

Committee of the Whole
April 25, 2017

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

1. Introduction of New CVB Director & Quarterly Update – Mary Seely

Ms. Maureen Miller, President and CEO of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce introduced the new Director of the Clinton Convention and Visitor's Bureau (CVB), Mary Seely. Ms. Seely advised the Council that she came to Clinton two years ago from the Cedar Rapids area where she was involved in many chamber events. She stated that she brings useful experience to Clinton and hopes to bring life and excitement to the Clinton area.

Ms. Seely provided the Council with the CVB Quarterly Update. She stated that billboards promoting Clinton have been installed along Highway 20. A bike sharing system has been added along the riverfront whereby persons will be able to rent bikes and bike to the Lyons District, up to Eagle point Park and into the downtown area. The trolley will follow the bike trail. A new touchscreen feature will be added to the kiosk at Riverfront which pairs with the way finding system. She continued in stating that there will be a bass fishing tournament at the 9th Avenue Dock, Mainly Marathons will come into Clinton on June first, and the American Queen and American Duchess will make stops in Clinton. She further stated that once again persons and groups are volunteering to plant and maintain the flower beds on riverfront carrying on the FAB Project. She proceeded to state that there will be a summer concert series starting in June and kicking off the series will be Fire and Iron of the USA a group of 250 firefighters from all over the United States on motorcycles. She stated that there will be music, food and fellowship and will be open to all citizens and visitors.

2. July 4th Festival – Dave Helscher

Mr. Dave Helscher stated that he was addressing the Council on behalf of the Fourth of July Festival. He continued in stating that the Festival began 6 years ago with 2,500 people in attendance and has grown to an estimated 6,000. The Festival will include tournaments, food, a parade and fireworks. Scouts may read the Declaration of Independence and features will include inflatables, a petting zoo, watermelon and hot dog eating contests and a firefighter water war. He advised the Council that he was at the meeting to request funding for the Festival. He stated that it costs approximately \$20,000 to put on and a \$1,000 contribution from the City would be appreciated. He continued in stating that there will be donation cans at businesses and a button contest would be sponsored so those who make a donation would receive a button.

Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding whether there are funds available for a donation. City Administrator Brooke stated that there are funds available.

City Administrator Brooke advised the Council that the City has numerous reward points from City credit cards which can be turned in for gift cards to area businesses. He stated that the gift cards could then be donated to Vision 8.

M/S, Connell-O'Neill moved the City make a donation of \$1,000 to the Fourth of July Festival. On roll call, carried unanimously.

M/S, Seeley-McGraw moved to redeem the credit card points for gift cards to donate to Vision 8. On roll call, carried unanimously.

3. Sale of Fireworks – Mike Brown

Fire Chief Mike Brown advised the Council that Governor Branstad is expected to sign a bill which will make it legal to sell fireworks in the State of Iowa. He stated that currently there are no rules in place and there is no local control for the sales. He continued in stating that cities cannot ban the sale of fireworks; however, they can control the usage. He further stated that he has spoken with the City Attorney and they discussed whether the fireworks could be regulated through zoning. Fire Chief Brown warned of the dangers in a tent city full of fireworks. He stated that the City does not have the personnel to regulate the amount of fireworks each seller has in their establishments. He continued in stating that each vendor must have a license issued by the state. He further stated that the City will work through this.

Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding whether the vendors must keep their inventory in a separate place. Chief Brown stated that the amount they can have for sale in their establishment goes by weight. Councilmember Connell stated that the State Fire Marshall's Office does not have the personnel to come up with rules.

City Attorney Patrick O'Connell stated that the City can opt out of usage of fireworks. Police can cite persons using fireworks in the City. The City has the obligation to inspect where fireworks are sold and stored and should get a fee for doing so. Right now the City does not allow the use of fireworks by City Code.

4. Public Safety Special Service Agreements – Kevin Gyrion

Police Chief Kevin Gyrion advised the Council that there is a proposed contract for off duty police officers and firefighters which would cover all events which come up in the City needing their presence. Many times the events come up and there is not time to get approval for each one. This would allow for a "blanket" contract so public safety could be provided when needed.

City Attorney O'Connell stated that each time there is an enforcement contract it must be approved by resolution and the Mayor must sign it. This would be a standing contract and all the Chief would have to do is bring it to the Mayor for signature. He would not need to wait for a Council meeting.

Councilmember Gassman inquired regarding whether the contract would be reviewed annually. Chief Gyrion stated that it would be reviewed annually. Councilmember Connell inquired regarding how they came up with the dollar amount. Chief Gyrion stated that overtime and benefits were discussed with the Finance Office to come up with the dollar amount.

M/S, O'Neill-Gassman moved to forward the Public Safety Special Service Agreements to the next Council agenda. On roll call, carried unanimously.

5. 20th Avenue North Combined Trunk Sewer Emergency Replacement – Jason Craft

RWRF Superintendent Bob Milroy advised the Council that there have been a lot of sewer backups on Roosevelt Street between 19th Avenue North and 20th Avenue North. It was discovered that a sewer pipe running under the railroad tracks was full of mud. He stated that the City Engineer has estimated the cost to repair the pipe at \$350,000. A hole must be bored under the tracks and a new line must be installed. We are trying to coordinate with the railroad and a contractor who will be in town in June to bore a hole at 25th Avenue North.

City Engineer Jason Craft stated that the State Code allows for foregoing the bidding process in emergency situations. He continued in stating that normally he would get one bid; however, this time he would like to get two bids and the contractor would need to be on the site ASAP. It is feasible that they could begin on May 25th if the Council approves foregoing the competitive bid process on May 9th and awards the bid at the May 23rd Council meeting. Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding the boring of a 36" hole under the railroad tracks. Engineer Craft stated that the railroad will have to be OK with this for the public welfare. Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding the funding for the project. Superintendent Milroy stated that there is enough money in fund balance to complete the project.

City Attorney O'Connell stated that the City would need to have findings which will satisfy the State Code that this is an emergency. Based on the information received, the situation is dire and we must act quickly. Jason must provide this certification as City Engineer.

M/S, O'Neill-McGraw moved to forward the 20th Avenue North Combined Trunk Sewer Emergency Replacement to the next City Council agenda. On roll call, carried unanimously.

6. Vacant Lots – Matt Brooke

City Administrator Brook advised the Council that although discussion was held and a proposal was made to sell the vacant City-owned lots, a motion and a second was never received and a vote was never taken.

M/S, Gassman-Seeley moved to forward a resolution setting a public hearing for the sale of City-owned lots to the next City Council agenda. On roll call, carried unanimously.

7. Recycling Final Analysis II – Matt Brooke

City Administrator Matt Brooke advised the Council that he was seeking approval for a resolution stating that the City would adopt a policy on the City of Clinton owning and operating a single-stream recycling program. He stated that that the City has the ability to operate a single-stream recycling operation and the truck would be paid off sooner or outright. As the quantity of recycle materials rises, solid waste trucks could be used for pick up. The City would put out 6,500 totes to begin with. There would be a cost to drive to Scott County; however, this would lower the solid waste charge by \$2 and increase revenue. He continued in stating that the City would lose the availability to reduce the cost to the citizens if we go with Republic. He further stated that the City can perform this service with one truck and can add another as tonnage increases.

Streets and Solid Waste Superintendent Creighton Regenwether advised the Council that the City has four solid waste trucks, three recycle trucks and one spare. The City could get rid of three sorters and purchase one 2-arm truck and have a spare if needed. The double arm truck would work well in the alleys. Councilmember Gassman suggested that the City perform single-stream recycling for 18 months to see how it works out. Councilmember Allesee stated that the biggest concern is to get the education out.

Councilmember O'Neill stated that he feels that there is still money to come back from recycling. We have Laura Liegois working on this, Anita Dalton doing the financials, Creighton Regenwether has numerous years with the City and Matt Brooke has a career of getting things done. The experts say this is the best and only way. If we go with the Springsted Study the cost for solid waste pick up in 2024 will be \$34.00. Councilmember Seeley stated that he was not at a level of comfort to approve of single stream recycling.

M/S, O'Neill-Gassman moved to forward a resolution stating that the City would adopt a policy on the City of Clinton owning and operating a single-stream recycling program to the next City Council agenda. On roll call, Gassman, McGraw, Allesee, Odor, Connell, O'Neill – Yes; Seeley – No. Motion carried.

8. Mayor & Council Updates

Councilmember Seeley stated that there would be a Kiwanis pancake breakfast at Eagle Point Lodge on Sunday.

Councilmember O'Neill stated that he would hold his public forum on Saturday at the Ericksen Center from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM. He further stated that IPSCO Steel is opening back up and taking applications.

M/S, Gassman-Seeley moved to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Van Loo
City Clerk