

## **Committee of the Whole**

**December 1, 2015**

**7:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Determann, Council Members McGraw, Rowland, Gassman, Determann, Wilke, O'Neill and Allesee, City Administrator, City Attorney (by telephone), City Clerk, Press and interested citizens. Mayor Vulich – absent.

### 1. DCA Sign Program – Jacob Couppee

Planning Intern Jacob Couppee advised the Council that he was bringing to them a proposal to begin a grant application for the SSMID group for signage. He stated that the Iowa Main Street officials have suggested that the signage in the Downtown was inappropriate or inferior. This would be a way to assist business owners to address their signage issues. Business owners would be awarded an amount up to \$1,000 or 60% of the cost for a new sign or 40% of the cost for removal of a sign. Councilmember Allesee inquired regarding who would contact business owners whose signage does not comply. Councilmember McGraw stated that business owners do not have to conform; however, they would not receive any money. Councilmember Determann inquired regarding why this issue came before the Council. City Administrator Kinser stated that the SSMID tax comes into the City and should get Council approval for a capital improvement. Councilmember Determann inquired regarding whether the Downtown Alliance have approved the grant application. Planning Intern Couppee stated that they have approved the application and would award funding for five signs per year. Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding whether all business people are aware of this. Planning Intern Couppee stated that they are aware. Councilmember O'Neill stated that on page three under "Note", it is taking the tax dollars to circumvent the City's sign ordinance. He continued in stating that he would have a problem with this if he were a business owner and tax money was awarded only by a small group. This seems like creating an ordinance without going through the proper process. City Administrator Kinser stated that the taxes are from the SSMID group. Planning Intern Couppee stated that the Downtown Alliance wants to make signage appealing to bring people to the Downtown. Councilmember O'Neill stated that he would not agree unless it was re-worded to give everyone the money, not just a few. City Administrator Kinser stated that the Agustana students are working on this and will vet it through the Downtown Clinton Alliance. Councilmember O'Neill stated that this is still updating an ordinance without going through the process. Planning Intern Couppee stated that in addition to the City Code business owner's signage must meet these standards. Councilmember Allesee stated that it is like the Façade Committee and paying a tax to have it set up this way. It is up to them to file for the grant.

Councilmember Rowland stated that it is a good thing; however, the problem is to get everyone onboard. Once signage is completed it will get others to follow suit. City Administrator Kinser stated that the City does not have to amend the ordinance right now; however, if they want to incentivize people in the district to do this, it can be amended at that time.

Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding who will approve an application if someone applies. Planning Intern Couppee stated that the Downtown Improvements Committee is made up of five people who will review the application and contact the business owners. If an application is denied they will still help out. Councilmember O'Neil stated that it is DCA money applied for by DCA business owners and will be reviewed by DCA members.

M/S, Rowland-Gassman moved to forward the DCA Sign Program to the next City Council agenda. On roll call, McGraw, Rowland, Determann, Wilke, O'Neill, Allesee – Yes; Gassman – Recuse. Motion carried.

2. CIP – Jessica Kinser

City Administrator Kinser reviewed the Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Years 2017 through 2022. She discussed the City's legal debt capacity. She stated that the CIP Committee is made up of committee of citizens representing the City Council, School Board, County Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, and two citizen representatives. She continued in stating that the Capital Projects are directly related to the budget process. She further stated that the Council set the public hearing on November 24<sup>th</sup> for December 8<sup>th</sup>.

City Administrator Kinser reviewed the approved projects: Railpark Property Purchase #6 - purchase is planned for June or July 2016. Funds will be borrowed as part of the upcoming 2016A borrowing, 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Sewer Separation - bids have been received and a public hearing and award of contract are to happen at the October 13<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting with construction beginning in spring 2016, Camanche Avenue Sewer and Storm Sewer Payment - The invoice for this payment is expected in January 2016. Funds will be borrowed as part of the upcoming 2016A borrowing. All work has been completed, 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue South Improvements - the project will be completed by the end of October 2015. This was a joint project with Clinton County and Low Moor, Pavement Management Program - a lot of progress has been made this year, with some streets yet to be completed before the end of 2015, 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Phase III - the bids will be let in December 2015, with construction to begin in Spring 2016. This is a multi-year project and will continue into fiscal year 2017, which is when the City anticipates borrowing our contribution to the project, Showboat Soundproofing - project to be out to bid this winter with work to be completed before the 2016 season, Airport Entrance Road - the Engineering Department is working on the design this fall/winter. The project will be put out to bid and constructed in the spring and North End Bike Trail Repairs bid opening on the project is set for November 3<sup>rd</sup>, with bids to be approved at the November 10<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. Construction is to be completed by June 30, 2016.

She stated that in FY 2017 there are 12 projects with a cost of \$8,465,000 with 65% in G.O. debt and 35% other. She reviewed the FY2017 CIP Projects: Replace Airport Fuel Tanks, ADA Ramp Construction (multi-year), 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Phase III (multi-year) Library Entrance Realignment, Pavement Management Program (multi-year), Eagle Point Park Stone Structure Repairs, Jurgensen Soccer Park Upgrade, West Deer Creek Bridge, Anamosa Road/44<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW Property Acquisition (multi-year), Boat House/Docking Area, and Lyons Fire Station Renovation. Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding why 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue South shows as completed in 2015 and then again in 2017. City Administrator Kinser stated that there are different areas of 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. This is 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue South to Anamosa Road which will be a shared project with the County, Camanche and City of Clinton.

City Administrator Kinser advised the Council that there are eight projects slated for FY 2018 at a cost of \$9,255,000 – 66% G.O. and 34% other: Dredging, North Loop Track, ADA Ramp Construction (multi-year), Pavement Management Program (multi-year), Library Interior Upgrades, Washington Middle School Gymnasiums, Ericksen Center Terrace Enclosure, and 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW Construction (multi-year).

City Administrator Kinser reviewed FY 2019's six projects at a cost of \$5,750,000 – 85% G.O. and 15% other: ADA Ramp Construction (multi-year), Manufacturing Drive Widening (multi-year), Pavement Management Program (multi-year), South 54<sup>th</sup> Street Improvements, Sewer Connections at RV Park, and Central Fire Station Renovations.

City Administrator Kinser advised the Council that there are seven projects for FY 2020 with a cost of \$4,180,000 – 80% G.O. and 15% other: North Stadium Parking Lot, City Hall Parking Lot, Green

Parking Lot (west side of Stadium), ADA Ramp Construction (multi-year), Pavement Management Program (multi-year), Eagle Point Park Shelters, and Softball Light Replacement. She stated that the only parking lot proposed to be green is the parking lot on the west side of the stadium.

She stated that there are only four projects scheduled for FY 2021 with a cost of \$3,125,000 – 83% G.O. and 17% other: Dredging, ADA Ramp Construction (multi-year), Pavement Management Program (multi-year), and Marina Parking Lot Paving. She advised the Council that the unprogrammed projects for FY 2022 have a cost of \$40,821,619: Downtown Façade Program, Water Service to Railpark, Springdale Drive Sidewalks, Combined North End Fire Station, Police Station, Ericksen Center Gymnasium Addition, Outdoor Recreation and Sports Complex, Riverview Pool Improvements, and Wastewater Administration Center. She continued in stating that the list is getting smaller. There have been significant changes. She further stated that this was just a presentation and any amendments could be made during the public hearing on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

### 3. Mayor & Council Member Updates

Councilmember Allesee reminded everyone about the Symphony of Lights at Eagle Point Park. She stated that the cost is \$7.00 per car.

Councilmember Gassman stated that he would be holding the Fourth Ward PSA meeting on Saturday, December 5th, 2015 at 9:00 AM at Christ Episcopal Church 2100 N. 2nd St.

Councilmember McGraw stated that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward PSA meeting would be Saturday, December 12, 2015 at 9:00 A.M. in City Hall Council Chambers.

Councilmember O'Neill stated that he, along with Councilmember Determann, would be holding a PSA Meeting at 10:00 A.M. on December 12, 2015 at the Ericksen Community Center.

City Administrator Kinser stated that there would be no Committee of the Whole on December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

M/S, Wilke-McGraw moved to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Van Loo  
City Clerk