

## **MINUTES OF THE TRAEER CITY COUNCIL**

The City Council of Traer, Iowa met in regular session on **Monday, May 1st, 2023** at 7:00 p.m. at Municipal Hall.

### **ROLL CALL**

Mayor Holden called the meeting to order at 7:00pm with Council Members Rausch, Panfil, Erhardt and Kennedy present. Holst was absent.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION by Kennedy, seconded by Panfil, that the agenda is approved. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

### **VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeff Cizek was once again present to discuss the Taylor Park memorial area that has been in the works for some time now. Jeff informed the council that his family has now purchased statues that he hopes can go somewhere in that area. The council reminded him that at this point the only things that have been "approved" are the bench that Dahn Kennedy has been working on, a USA flag and the rock that his family has been working on. They would look at adding other things in the future.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Panfil, seconded by Erhardt, that the minutes of the April 3rd, 2023 meeting are approved. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

MOTION by Rausch, seconded by Kennedy, that the April Checks (#30556-30619) totaling \$337,479.55, are approved. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

### **SALE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY**

Mayor Holden declared a public hearing at this point in the meeting to discuss the sale of Lot 58 in the Prairie West addition. Clerk Blaine had not received any written or verbal comments from anyone prior to the meeting, and no comments were made during the public hearing. Mayor Holden closed the public hearing. MOTION by Panfil, seconded by Rausch, approving RESOLUTION 05-01-23-01 authorizing the Sale of City Real Property to Randy Hansen. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

### **PROPOSAL OF SALE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY**

The Traer Development Corp. and the City of Traer have received an offer of \$19,000 from Tiffany & Richard Morgan for Lot 59 in the Prairie West, Phase 5 addition. MOTION by Erhardt, seconded by Panfil, to approve RESOLUTION 05-02-23-02 Proposing the Sale of Certain Real Property, with a public hearing taking place on Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00pm. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

### **FY23 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

Mayor Holden opened the meeting up for another public hearing on the FY23 Budget Amendment. Clerk Blaine had no comments prior to meeting time, and none were made during this time. Clerk Blaine informed the council that changes made to the budget were largely in part to the addition of the fire station, repairs to library roof, increased insurance costs, and unbudgeted SRF reimbursements for the sewer project. The public hearing was closed. MOTION by Erhardt, seconded by Kennedy, to approve RESOLUTION 05-01-23-03 amending the FY23 Budget. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

### **CONCERNS/COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

The council reviewed an updated contract with Cooley Sanitation for garbage service. The contract shows a 2.5% increase that would be effective from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026. As Clerk Blaine explained, Cooley has not raised their rates in years, not even raising them to cover increased fuel costs. The 2.5% increase would cost approx. \$267 more a month for a total of \$3203 a year. MOTION by Rausch, seconded by Kennedy, to approve the new contract with Cooley Sanitation beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

The council reviewed nuisance property letters and the role of Neil O'Brien as the temporary "code enforcer". Neil who has been working in the role for 2 months now provided the council a packet of ordinances and pictures of what he's been working on the last couple of months. After reviewing some of the images Rausch wondered if we may have "jumped the gun" on this position. For instance commercial properties, some have received letters and others have not. If we are going to send them out, shouldn't everyone be getting one, including the City of Traer/TMU for their Elm Street lot? Another issue discussed was the illegal parking or parking in the right of way that Neil had been spending time on, Panfil suggested that from now on Neil refer to the Tama Co. Sheriff's Department for those illegally parked and focus mostly on residential properties who are the more serious violators. When sending letters to violators Erhardt wanted to emphasize that Neil give adequate time to clean the property up. Some properties are going to need a good amount of time, and the time frames that have been given aren't enough. The council would like Neil to consider all the advice given tonight, and they will review again at next month's meeting.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Kennedy informed everyone that the pool is still looking for lifeguards. Right now we have 6 and she'd really like to have 8-10 to start the season. She has spoken with a few students at the school who've told her that places like Lost Island and The Falls are offering more money causing many possible guards to look elsewhere. Panfil mentioned we may have to look at our hourly wage to be more competitive. He suggested Kennedy talk to those students and see if we made our pay more competitive if they would consider working at our pool.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

PETE HOLDEN, MAYOR

HALEY BLAINE, CITY CLERK



**TRAER CHECK REGISTER MAY 2023**

ABSOLUTE SCIENCE	Library Program	375.00
ALISON HOWARD	Library Hours	640.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Library Supplies	369.05
Bauch & Lechtenburg Law Office	Legal Services	1,983.35
BLANK PARK ZOO	Library Program	253.04
Blue Cross & Blue Shield	Insurance	6,922.45
BOLAND RECREATION	Playground Equip.	50,998.00
BOOKPAGE	Library Books	40.00
BOUND TREE MEDICAL L.L.C.	Amb. Supplies	277.82
CHICK STUDIOS	Reimbursement	36.92
CHICK STUDIOS	Option Tax Spending	1,397.96
CHRIS COOPER	Reimbursement	50.00
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	Publications	18.72
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	Publications	75.84
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	Publications	83.52
COOLEY SANITATION LLC	Garbage	10,675.00
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	Misc. Parts/Supplies	18.00
DIANE PANFIL	Reimbursement	294.76
EIKAMP INSURANCE AGENCY	Insurance	117,309.00
IAMU	Safety Training	466.00
Ingram Library Services	Library Books	972.54
IOWA DEPT. OF INSEPCTIONS & APPEALS	Pool Renewal	150.00
IOWA GEMT PAYMENT PROGRAM	Amb. Program	1,374.44
IOWA WALL SAWING SERVICE	Curb Cutting	400.00
Jeff Dostal	Rock	500.00
JOHNSON CONTROLS FIRE PROTECTION LP	Inspection	829.60
KCL GROUP BENEFITS	Insurance	148.17
KYLE MESCH	Snow Removal	2,100.00
LIBRARY IDEAS LLC	Library Supplies	419.18
LOOKOUT BOOKS	Library Books	410.06
MANATT'S	Concrete	521.75
MASTERCARD	Misc. Parts/Supplies	2,370.09
MCMASTER-CARR SUPPLY CO.	Misc. Parts/Supplies	80.20
MELANIE GRIMM	Refund	100.00
MERCYONE MEDICAL GROUP	Office Visit	318.00
NAPA AUTO PARTS	Misc. Parts/Supplies	1,307.92
NEIL O'BRIEN	Reimbursement	50.00
NUCARA	Amb. Supply	19.66
PREMIER	Library Overage	66.82
PREMIER	Library Contract	563.68
Reuman's Clothing	Boots	205.00
Shamrock Lawn Services	Lawn Care	68.00
STANLEY ROOFING, LLC	Library Roof	17,260.00
STEM SUPPLIES	Library Supplies	257.43
SUPERIOR WELDING	Oxygen	81.08
TAMA CO. COMMUNITY FOUNDATION	Refund	100.00

TAMA CO. SHERIFF'S OFFICE	Letter Delivery	100.50
TAMA CO. SHERIFF'S OFFICE	Contract	13,424.40
TAMA/GRUNDY PUBLISHING	Publications	505.22
THE PENWORTHY COMPANY	Library Books	449.33
TOBY KLAUENBERG	Library Program	375.00
TRAER MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	Utilities	6,934.99
TRAER MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	Office Services	9,000.00
Traer Theatre Inc.	Reimbursement	1,315.15
TRUE BUILDERS	Draw 2 FD	76,655.00
U.S. CELLULAR	Phones/Camera	229.42
WENDLING QUARRIES INC.	Rock	4,162.73
WEX BANK	Fuel	276.81
WHANNEL'S HARDWARE	Misc. Parts/Supplies	81.98
WHANNEL'S HARDWARE	Misc. Parts/Supplies	118.69
WHITE CAP, L.P.	Misc. Parts/Supplies	299.78
WINDSTREAM	Phones	69.57
WINDSTREAM	Phones	522.93
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		337,479.55

**APRIL 2023 REVENUES**

GENERAL FUND	\$229,043
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	\$92,216
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$129,842
CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$0
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	\$451,101

**APRIL 2023  
DISBURSEMENTS**

GENERAL FUND	\$145,831
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	\$16,333
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$0
CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$0
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	\$162,164

**APRIL 2023 FUND  
BALANCES**

GENERAL FUND	\$1,777,530
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	\$475,875
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$316,308
CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$0
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	\$2,569,713