

MINUTES OF THE TRAEER CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of Traer, Iowa met in regular session on **Monday, March 4th, 2024** at 7:00 p.m. at Municipal Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Katherine with Tama Co. Economic Development was here to present the new Tama County Tour Guide to all the council members and to give a quick update on all the funds she's been able to get for some of our downtown businesses.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Panfil, seconded by Erhardt, that the minutes of the February 5th, 2024 meeting are approved. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

MOTION by Panfil, seconded by Holst, that the February Checks (#31135-31181) totaling \$87,287.37, are approved. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

TAYLOR PARK MOWING BIDS

Since Chad & Kent with Precision Lawn Care were present for the meeting, Mayor Holden asked to move the mowing bid review up on the agenda, to allow them to sneak out early if they chose. Clerk Blaine presented the council with the 2 bids that were received. One bid was from Precision Lawn Care in the amount of \$275/time. The other bid was from Perfect Circle, LLC. in the amount of \$350/time. Seeing as Precision Lawn Care has done a fantastic job over the last few years, and submitted the lowest bid this year a MOTION by Erhardt was made to continue using Precision Lawn Care for the mowing in Taylor Park for 2024. Motion was seconded by Kennedy and approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

BEER & LIQUOR LICENSES

MOTION by Holst, seconded by Erhard, to approve a beer/liquor license for Lucky Wife Wine Slushies. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

CITY APPOINTMENT

Mayor Holden requested John Novak be appointed to the Planning & Zoning Board of Adjustment, taking the place of Mark Earley who has moved out of town. MOTION by Kennedy, seconded by Rund, to approve the appointment of John Novak. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

FY25 BUDGET REVIEW

The council once again reviewed the proposed budget for FY25. Seeing no major changes that needed to be made, the City of Traer is looking at a proposed tax rate of \$19.93 effective July 1st 2024. MOTION by Panfil, seconded by Kennedy, to set a public hearing date on the property tax levy for April 1st 2024 at 6:30pm. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

CONCERNS/COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

After interviewing 3 different candidates, Jonathon McCoy from Dysart, was selected to fill the open public works position. Jon comes with a lot of equipment experience and seems eager to join the crew. MOTION by Panfil, seconded by Erhardt, to hire Jonathon McCoy as the full time public works employee. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote. Jon will start working for us on March 18th at the starting rate of \$24.00/hr.

The Polish-Up Taylor Park Committee has asked us to review a contract with Clapsaddle-Garber Associates for topographic survey services. They are asking that the City pay half of the proposed amount which would be approximately \$3,475.00. After some discussion it was decided that the council did not feel this survey was necessary. Any projects coming up in the future would involve the hired contractor/engineer collecting their own data and conducting their own surveys, this money could be spent elsewhere. MOTION by Erhardt, seconded by Panfil, to reject the proposed contract. Motion approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Erhardt quick mentioned looking into a solution to overnight downtown parking. The Tama Co. Sheriff's Department has been enforcing the overnight parking rule by towing vehicles in violation. Erhardt is curious if maybe we should explore other options, especially for those living down there, to avoid this issue.

Kennedy quick let the council know that our pool managers from last year, Hannah Swanger and Angie Hallett, will be returning for the 2024 pool season. She's also advertising lifeguard training opportunities and positions. Kennedy also quick brought up looking into a more formal agreement with BASIC when it comes to using the Traer Memorial Building. Clerk Blaine was asked to work on an agreement that can be presented to the council and the BASIC board.

Holst quick mentioned a few things she's noticed at the Traer Memorial Building also, one being that the new tables and chairs still need to be marked with TMB on them and that we may need to look into "mapping" out how table and chairs need to be stored. That way renters can get everything returned to the storage room orderly.

STAFF REPORTS

Clerk Blaine informed the council that city wide garage sales are set to take place April 26th and 27th with clean-up happening the following week, May 3rd and 4th.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

PETE HOLDEN, MAYOR
HALEY BLAINE, CITY CLERK