

Committee of the Whole  
June 6, 2017

Present: Mayor Vulich, Council Members Seeley, McGraw, Allesee, Odor, Connell and O'Neill, City Administrator, City Attorney, City Clerk, Press and interested citizens.

1. Community Health Update – Shanna Krogman

Ms. Shanna Krogman advised the Council that community health is a priority issue in Clinton. She stated that 27% of adults do not participate in any kind of physical activity. This assessment will help the community come together to bridge the health gaps. She continued in stating that some of the resources available in Clinton to help achieve a healthy lifestyle are bike and jogging paths, bike areas in the City's roadways, well developed parks, the river, free activities, the Farmer's Market, Community garden, dieticians in grocery stores and the availability of blood pressure screenings. She further stated that some ways to promote community health is to seek out the population, word of mouth, social media, "Get Out and Move Day"/Walk the Dike Night, education and the Get Healthy Clinton Coalition.

Ms. Krogman advised that although the City of Clinton's health factors and health risks are high, there are numerous resources available to counteract them. She stated that educating the community is a priority.

Councilmember Seeley inquired regarding what the City could do to help the cause. Ms. Krogman stated that the City could help by supporting the Get Healthy Clinton Coalition. Councilmember Seeley stated that the Lighthouse could be used as an educational tool. Councilmember Connell inquired regarding what ties the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Neighborhood Improvement Committee might have to help support the effort. City Administrator Brooke stated that Dr. Mark Schroeder and Assistant City Engineer Zane Pennock would be good contacts.

2. Lyons Business Park Update – Maureen Miller/ Steve Clements/ Bob Holesinger/ Dennis Lauver

Chamber of Commerce President Maureen Miller advise the Council that the Lyons Business Park came about in 2002 through an Iowa Department of Transportation RISE Grant. The location was chosen to focus on enticing new businesses.

Mr. Steve Clements stated that there are currently five businesses located in Lyons Business Park; Data Dimensions, Winkle, Parker and Foster, Ashford University Call Center, First Wealth and Café 392. He continued in stating that the Park supports 500 jobs with a combined annual payroll of \$18 Million. The number of employees in the Park helped to support another RISE Grant in 2013.

Mr. Bob Holesinger advised the Council that this is a joint venture between the Lyons Business and Tech Park Board and the City. The best thing to happen was the construction of two buildings which were built speculatively and now house the Ashford Call Center. He stated that through the joint venture there has been provided high speed internet, sidewalks, retail sites and the extension of 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. He continued in stating that they are a small board and look forward to providing conduit and vaults for fiber optics, signage, preparation of sites to be shovel ready and the addition of a virtual speculative building.

Mr. Dennis Lauver advised the Council that the Lyons Business and Tech Park has been working with leading site selectors. Jim Bentley, Howes and Jefferies, Location One, Loop Net, Clinton Regional Development Corporation and Outbound Marketing. Mr. Lauver provided the Council with a video of the Lyons Business and Tech Park. He stated that the Board wants to begin discussion with the City relating to specifics regarding an Urban Renewal Plan.

### 3. FY2018 Health Insurance Renewal & Updates – Tim Kearns

Mr. Tim Kearns, RJ Lee & Associates, presented the Council with a summary of the renewal process and the outcome for the upcoming plan year. He stated that the Plan is self-funded with reinsurance/stop loss coverage. He continued in stating that a marketplace evaluation on reinsurance was performed. The marketplace evaluation allows for competitive bids on claims and reinsurance/stop loss protection as required by Iowa code for public bodies. Requests for proposals were sent to five carriers and three quotes were received. Wellmark, Sun Life, HM Life. Declinations were received from HCC Life and Symetra. The costs represented under this marketplace evaluation are 95% of the total.

Mr. Kearns advised the Council that Wellmark was the most competitive bid received with a 3.6% increase in reinsurance costs and 0% increase in claim estimates for 2017-18. The estimated cost for 2017-18 is \$3,471,075 which represents a .6% increase from the 2016-17 costs. The total dollar estimate of cost for 2016-17 was \$3,451,425. There are no changes in benefit design or coverages. He advised that Budget estimate for this benefit was initially 8% increase for 2017-18. Reserve at April 30, 2017 was \$3,024,338 which is 8.75 months of maximum cost in reserve. He stated that the benchmark for this is 6 months of maximum cost in reserve for a public body. He continued in stating that the City's reserve in 2012 was \$875,000 and \$1,210,000 in 2007. The City's plan has come a long way in five years.

Mr. Kearns advised the Council regarding the developments that will impact the plan in the future. Chapter 20 rules have changed; however, health benefits are key to recruitment and retention of employees. He stated that there is a need to continue to implement additional cost containment and reduce cost and cost increases wherever possible. He continued in stating that we are suggesting enhanced management techniques in prescription drug purchasing. He further stated that we also suggest implementation of Telemedicine/Virtual Visits for greater access to primary care. He stated that the Cadillac Tax is delayed under current law to 2020 from 2018 implementation; however, we need to prepare for 2020.

Councilmember Connell inquired regarding the starting timeline. Mr. Kearns stated that September 1<sup>st</sup> would be the start. Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding the 8% increase. Finance Director Anita Dalton stated that a Family Plan would be \$2,018.00. Mr. Kearns stated that it would be between \$165,000 and \$170,000.

City Attorney Patrick O'Connell stated that the City must look at the options before collective bargaining.

### 4. Mayor & Council Member Salaries – Matt Brooke

City Administrator Matt Brooke advised that it has been eight years since there was an increase in the Mayor and Council Member's salaries. He stated that the proposed increases would take place on January 15, 2018 for Council Members and January 15, 2020 for the Mayor. Councilmember Seeley inquired regarding whether the City Administrator had looked closely at the salaries of the Mayor and Council Members from other cities. City Administrator Brooke stated that he had and the City of Clinton comes in below other cities. He continued in stating that this has already been included in the budget and just needs to move forward. Councilmember Gassman stated that the Mayor and Council Members jobs have evolved over time. They spend much more time with meetings and official duties. Councilmember Allesee stated that there has also been an additional Committee of the Whole meeting per month added to their duties.

M/S, Gassman-Allesee moved to forward the Mayor and Council Member salaries to the next City Council agenda. On roll call, Gassman, McGraw, Allesee, O'Neill – Yes; Seeley, Odor, Connell – No. Motion carried.

5. Fireworks (Discussion) – Mike Brown

Fire Chief Mike Brown advised the Council that the pace is brisk relating to vendors wanting to sell fireworks; however, the State Fire Marshall's rules change daily. He stated that there are vendors who want to sell out of shipping containers, tents and trailers. City Administrator Brooke stated that there will be inspectors available for inspections of all venues; however, we are looking for the public's opinion of shooting off the fireworks in the City. Fire Chief Brown stated that he has heard comments from both sides but it is ultimately the Council's decision.

Fire Chief Brown stated that it will take three inspections of each vendor so we must make this worthwhile. Councilmember Allesee inquired regarding the certain days for sales the State Fire Marshall's Office has approved. Chief Brown stated that sales for brick and mortar buildings is June 1<sup>st</sup> through July 8<sup>th</sup> and tents and trailers is June 13<sup>th</sup> through July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember O'Neill stated that people are perplexed regarding the City allowing the sale of fireworks; however, not allowing their use. He continued in stating that the State has mandated that cities must allow the sales but do not have to allow the use. Councilmember Allesee inquired regarding whether special event dates will be affected. Chief Brown stated that they are not.

Councilmember Connell inquired regarding individuals obtaining special use permits. Chief Brown stated that there are people who have fireworks and shoot them off, but they are not legal. Chief Brown stated that there will be a lot of learning. This was rushed and not researched. Councilmember Connell stated that other municipalities have been more lenient; however, if the City of Clinton allows the use of fireworks will it cause additional work for the Police Department.

Police Chief Kevin Gyrion stated that some mid-sized cities allow the use and others ban fireworks. We should see how it plays out this year. Right now it is illegal to shoot off fireworks and the Police Department will do its best to enforce the law. Councilmember Seeley stated that his main concern is shooting off fireworks late at night. Chief Gyrion stated that it is still disturbing the peace.

City Attorney Patrick O'Connell stated that some municipalities are banning the use, or allowing the shooting of fireworks for one day and others are allowing the use any time; however, with more rules. There are a lot of options. He continued in stating that he could provide an ordinance in line with the City's requirements.

Mayor Vulich stated that it is up to the Council. There are many people who are opposed to the use of fireworks. If you place a lot of caveats on the use it makes it harder to enforce. Councilmember Connell stated that the larger issue is how quickly it went into effect. People think it OK to shoot off fireworks. All vendors should have signage that informs purchasers that it is illegal to shoot fireworks in the City of Clinton.

Councilmember Gassman stated that the ordinance works well and is manageable. It should remain illegal to shoot fireworks in the City. Councilmember McGraw stated that she has received emails from constituents who do not approve of shooting fireworks off in the City.

Councilmember Connell inquired regarding what is necessary if a neighborhood wants to have a fireworks show. Chief Brown stated that they would need a \$2 Million insurance policy, obtain the services of a professional pyro technician and get a permit.

Mayor Vulich stated that veterans suffering from PTSD would appreciate it if the City did not allow the use. Chief Brown added that pet owners feel the same way.

M/S, Gassman-McGraw moved to leave the ordinance as is and not allow the use of fireworks in the City of Clinton. On roll call, carried unanimously.

In discussion before roll call, Councilmember Connell and Councilmember Seeley stated that they would not be opposed to allowing the use of fireworks for one day. Mayor Vulich stated that if the Council wants to change the ordinance, there must be a lot of thought that goes into it. We must get it right the first time.

Councilmember O'Neill stated that we have a unique situation. What happens in the middle of the state will be different than border towns. If an ordinance is drafted it must be unique to the city. He continued in stating that the current ordinance cannot be replaced in three weeks.

## 6. Mayor & Council Updates

Mayor Vulich announced that the first Music on the Avenue will be Thursday from 6:00PM to 8:00PM. There will be vendors, a beer tent, and antique car show and an antique motorcycle show. He stated that Rockin' on the River will take place Friday at the Stadium and there will be fireworks.

Councilmember Allesee congratulated the Parks and Recreation Department for receiving a \$200,000 from the CCDA. City Administrator Brooke stated that there is also \$200,000, General Fund only, that will be used to offset this.

Councilmember Connell stated that future discussion should be held regarding opening up the road for persons to walk about and access other businesses during Music on the Avenue.

Councilmember O'Neill stated that there will be no public forum in July. He advised the public to look out for educational materials relating to single stream recycling and he hoped to have Laura Liegois at the August public forum to talk about single stream recycling.  
M/S, O'Neill-Gassman moved to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Van Loo  
City Clerk