

Committee of the Whole
March 12, 2019

Present: Mayor Vulich; Councilmembers Seeley, McGraw, Allesee, Connell, Schemers, and Odor, City Attorney, City Administrator, City Clerk, Press and interested citizens. Councilmember Gassman – Absent.

1. 4th of July Festival – Dave Helscher

Helscher stated he was the Chair of the 4th of July Festival Committee. Helscher stated the Committee had preliminary meetings in September and January for the 4th of July Festival in 2019. Helscher stated the 2019 Festival would be similar to prior years. Helscher stated the Festival would have two whiffle ball fields due to demand, and a three on three basketball tournament would be added. Helscher stated food vendors would start around noon and the parade would take place at 1:00 P.M. Helscher stated there would be singing of the National Anthem, a music act, inflatables, a pickleball tournament, possibly a slip n' slide, a parachutist prior to the baseball game, and the baseball game, with fireworks following the game. Helscher stated the Committee reached out to the company that had a carnival in Clinton last summer, but the company had an existing commitment with another city for the 4th of July. Helscher stated the University of Iowa mobile museum would be back, as well as a volleyball tournament. Helscher stated the Committee was looking for non-profits and companies that would like to be featured at the Festival, as company and business information would be pertinent to the many attendees that traveled from out-of-town. Helscher stated the Committee was seeking financial support from the City.

McGraw thanked Helscher and the 4th of July Festival Committee for taking on the Festival. Helscher stated the Committee was looking for volunteers. Helscher stated the volunteers were not interested in a multi-day festival.

M/S, Connell-Allesee moved to forward a resolution donating \$4,500.00 for the 4th of July Festival to the next regularly scheduled Council meeting. On roll call, Seeley, McGraw, Allesee, Connell, Schemers, Odor – Yes; Gassman - Absent. Motion carried.

2. Ordinance Establishing Permitting Procedures for and General Regulation of Junk and Salvage Operations – City Clerk Lisa Frederick

Clerk Frederick stated the Clerk's office licensed salvage yards, but the City did not currently have any Code section that outlined the parameters and requirements for junk and salvage operations. Clerk Frederick stated there was no fee change proposed and the ordinance presented to the Council would outline what was already being enforced.

Councilmember Seeley inquired if the ordinance would affect existing establishments. Battalion Fire Chief Jeff Chapman stated the ordinance would not negatively affect existing establishments and the existing establishments were already doing what was outlined in the ordinance. Battalion Chief Chapman stated while salvage yards were mentioned throughout the Code, there was not a specific section pertaining to them. Councilmember Seeley stated the ordinance did not provide the zoned areas where such operations could exist. Battalion Chief Chapman stated that could be reviewed and added to the ordinance and stated any existing establishments would be grandfathered in. Battalion Chief Chapman stated there had been a recent request by an individual that wanted to put a junkyard in a residential neighborhood.

Councilmember Schemers thanked staff for their work on the ordinance and stated it was long overdue.

M/S, Schemers-Seeley moved to forward the Ordinance Establishing Permitting Procedures for and General Regulation of Junk and Salvage Operations to the next City Council meeting for its first reading. On roll call, Seeley, McGraw, Allesee, Connell, Schemers, Odor – Yes; Gassman - Absent. Motion carried.

3. Disposition of 510 3rd Avenue North, 611 North Bluff Boulevard and 614 10th Avenue South – City Administrator Matt Brooke

Administrator Brooke stated citizens had approached the City expressing interest in acquiring the three properties listed. Administrator Brooke stated 510 3rd Avenue North had a structure on the parcel. Administrator Brooke stated adjacent owner Jane Heuer had expressed interest in acquiring the parcel and was willing to split the cost of demolition with the City. Administrator Brooke stated Larry Herrity, adjacent to the north, was also interest in the property. Councilmember Seeley inquired about the demolition cost. Administrator Brooke stated it would be part of a bid for the Council to consider. Administrator Brooke stated the lot was buildable and bids would be open to all. Administrator Brooke stated the City continued to work on marketing the City-owned properties that were available.

Administrator Brooke stated 611 North Bluff Boulevard was a parcel that should not be built on and adjacent owner Bill Ernst was interested in acquiring the parcel. Mayor Vulich inquired if the City were award the BUILD Grant for the Bluff Boulevard and Manufacturing Drive Project, if part of the parcel would be acquired for additional right of way. Administrator Brooke stated that could be possible. Councilmember Seeley stated it would make sense for the adjacent neighbor to acquire the property.

Administrator Brooke stated 614 10th Avenue South was a very large lot with seventy-five feet of frontage. Administrator Brooke stated a nice home could be built on the lot. Administrator Brooke stated the adjacent neighbor, Roger Krabbenhoft, was interested in acquiring the parcel.

Administrator Brooke stated for all three parcels it was proposed that the properties be put out for bid and that the Council could decide whether or not to accept or reject the bids.

M/S, Seeley-Allesee moved to forward a resolution placing 510 3rd Avenue North, 611 North Bluff Boulevard and 614 10th Avenue South out for bid to the next City Council meeting. On roll call, Seeley, McGraw, Allesee, Connell, Schemers, Odor – Yes; Gassman - Absent. Motion carried.

4. Mayor and Council Updates

Mayor Vulich stated next Wednesday, March 20, 2019 was Clinton County Day in Des Moines.

Mayor Vulich stated he was at the Thomson Prison last week and the Prison now had 365 employees and was looking to hire another 300 more.

Councilmember Schemers stated he attended the ISO Training for the Fire Department and that it would be a topic for discussion on how the Fire Department operated. Mayor Vulich stated Clinton had an ISO ranking of 2 and very few cities had that high of a ranking. Mayor Vulich stated the ranking resulted in lower insurance rates for commercial establishments.

Councilmember Connell stated the Chamber was having its Shamrock event on Friday, March 15, 2019. Administrator Brooke stated Biz After 5 would take place on Thursday, March 14, 2019 at the Sawmill Museum.

M/S, Connell-Allesee moved to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Frederick
City Clerk