

Belle Plaine, Iowa

March 15, 2023

The Belle Plaine City Council met on March 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers with Mayor Dave Fish presiding. Present: Judy Schlesselman, Garrett Landuyt, Mary Pech, Mitch Malcolm, and Lyle Morrow. Also present: City Administrator Stephen Beck, Assistant City Attorney Gage Kensler, and City Clerk Sandy Walton. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Pech, seconded by Morrow to approve the Consent Agenda, Council Minutes of February 27, 2023, Council Minutes of March 1, 2023, receiving and filing of minutes from the February 28, 2023, Belle Plaine Community Library Board of Trustees meeting, and bills received. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

Resident Comments: None.

Motion by Landuyt, seconded by Malcolm to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance 23-01; an ordinance repealing Chapter 111 and granting to Interstate Power and Light Company a non-exclusive electric franchise for the City of Belle Plaine, Iowa and imposing a 3% franchise fee. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried. The ordinance will become law upon publication.

Motion by Malcolm, seconded by Landuyt to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance 23-02; an ordinance repealing Chapter 110 and granting to Interstate Power and Light Company a non-exclusive natural gas franchise for the City of Belle Plaine, Iowa and imposing a 3% franchise fee. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried. The ordinance will become law upon publication.

Police Chief Kris Hudson handed out the February Call Count report. He completed two interviews today for the vacant police officer position. There are a couple more interested and one internal candidate. He has applied for a GTSB grant to cover some overtime as well as a new in-car video and body camera. He is filing for an additional grant to cover more body cameras that will work with the in-car video system. The new police car's arrival has been pushed back to July.

Airport Manager, Bruce Gapstur, wrapped up his series of presentations on airport project funding. He handed out a 20 Year Airport Development Plan and presented the Airport Board's future plan for projects including assumptions, an opportunity, objectives and strategy. Council members were appreciative of the proactive versus reactive approach.

Motion by Morrow, seconded by Schlesselman to set the public hearing for the 2023-2024 budget for April 5, 2023, in the BP Council Chambers at 1207 8th Avenue, Belle Plaine, Iowa @ 6:30 pm at the regular Belle Plaine City Council Meeting. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

Motion by Malcolm, seconded by Landuyt to approve the contract with Mosquito Control for 2023. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

Motion by Malcolm, seconded by Pech to approve of having Mayor Fish sign the documents involving the IEDA CDBG-DR Grant. Paula Mitchell from ECICOG was present to answer any questions. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

Motion by Landuyt, seconded by Morrow to approve Resolution #23-03-02; a resolution authorizing execution of a contract with ECICOG for CDBG-DR Grant Administration & Project Delivery Services. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

Motion by Malcolm, seconded by Pech to approve Resolution #23-03-03; a resolution adopting a policy on the use of excessive Force for the CDBG Block Grant program. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

Motion by Schlesselman, seconded by Morrow to approve Resolution #23-03-04; a resolution adopting required policies for CDBG Funding. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

Motion by Landuyt, seconded by Malcolm to approve a one-time utility credit of \$201.28 at 1305 2nd Avenue, Belle Plaine, Iowa created by a broken pipe in the basement. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

Motion by Pech, seconded by Schlesselman to approve a one-time utility credit of \$82.88 at 1001 9th Avenue, Belle Plaine, Iowa created by a toilet leak in the basement. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

Motion by Morrow, seconded by Malcolm (based on recommendation from Parks & Recreation Board) to approve a contract with Jay Bird's Porta-Pot Rentals for 2023. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

The City Treasurer's Report, City Budget Report, and Solar Report for February were given to the Council for their information.

Committee of the Whole: None

Steve Beck, City Administrator, reported that the final packet for FEMA Arbitration has been submitted. There was a joint meeting with Alliant and contractors on the build-outs coming this summer. Windstream was absent, so there is another meeting scheduled with them coming up soon. Alliant and USA Communications both need to tear up the alley behind city hall. They will coordinate with each other to accomplish this at the same time. We will also complete a storm water project during that time (within the next two years). Our guys did a great job fixing a water main leak due to a cracked main on 3rd Avenue. This was accomplished in less than one workday. Steve has a meeting scheduled with IDALS for both the Moore Building environmental audit as well as a Wetland project at the wellfield. He will also meet with USGS, Benton & Tama County representatives on this project. There are two events coming to Belle Plaine this summer:

1. RAGBRAI – we need to appoint two co-chairs. Steve will reach out to BPCDC and the BP Boosters to see if they are interested in taking the lead on this event. We will help determine the route through town so as not to cause issues for the Medical Clinic.

2. Project Aware – This is a river clean-up crew that will start at Marshalltown and proceed down the Iowa River. They will camp in tents in Franklin Park in mid-July (1 week after the Fire Dept Fish Tourney).

Steve reported that he is working through a couple of bottlenecks involving the tear-down of the Herring Hotel. He is in contact with both the DNR and OSHA. He also was contacted by a realtor about one of the nuisance houses. He told her to make sure she provided the inspection report and abatement detail to potential buyers. Steve will follow up at the next meeting on the status of the property.

The Mayor also spoke about RAGBRAI, but had no other topics to discuss this week.

Correspondence: None

Old Business: None

Resident Comments: None

Motion by Landuyt, seconded by Pech to enter into closed session at 8:08 p.m. under Iowa Code 21.5 (1) (j) to discuss the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a close session, for the evaluation of the City Administrator. On roll call vote, Landuyt, Morrow, Malcolm, Pech, and Schlesselman all voted aye. Motion carried. The City Clerk was excused.

All council members and the Mayor were present for the Closed Session evaluation of City Administrator Steve Beck. Mr. Beck had filed a written statement requesting closed session.

On a motion by Schlesselman with a second from Malcolm the council, on roll call vote 5-0, came out of closed session at 9:20 p.m. (Landuyt, Morrow, Malcolm, Pech, and Schlesselman all voted aye. There were no negative votes.)

There was no action by the council taken on the evaluation except to say that Mr Beck's evaluation was very positive & his raise would be dealt with at the same time in June as all other non-union employees.

Motion by Landuyt, seconded by Lyle to adjourn the meeting. On roll call vote, all voted aye. The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

David R Fish, Mayor

Attest: _____
Sandra Walton, City Clerk

Transcribed by the City Clerk subject to Council approval.