to designate an individual to be a part of the committee. This person will be able to provide feedback on what the city does to support ACARF currently and what it might be able to do in the future.

Lee Grimes informed the Council that, in his opinion, the sidewalk on the west side of the Breadery is dangerous and needs repairs and signs or bars erected to inform individuals of the stairs at the end of the sidewalk.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes Approval**
 - **August 14, 2023,**
- B. Appropriations Approval**
- C. Iola Booster Club - Request**
- D. Movie on the Square - Electric Request**

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2024 Budget Approval Process -

1. **Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing and Resolution 2023-20** - Mayor French opened the public hearing for the RNR. No comments were made. Mayor French closed the public hearing.

Motion made by Council Member D'Albini to adopt Resolution 2023-20 and approve the increase in the RNR for the 2024 Budget. A Roll call vote was taken:

Mayor French - Yes

Council Member D'Albini - Yes

Council Member Kinder - Absent from the meeting no vote.

Council Member Wicoff - Yes

Council Member Slaugh - Yes

Council Member Peterson - Yes

Council Member Lohman - Yes

Council Member Shallah - Yes

Council Member Peters - Yes

Motion passed by a majority vote.

2. **2024 Budget Public Hearing & Budget Adoption** - Mayor French opened the public hearing for the budget. No comments were made. Mayor French closed the public hearing.

Motion made by Council Member Shallah and seconded by Council Member Peterson to approve the 2024 Budget as published. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. CDBG Grant Closeout Hearing - Fire Engine - City Clerk Hutton informed the Council that two invoices had been received for parts and equipment on the truck and had not been submitted to the state for reimbursement; therefore, if the council approves

closing out the grant after the hearing, they will need to close it pending payment of the two invoices.

Jessica Thompson Thrive, Deputy Director, was present to answer any questions about the grant.

Mayor French opened the public hearing. No comments were made. Mayor French closed the public hearing.

Motion made by Council Member Slauch to close out the CDBG Fire Grant pending approval and payment of the two remaining invoices. Motion seconded by Council Member D'Albini. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Mini Excavator Bid Award - Mitch Phillips - Gas, Water, and Wastewater Superintendent Mitch Phillips informed the Council that staff posted a Request for Proposal (RFP) solicitation to the City of Iola Website as well as being sent to various potential excavator vendors.

Six RFPs were received from various companies in the surrounding area. While the bid from Berry Tractor of Topeka, Kansas, is not the lowest bid of the six, the brand they are selling is the KOMATSU. Staff currently has a KOMATSU excavator, and all of the currently owned attachments will fit the new excavator without making adjustments to the equipment.

Motion made by Council Member Shallah and seconded by Council Member Peterson to accept the bid from Berry Tractor of Topeka, Kansas, in the amount of \$111,372.19. All in favor. Motion carried.

COUNCIL AND 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 congratulated all employees on the anniversary list.
- Council Member D'Albini stated that he had friends from the Wichita area who had adopted a dog from ACARF. It is used by a lot of people outside of Allen County.

- Council Member D'Albini reported an update on his committee for Warming/Cooling Stations. He noted that the Library is not an official one. He will hopefully have an update on the centers soon.

D. Council Member Peterson–

- Council Member Peterson congratulated the individuals having anniversaries.

E. Council Member Wicoff-

- Council Member Wicoff had nothing to report.

F. Council Member Slaugh–

- Council Member Slaugh stated that he was thankful the EMS contract with the County had been settled. The increased revenue from the County should help with the deficit in the General Fund.
- Council Member Slaugh mentioned that Chanute had decreased their mill levy in the General Fund and will increase the Electric Rates to compensate for the revenue loss. Council Member Slaugh does not feel that decreasing the mill levy is not the fairest way to produce that revenue.

G. Council Member Shallah –

- Council Member Shallah congratulated the employees with anniversaries in the packet.
- Council Member Shallah congratulated the new employees attending the Fire Academy. It will be good to see those employees becoming part of the department following their testing.
- Council Member Shallah stated that the Flag Committee has stalled due to her packed schedule for the last few months. She will be getting with the members soon.

H. Council Member Kinder -

- Council Member Kinder was absent.

I. Mayor French

- Mayor French said he was pleased to see the EMS/Fire Department new hires. He encouraged everyone to follow them on Facebook to see the progress being made with these employees.
- Mayor French congratulated all employees on their longevity with the city. It takes dedication and commitment to stay with a job long.

J. Administrator Rehder

- Administrator Rehder reported that he and Assistant Administrator Schinstock had attended a webinar today on the BIL funding being sent to the State of Kansas from the Federal Government. There are many opportunities for infrastructure, roads, and EV charging stations for the City of Iola to participate in.

K. Assistant Administrator Schinstock -

- Assistant Administrator Schinstock informed the council the road project will begin soon at Cedarbrook Addition.

L. City Clerk Hutton

- City Clerk Hutton reported to the council that her department is currently working on switching from postcard bills to paper bills. This change is due to the rising cost of postcards as well as companies not producing the postcards any longer.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 11, 2023,

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 25, 2023,

6:32 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Peterson and seconded by Council Member Shallah to adjourn the meeting.

It was approved by the City Council of Iola, Kansas, on the 11th day of September, 2023.





Mayor Steven French



City Clerk Roxanne Hutton