

The Independence City Council met in regular session in the council chambers at 5:00 p.m., on Monday, May 13, 2024.

OPENING/ROLL CALL

Mayor Bleichner opened the meeting by calling the meeting to order with Council Members Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, and Jensen in attendance. Council Members Weber and O’Loughlin were excused.

This meeting was available for public attendance. The meeting was also broadcast on the local access channel.

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Moore, second by Council Member Jensen to approve the agenda as presented for the regular meeting held May 13, 2024. Ayes: All. Absent: Weber and O’Loughlin.

Mayor Bleichner read a proclamation declaring May 17-18, 2024, as Poppy Days.

Mayor Bleichner read a proclamation declaring the entire month of May as Mental Health Awareness Month.

Mayor Bleichner read a proclamation declaring May 12-18, 2024, as National Police Memorial Week.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Jensen, second by Council Member Hanna to accept and approve the consent agenda that approves the following: 1) The minutes of the April 22, 2024, Regular Meeting. 2) Special Event Application for the 163rd Annual 4th of July Parade to be held on Thursday, July 4, 2024. 3) Independence Celebrations Committee, Inc. (Celebrate Indee) Special Class C Retail Alcohol License that includes outdoor service effective July 2, 2024, through July 6, 2024. 4) Independence Celebrations Committee special event requests for the period of Tuesday, July 2, 2024, through Friday, July 5, 2024. 5) Chuong Garden Special C Retail Alcohol License amendment for ownership updates. Ayes: All. Absent: Weber and O’Loughlin.

FINANCIALS

Motion by Council Member Hanna, second by Council Member Jensen to approve the following bills for payment. Ayes: All. Absent: Weber and O’Loughlin.

ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING	EQUIP CONTRACT-ALL	\$ 1,528.41
ACE HARDWARE	SUPPLIES-ST,PR,F,B,W	\$ 607.41
ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	VEH REPAIR-A	\$ 162.13
ALLEN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH	SERVICES-F	\$ 44.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-CH,PD,W	\$ 786.99
AVFUEL CORPORATION	EQUIP RENTAL-A	\$ 20.00
BAGBY'S AUTOMOTIVE	VEH REPAIR-PR	\$ 844.98
BARCO MUNICIPAL PRODUCTS	SIGNAGE-ST	\$ 1,262.80
BEATTY, ROBERT	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
BITTERMAN, GARRETT	REFUND-PR	\$ 40.00
BLEICHNER, BRAD	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 100.00
BOLAND RECREATION	SERVICES-PR	\$ 30,975.00
BRUENING ROCK PRODUCTS IN	ROAD ROCK-PR,W	\$ 398.04
BUCHANAN COUNTY AUDITOR	SERVICES-ST	\$ 70.08
BUCHANAN COUNTY HEALTH CE	SERVICES-ST,W	\$ 48.04
BUCHANAN COUNTY RECORDER	FEES-CH	\$ 17.00
CABELL, TRENTON	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
CARD SERVICES-VISA	MISC EXP-A,B,CH,PR,W	\$ 1,669.51
CITY LAUNDERING CO INC	BLDG MAINT-PD	\$ 154.14
CLINTON, CHAR	HOST-PR	\$ 750.00
COASTAL BEND MUNICIPAL CL	TRAINING-CH	\$ 50.00
CONSOLIDATED ENERGY CO	FUEL-ALL	\$ 5,607.84
CORKERY, CHRISSY	REFUND-PR	\$ 50.00
CRAWFORD ENGINEERING & SU	SERVICES-ST,SW	\$ 28,336.00
CURTIS ARCHITECTURE	SERVICES-CH	\$ 4,800.00

CY & CHARLEY'S FIRESTONE	SERVICES-PD,ST,W	\$ 381.12
D & K PRODUCTS	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 462.00
DANKO EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT	SUPPLIES-F	\$ 943.00
DELL MARKETING, LP	IT SERVICES-CH	\$ 1,769.17
DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA	DENTAL INSURANCE-CH	\$ 41.86
DIVIDED SKY ENTERTAINMENT	FUNDRAISER-PR	\$ 5,000.00
DUNLAP MOTORS INC	VEH MAINT-W	\$ 42.95
ELECTRIC PUMP INC	SERVICES-W	\$ 2,128.54
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING &	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 281.74
ELITE K-9, INC	CANINE PURCH-PD	\$ 358.28
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	SAFE-T FUND-ALL	\$ 8,438.66
ENGINEERED EQUIPMENT SOLU	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 11,124.74
ESCH, BRAD	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
FAIRCHILD FEED & SUPPLY	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 191.40
FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUR	TRAINING-F	\$ 50.00
FIRST CHILDREN'S FINANCE	SERVICES-CH	\$ 7,500.00
FOLEY, TRAVIS	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
GALLS INC	UNIFORM-PD	\$ 352.20
HAWKEYE FIRE & SAFETY COM	SERVICES-PD,PR	\$ 86.15
HAWKINS, INC.	CHEMICALS-W	\$ 3,897.50
HAYWARD, BLAKE	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
HOG SLAT	MAINT-PR	\$ 31.13
HOLIDAY INN	LODGING-CH	\$ 118.72
HYDRITE CHEMICAL CO	CHEMICALS-W	\$ 1,305.08
IA DEPT OF AGRICULTURE	DUES-A	\$ 9.00
IA DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	SERVICES-PD	\$ 682.50
IA PRISON INDUSTRIES	SIGNAGE-ST	\$ 867.57
IA TRANSMISSION REBUILDER	VEH REPAIR-PR	\$ 3,677.07
INDEPENDENCE LIGHT & POWE	UTILITIES-ALL	\$ 3,367.02
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$ 25,933.74
J & R SUPPLY INC	SUPPLIES-ST	\$ 63.00
JASPER CONSTRUCTION SERV	SERVICES-ST	\$ 222,437.75
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SUPPLIES-ALL	\$ 1,321.59
KEYSTONE LABORATORIES INC	LAB ANALYSIS-W	\$ 142.25
KILER, ANGELA	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
KROMMINGA MOTORS INC.	VEH REPAIR-A	\$ 647.45
LAU, BRIAN	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
LUMBER RIDGE HOME SOURCE	SERVICES-PR	\$ 41.50
MANATT'S INC	CEMENT-PR	\$ 670.31
MAQUOKETA VALLEY SOFTBALL	TOURNEY FEES-PR	\$ 300.00
MELLEN & ASSOCIATES	EQUIP REPAIR-W	\$ 1,648.47
METLIFE	LTD-ALL	\$ 330.83
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPAN	UTILITY-PR,PD,CH	\$ 1,002.37
MIDSTATES EQUIP & SUPPLY	EQUIP MAINT-ST	\$ 168.88
NAPA AUTO PARTS	SUPPLIES-ST,PR,B,F,W	\$ 1,152.68
NEJDL, MICHELLE	REIMBRUSE-CH	\$ 837.62
NEJDL, THOMAS	REIMBURSE-W	\$ 150.00
NORTH CENTRAL LABORATORIE	LAB ANALYSIS-W	\$ 78.49
OFFICE TOWNE INC	SUPPLIES-PD,PR	\$ 750.81
P & N CORPORATION	FUEL PROFITS-A	\$ 377.88
PAYROLL CHECKS	PAYROLL CHECKS	\$ 79,809.09
PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FINAN	EQUIP LEASE-PR	\$ 167.64
PRECISION PLUMBING, HEATI	SERVICES-PR,W	\$ 553.00
PURCHASE POWER	POSTAGE-PR	\$ 208.99
PUSH-PEDAL-PULL INC	EQUIP MAINT-PR	\$ 299.00
RECK, BRENT	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00

RYDELL AUTO GROUP	VEH MAINT-PD,ST	\$ 536.17
S & K COLLECTIBLES	SHIPPING-W,PD	\$ 31.22
SANDRY FIRE SUPPLY, LLC	SUPPLIES-F	\$ 894.60
SCHMITZ, MATTHEW	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 100.00
SCHROEDER BASEBALL	EQUIP-PR	\$ 1,209.00
SIGNS & MORE	SERVICES-PR	\$ 3,175.27
SOUKUP, BRETT	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
STATE STREET BANK & TRUST	ICMA-RC \$ PRE	\$ 6,884.64
STOREY KENWORTHY - MATT P	SUPPLIES-PD	\$ 367.92
SUPERB CLEANING SERVICES	BLDG MAINT-PR	\$ 2,410.00
T MOBILE	PHONE-PD,F	\$ 752.98
TASC	FLEX MEDICAL	\$ 1,356.71
USA BLUE BOOK	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 2,122.46
VERIZON WIRELESS	PHONE-CH,PD,PR,F	\$ 172.66
VESSCO INC	SERVICES-W	\$ 2,548.26
VOGEL CROP SERVICES	SERVICES-PR	\$ 812.50
WALMART COMMUNITY	SUPPLIES-W,PD,PR	\$ 180.40
WASTE MANAGEMENT	GARBAGE-A,G,PR,W	\$ 140,127.93
WRH, INC.	SERVICES-W	\$ 13,015.43
ZIMMER & FRANCESCON INC	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 324.02

CLAIMS TOTAL \$647,950.28; General Fund \$288,062.02; Library \$10,232.25; Streets Dept-Road Use \$16,878.95; Employee Benefits \$305.87; Economic Development \$4,800.00; Cap Project-Street Improvement \$2,398.00; Cap Project-Bridges \$232,673.75; Parks & Rec Projects \$6,542.29; Cap Outlay Savings/LOST \$1,858.65; Water Fund \$7,987.16; Sewer Utility Fund \$52,070.68; Storm Water Projects \$15,702.00; Self Insurance \$8,168.78; Self Insurance-Enterprise \$269.88.

REVENUES MONTH TO DATE TOTAL \$305,000.59; General Fund \$149,188.72; Library \$278.25; Employee Benefits \$734.69; Parks & Rec Projects \$3,000.00; Cap Project-Airport \$28,625.00; Cap Outlay Savings/LOST \$56,286.29; Water Fund \$21,225.78; Sewer Utility \$34,567.73; Storm Water \$3,401.64; Self Insurance \$7,512.51; Self Insurance-Enterprise \$179.98.

The April 2024 bank reconciliation and the revenues and expenses by department to date were available for council review and discussion.

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Michael Thomas, Independence FFA President, provided an update on the chickens at the Independence High School.

HEARINGS & ORDINANCES

Mayor Bleichner stated, pursuant to the agenda, he will now convene a public hearing for the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Amendment #2. City Clerk/Treasurer Lampe stated that no written comments were received. Mayor Bleichner closed the public hearing and stated City Clerk Lampe will note all comments in the record.

SEWER REVENUE LOAN AGREEMENT

Mayor Bleichner stated, pursuant to the agenda, he will now convene a public hearing for the proposal to enter into a Sewer Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement. City Clerk/Treasurer Lampe stated that no written comments were received. Mayor Bleichner closed the public hearing and stated City Clerk Lampe will note all comments in the record.

Council Member Moore with a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution taking additional action with respect to a Sewer Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement and authorizing, approving, and securing the payment of a \$2,1780,000 Sewer Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement Anticipation Project Note (IFA Interim Loan and Disbursement Agreement), second by Council Member Jensen. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, and Jensen. Absent: Weber and O’Loughlin.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2024-34 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS

Council Member Jensen with a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution that approves the funding agreement with the Independence Area Chamber of Commerce and for the City Manager and City Clerk to sign the funding agreement, second by Council Member Hanna. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Hanna, Moore, Prusator, Jensen, and Huston. Absent: Weber and O'Loughlin.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2024-35 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

Council Member Moore with a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution that approves the updated TIF LMI Set-Aside Administrative Plan, second by Council Member Jensen. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Moore, Prusator, Jensen, Huston, and Hanna. Absent: Weber and O'Loughlin.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2024-36 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

Council Member Jensen with a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution that decertifies certain assessments that were sent to the Buchanan County Treasurer, second by Council Member Hanna. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Prusator, Jensen, Huston, Hanna, and Moore. Absent: Weber and O'Loughlin.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2024-37 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Member Moore with a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk/Treasurer to sign the drainage easement, for the \$17.00 recording fee to be added to the previously approved claims listing, and to authorize the City Manager to direct Staff to facilitate the improvements outlined herein, second by Council Member Hanna. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Jensen, Huston, Hanna, Moore, and Prusator. Absent: Weber and O'Loughlin.

Council Member Hanna with a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the order accepting the settlement agreement for the tobacco violation, second by Council Member Jensen. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, and Jensen. Absent: Weber and O'Loughlin.

Council Member Hanna with a motion to approve the write-offs for 2023 submitted by Independence Light & Power, second by Council Member Moore. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Hanna, Moore, Prusator, Jensen, and Huston. Absent: Weber and O'Loughlin.

Council Member Jensen with a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Supplemental Agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation and to authorize the City Manager to sign the Supplemental Agreement, second by Council Member Hanna. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Moore, Prusator, Jensen, Huston, and Hanna. Absent: Weber and O'Loughlin.

Council Member Jensen with a motion to authorize the Schutte Family to install a bench with a plaque on the South side of the main terminal building at the airport and to authorize the Airport Manager to assist with this project, second by Council Member Hanna. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Prusator, Jensen, Huston, Hanna, and Moore. Absent: Weber and O'Loughlin.

Council Member Hanna with a motion to approve the Code of Ordinance Chapter 52.02 exemption request from Karla Kula for a conservation area in her yard, second by Council Member Moore. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Jensen, Huston, Hanna, Moore, and Prusator. Absent: Weber and O'Loughlin.

Council Member Jensen with a motion to authorize the purchase of the system quote in the attached document and authorize the City Manager to facilitate the purchase in the amount of \$155,249.00, second by Council Member Moore. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, and Jensen. Absent: Weber and O'Loughlin.

Council Member Moore with a motion to approve Change Order #21 for the Independence Façade Phase 1 project with no change to the contract amount and to authorize the City Manager to sign the Change Order, second by Council Member Jensen. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Hanna, Moore, Prusator, Jensen, and Huston. Absent: Weber and O'Loughlin.

REPORTS

The following comments were heard from Council and Staff: Prusator – Asked if there was progress on getting a contract to have a company come in and mow lawns that City Staff are not able to mow. Moore – There will be a meeting at Oakwood Cemetery this Wednesday at 6:00 pm for those that are interested. Hanna – A bank owns a property near her and she noticed the contractor takes a picture of the grass height before the grass is mowed. She asked if City Staff takes a similar picture of those lawns not in compliance with City Code? Mayor – On Saturday, June 22nd from 10 am – 2 pm, there will be an open house for the businesses that were in the Façade Project. There will be more discussion at the June 3rd work session for this event. City Manager – There will be a discussion on contracting a company to help mow lawns at a future work session. In a previous city he worked at, staff did take pictures of lawns not in compliance. That is something that can be looked to incorporate with procedures here. There will be a hearing notice agenda item on the May 28th agenda for the Independence Premium Foods Storm Water Project. There is a way for residents to get notifications from the City’s website regarding news and announcements. If residents need help in getting signed up for this, staff at the Independence Library can help. Received notification from Representative Hinson’s office that the grant for the Wastewater Treatment Plant project will be moving forward in the grant process with an amount of \$4,000,000. Police – There will be an open house this Wednesday at 1:30 pm to honor the 2 fallen Independence Police Officers and retire their badges. There were 91 attendees at the recent DLE training held last week.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Council Member Jensen, second by Council Member Moore to adjourn. Ayes: All. Absent: Weber and O’Loughlin.

Whereupon Mayor Bleichner declared the meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Brad Bleichner, Mayor of the City of Independence, Iowa

ATTEST:

Susi Lampe, IaCMC, IaCFO, City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Independence, Iowa