

The Independence City Council met in regular session in the council chambers at 5:00 p.m., on Monday, September 11, 2023.

Mayor Bleichner asked for a moment of silence for those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

OPENING/ROLL CALL

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

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

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Hanna, second by Council Member Moore to approve the agenda as presented for the regular meeting held September 11, 2023. Ayes: All.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Leanne Harrison, 514 5th Ave SW, spoke about the Underground Tour that was held on August 19, 2023. She also stated the Mill will be closing on September 16th for the season but will be open during the Farmers Market. The Lee Mansion is open on the weekends from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Heartland Acres will be having a Halloween event on Sunday, October 29, 2023, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

Mayor Bleichner read a proclamation declaring September 18 – 24, 2023, as National Rail Safety Week.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Huston, second by Council Member Hanna to accept and approve the consent agenda that approves the following: 1) The minutes of the August 28, 2023, Regular Meeting. Ayes: All.

FINANCIALS

Motion by Council Member O’Loughlin, second by Council Member Callahan to approve the following bills for payment. Council Member Moore asked a question regarding the claim to Pizza Ranch for almost \$4,000.00. City Clerk/Treasurer Lampe stated it was concessions for Parks and Rec. Ayes: All.

AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-CH	\$ 1,349.70
ARCHIVESOCIAL	DUES-CH	\$ 3,588.00
BAGBY'S AUTOMOTIVE	VEH REPAIR-ST	\$ 6,335.00
BEATTY, ROBERT	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
BLEICHNER, BRAD	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 100.00
BODENSTEINER IMPLEMENT 01	VEH REPAIR-PR	\$ 92.78
BOWKER MECHANICAL	SERVICES-SW	\$ 24,016.93
BRUENING ROCK PRODUCTS IN	ROAD ROCK-PR	\$ 218.23
CABELL, TRENTON	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
CARD SERVICES-ADMIN	MISC EXP-CH	\$ 1,628.00
CARD SERVICES-BLDG	MISC EXP-B	\$ 88.56
CARD SERVICES-FIRE	MISC EXP-F	\$ 891.90
CARD SERVICES-POLICE	MISC EXP-PD	\$ 589.85
CARD SERVICES-UTILITIES	MISC EXP-W	\$ 326.24
CARD SERVICES-VISA	MISC EXP-CH	\$ 701.45
CITY LAUNDERING CO INC	BLDG MAINT-B,PD,W	\$ 454.77
CONSOLIDATED ENERGY CO	FUEL-ALL	\$ 9,588.89
CRAWFORD ENGINEERING & SU	SERVICES-PR,ST,SW	\$ 38,675.81
CULLIGAN TOTAL WATER MONT	COMMERCIAL SALT-A	\$ 22.00
CURTIS ARCHITECTURE	SERVICES-CH	\$ 3,840.00
CY & CHARLEY'S FIRESTONE	SERVICES-PD,ST,W,F	\$ 12,932.48
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 312.43
DAN'S OVERHEAD DOORS	EQUIPMENT-A	\$ 738.75
DICK'S PETROLEUM COMPANY	SUPPLIES-A	\$ 2,055.89

DON'S TRUCK SALES INC	VEH REPAIR-F	\$ 926.45
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	SAFE-T FUND-ALL	\$ 6,657.07
ESCH, BRAD	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
FERGUSON ENTERPRISES LLC	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 15.65
FOLEY, TRAVIS	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
GALLS INC	UNIFORM-PD	\$ 552.93
GARAGE FORCE	SERVICES-PR	\$ 2,400.00
HARDWARE HANK	SUPPLIES-ST,PR,W,F,B	\$ 632.40
HAWKINS, INC.	CHEMICALS-W	\$ 1,746.00
HAYWARD, BLAKE	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
HY-VEE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 14.97
IA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOC	DUES-PD	\$ 35.00
IA STATE UNIVERSITY	TRAINING-CH	\$ 96.00
IMFOA	TRAINING-CH	\$ 150.00
INDEPENDENCE LIGHT & POWER	ADJUSTMENT	\$ 386.59
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$ 24,828.73
KAY PARK REC CORP	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 2,628.00
KEYSTONE LABORATORIES INC	LAB ANALYSIS-W	\$ 129.75
KILER, ANGELA	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
LARSON CONSTRUCTION CO INC	SERVICES-PD	\$ 6,561.08
LAU, BRIAN	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
LEGACY FIRE APPARATUS	VEH MAINT-F	\$ 12,947.56
LIFE TIME FENCE COMPANY	COMPLEX-PR	\$ 596.25
MANATT'S INC	SUPPLIES-CH	\$ 1,280.60
MAVERICK POWERSPORTS	EQUIP MAINT-PR	\$ 936.55
MULTIFORCE SYSTEMS CORP.	SUPPLIES-CH	\$ 125.00
NAPA AUTO PARTS	SUPPLIES-F,W,PR,ST	\$ 1,138.83
NESBIT, RYAN	TRAINING-F	\$ 263.50
OELWEIN PUBLISHING COMPANY	PUBLICAT-CH	\$ 219.68
OFFICE TOWNE INC	SUPPLIES-PD	\$ 348.14
P & N CORPORATION	FUEL PROFITS-A	\$ 1,552.51
PAYROLL CHECKS	TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS	\$ 79,987.48
PEAK RENTALS	RENTAL-PR	\$ 800.00
PENNER, KALEB	COACHES-PR	\$ 75.00
PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FINANCE	EQUIP LEASE-CH	\$ 315.48
PIZZA RANCH	CONCESSIONS-PR	\$ 3,942.78
PRECISION PLUMBING, HEATING	EQUIP MAINT-PR	\$ 920.00
PURCHASE POWER	POSTAGE-B,PR	\$ 258.98
PV BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES-ST	\$ 298.50
QC PLASTICS	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 837.28
QUAD COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS	TRAINING-PD	\$ 30.00
RACOM CORPORATION	EQUIPMENT-F	\$ 180.00
RECK, BRENT	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 45.00
S & K COLLECTIBLES	SHIPPING-F	\$ 81.09
SCHMITZ, MATTHEW	PHONE ALLOWANCE	\$ 100.00
SIGNS & MORE	CANINE PURCH-PD	\$ 1,875.86
STATE STREET BANK & TRUST	ICMA-RC \$ PRE	\$ 4,778.20
SUPERB CLEANING SERVICES	BLDG MAINT-L,PR	\$ 1,700.00
TASC	FLEX MEDICAL	\$ 1,259.81
TRUE VALUE HARDWARE	SUPPLIES-PR,F,	\$ 245.61
US CELLULAR	PHONE- F	\$ 200.88
USA BLUE BOOK	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 841.47
VERIZON WIRELESS	UTILITY-CH,PR,F,PD	\$ 172.26
VOGEL CROP SERVICES	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 537.50
WALZTONI MASONRY	BLDG MAINT-CH	\$ 2,500.00
WASTE MANAGEMENT	GARBAGE-ALL	\$ 47,368.26

WESTECH	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 4,277.51
WINTHROP NEWS, THE	PUBLICAT-CH	\$ 493.68
ZIESER CONSTRUCTION	COMPLEX-PR	\$ 9,060.40

CLAIMS TOTAL \$339,214.93; General Fund \$169,723.28; Library \$10,813.79; Streets Dept-Road Use \$19,660.53; Economic Development \$3,840.00; Cap Project-Street Improvement \$2,186.98; Parks & Rec Projects \$36,063.83; Cap Project-City Buildings \$6,561.08; Cap Outlay Savings/LOST \$30,829.41; Water Fund \$8,423.97; Sewer Utility Fund \$19,991.93; Storm Water \$21.13; Storm Water Projects \$24,441.93; Self Insurance \$6,522.07; Self Insurance-Enterprise \$135.00.

REVENUES MONTH TO DATE TOTAL \$72,686.61; General Fund \$21,388.32; Library \$235.80; Employee Benefits \$800.11; Parks & Rec Projects \$20,000.00; Water Fund \$10,435.65; Sewer Utility \$11,884.01; Storm Water \$1,597.65; Self Insurance \$6,250.07; Self Insurance-Enterprise \$95.00.

The revenues and expenses by department to date were available for council review and discussion.

HEARINGS & ORDINANCES

Council Member Hanna with a motion to set a public hearing for September 25, 2023, at 5:00 p.m., for the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Amendment #1, second by Council Member Prusator. Ayes: All.

Council Member O’Loughlin with a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance that amends provisions pertaining to nuisance abatement procedures and junk and junk vehicles, second by Council Member Prusator. Council Member Huston asked if questions were asked at the work session since he was absent. Mayor Bleichner replied there was discussion on what the process would be going forward for nuisance properties and the proposed ordinance amendments clarify items for the new process. Council Member Huston asked if the City had these ordinance chapters currently in place or were these chapters being added. Mayor Bleichner said the City does currently have the chapters in place. City Clerk/Treasurer Lampe said there was a red-lined version of the ordinance in the work session agenda packet that identifies the changes being made in the proposed amendment. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O’Loughlin, Jensen, and Callahan. Council Member Prusator with a motion that the statutory rule requiring an ordinance to be considered and voted on for passage at two Council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is to be finally passed be suspended, second by Council Member Moore. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O’Loughlin, Jensen, and Callahan. Nays: Huston. Council Member Moore with a motion to have this ordinance that amends provisions pertaining to nuisance abatement procedures and junk and junk vehicles be placed on its final passage for adoption pursuant to Iowa Code Section 380.3, second by Council Member Hanna. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Moore, Prusator, O’Loughlin, Jensen, Callahan, Huston, and Hanna.

Ordinance adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-579 in the Official Book of Ordinances.

RESOLUTIONS

Council Member Prusator with a motion to approve the City Manager to sign the agreement with Crawford Engineering for Engineering Services for the 2024 Street Rehabilitation Project, second by Council Member O’Loughlin. Mayor Bleichner reminded Council Members the City has a 5-year Street Rehabilitation Plan. The 2023 Street Rehabilitation Project is currently being done, and the 2024 Street Rehabilitation Project will be starting soon with the design portion. Discussion was held on the funding and the engineer’s estimate of construction cost for the proposed 2024 Street Rehabilitation Project. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Prusator, O’Loughlin, Jensen, Callahan, Huston, Hanna, and Moore.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-74 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

Council Member O’Loughlin with a motion to approve a resolution that accepts the work covering the Airport AWOS Project and authorizes the Mayor to sign the resolution, second by Council Member Callahan. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: O’Loughlin, Jensen, Callahan, Huston, Hanna, Moore, and Prusator.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-75 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

Council Member Jensen with a motion to approve a resolution that accepts the work covering the Independence Police Station Remodel Project and authorizes the Mayor to sign the resolution, second by Council Member Callahan. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Jensen, Callahan, Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, and O’Loughlin.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-76 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

Council Member Callahan with a motion to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement with Premier Animal Wellness and Surgery for feral cat sterilization, rabies vaccination, and euthanasia services, second by Council Member O’Loughlin. Mayor Bleichner stated this item approves the agreement that outlines the services being provided, dates services can be done, and the associated costs. Council Member Moore asked for clarification about the euthanasia services related to a homeowner that does or does not want a cat euthanized. City Manager Schmitz replied if a homeowner wishes for the cat to be returned to the neighborhood, then it will be. General discussion was held about the exact services being done. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Callahan, Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, and O’Loughlin. Nays: Jensen.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-77 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

Council Member Callahan with a motion to approve a resolution to assess property owner(s) for Chapter 52 Mowing of Properties – Failure to Comply and authorizes the Mayor to sign the resolution, second by Council Member Huston. Council Member Hanna asked if this person did not pay in the allotted time frame. City Clerk/Treasurer Lampe replied this is correct. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Huston, Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O’Loughlin, Jensen, and Callahan.

Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2023-78 in the Official Book of Resolutions.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Member Callahan with a motion to approve the sale of the current Police Dog to Jessica Honey, owner of Guardian K9 in the amount of \$1.00, second by Council Member O’Loughlin. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Hanna, Moore, Prusator, O’Loughlin, Jensen, Callahan, and Huston.

Council Member Callahan with a motion to approve the Commercial Restoration Rehabilitation Grant for 117 1st Street East in the amount of \$3,149.31, second by Council Member Moore. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Moore, Prusator, O’Loughlin, Jensen, Callahan, Huston, and Hanna.

REPORTS

The following comments were heard from Council and Staff: O’Loughlin – Received two calls regarding the transfer station at Waste Management being closed today. Jensen – The Annual Wine and Chocolate walk is September 21, 2023, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Huston – The best way to honor those lost on September 11, 2001, is to enjoy our freedoms and to pray for those that suffer in tyranny. City Manager – The City is unable to apply for the upcoming CDBG grant for more façade projects until Façade Project Phase 1 is complete. BankIowa is not interested in selling their property located behind The Brick Kitchen. Blue Buffalo will be hosting a job fair tomorrow for their employees. The September 25th agenda will be done using the new agenda software. City Clerk/Treasurer – The ordinances from the 2023 Legislative update are now in effect. If a Council Member’s Code of Ordinances book is not here, please bring it for the updates to be put in.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Council Member Callahan, second by Council Member O’Loughlin to adjourn. Ayes: All.

Whereupon Mayor Bleichner declared the meeting adjourned at 5:44 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