

The Independence City Council met in regular session in the council chambers at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, July 14, 2025.

OPENING/ROLL CALL

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

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

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Jensen, second by Council Member Mayner to approve the agenda as presented for the regular meeting held July 14, 2025. Ayes: All.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jason Keninger, 301 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, addressed the Council regarding the second notice of violation he received about a repurposed toilet flower planter in the right-of-way. He asked again if the City would be doing something with the other items he found to be in the City’s right-of-way throughout Independence. He also mentioned interactions he had in the past with the Independence Police Department and the possibility of him bringing a lawsuit against them.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member O’Loughlin, second by Council Member Hanna to accept and approve the consent agenda that approves the following: a) The minutes of the June 23, 2025, Regular Meeting. b) Independence BrewBQ Special Class C Retail Alcohol License application with a tentative effective date of August 22, 2025, through August 26, 2025. c) Chuong Garden Special Class C Retail Alcohol License renewal with a tentative effective date of July 11, 2025, through July 10, 2026, d) Request to hunt with City limits from Kent Young Jr. for the October 1, 2025, to January 10, 2026, bowhunting season. e) Request to hunt within City limits from Daniel Young for the October 1, 2025, to January 10, 2026, bowhunting season. Ayes: All.

FINANCIALS

Motion by Council Member Prusator, second by Council Member Weber to approve the following bills for payment. Ayes: All.

ACCO	CHEMICALS-PR	\$ 3,621.10
ACE HARDWARE	SUPPLIES-PR,W,ST,A,F,CH	\$ 4,912.73
ADP	PAYROLL CHECKS	\$ 279,120.83
ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	SUPPLIES-A	\$ 6.82
AIR SERVICES INC	BLDG MAINT-CH	\$ 330.90
ALLEN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH	SERVICES-F	\$ 38.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-CH,PD	\$ 528.05
ASSURITY LIFE INSURANCE	ASSUR CRIT ILL	\$ 491.10
AVFUEL CORPORATION	EQUIP RENTAL-A	\$ 40.00
BEAM INSURANCE ADMIN LLC	VSP-BEAM PRETAX	\$ 478.73
BEATTY, DREW	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 90.00
BEATTY, ROBERT	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 50.00
BEENBLOSUM, NATHAN	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 356.56
BLAD, CHRISTIAN	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 623.99
BLEICHNER, BRAD	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 100.00
BRUENING ROCK PRODUCTS IN	MATERIALS-ST,W	\$ 1,797.38
BUCHANAN COUNTY HEALTH CE	SERVICES-F	\$ 24.02
BUTLER, JOHN R	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 50.00
CABELL, TRENTON	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 50.00
CARD SERVICES-VISA	MISC EXP-CH,F,W,A,PR	\$ 16,759.89
CITY LAUNDERING CO INC	BLDG MAINT-PD	\$ 178.80
CIVICPLUS	SOFTWARE-B	\$ 19,575.00
CONSOLIDATED ENERGY CO	FUEL-PR,ST	\$ 2,571.53

CRAWFORD ENGINEERING & SU	SERVICES-SW	\$ 10,957.50
D & S PORTABLES INC	SERVICES-PR	\$ 1,750.00
DAVE SCHMITT CONSTRUCTION	SERVICES-W	\$ 4,195.27
DECKER SPORTING GOODS	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 1,019.10
DECKER, JASON	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 169.37
DELGADO-CONNOR, TONY	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 142.63
DELL MARKETING, LP	SUPPLIES-A,CH,F	\$ 7,712.14
DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA	DENTAL INSURANCE	\$ 3,941.96
DETEMMERMAN, CALEB	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 380.00
DIRT DIAMOND DIVAS	REFUND-PR	\$ 300.00
DUNLAP MOTORS INC	VEH MAINT-PR	\$ 49.93
EASTERN IOWA EXCAVATING	SERVICES-CH	\$ 157,757.04
ELITE LAND IMPROVEMENT	SERVICES-W	\$ 7,333.50
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	SAFE-T FUND-ALL	\$ 10,379.90
ERICKSON-DALE, TANNER	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 258.51
ESCH, BRAD	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 50.00
FAHR BEVERAGE INC	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 613.97
FANGMAN, TY	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 418.96
FAREWAY STORES INC	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 6,256.32
FENNER, GORDY	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 106.97
FLUHR, JEREMY	REFUND-PR	\$ 350.00
FOLEY, TRAVIS	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 50.00
GIBBY'S CATERING & VENDIG	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 336.00
GREINER, TANYA	REIMBURSE-PR	\$ 50.00
HAMILTON, SAM	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 260.00
HAWKINS, INC.	CHEMICALS-W	\$ 4,782.43
HAYWARD, BLAKE	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 50.00
HOMAN, CARTER	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 270.00
HOOKEM, WES	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 187.20
HOYLE PHOTOGRAPHY	PICTURES-PR	\$ 2,300.00
HUNTER'S AUTO CENTER	TOWING-PD	\$ 75.00
HUPKE, BEN	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 765.00
HUPKE, DEWEY	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 330.00
IA DEPT OF REVENUE	SALES TAX-PR,W	\$ 12,196.70
IA DNR	DUES-W	\$ 659.26
IA PRISON INDUSTRIES	SUPPLIES-CH	\$ 825.00
ICAP	INSURE-CH	\$ 2,571.00
IPERS	IPERS REG/PROT	\$ 35,110.62
J & R SUPPLY INC	SUPPLIES-ST,W	\$ 470.00
JACOBS, MORGAN	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 311.99
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SUPPLIES-ST,PR,F,A,W,SW	\$ 3,158.66
KILER, ANGELA	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 50.00
KILER, CHASE	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 165.00
KLUESNER SANITATION, LLC	GARBAGE-G	\$ 48,544.64
KOBLINSKA, BOBBY	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 1,115.00
KOCH CONSTRUCTION	SERVICES-PR	\$ 19,500.00
KREMER, KADEN	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 240.00
KUENNEN, GABE	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 785.00
KULA, KARLA	REIMBURSE-PR	\$ 70.00
KURT, JAKE	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 481.36
LARSON, TYCE	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 360.00
LAU, BRIAN	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 50.00
LEGALSHIELD	LEGAL/ID BENEFIT	\$ 161.62
LYNCH, DAVE	SERVICES-ST	\$ 1,100.00
LYON, DANE	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 125.00
MAVERICK POWERSPORTS	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 117.90

MEIKE, CAIDEN	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 1,710.00
MERGEN, BLAYNE	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 110.00
MESTAD, GAVIN	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 140.00
METLIFE	LIFE-LTD-AD&D	\$ 1,429.51
MEYER, CHRISTOPHER	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 240.00
MICROBAC LABORATORIES INC	LAB ANALYSIS-W	\$ 293.50
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPAN	UTILITY-PR,PD,CH,W	\$ 7,791.46
MIDWEST BREATHING AIR L.L	SERVICES-F	\$ 197.25
MOHR, JASON	REFUND-PR	\$ 150.00
MYERS-COX CO	CONCESSIONS-PR	\$ 4,162.11
NEJDL, MICHELLE	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 50.00
NICOLAS, ROY	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 106.97
NORTH CENTRAL LABORATORIE	LAB ANALYSIS-W	\$ 25.85
NORTHEAST IOWA RC&D	DUES-SW	\$ 4,000.00
NUTRIEN AG SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 270.94
OELWEIN PUBLISHING COMPAN	PUBLICAT-CH	\$ 1,068.12
OFFICE TOWNE INC	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 1,218.12
P & N CORPORATION	FUEL PROFITS-A	\$ 1,055.57
PECK, KYLE	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 360.00
PEPSI-COLA GEN. BOT. IN	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 4,077.61
PIZZA RANCH	SUPPLIES-PR	\$ 3,290.95
PRECISION PLUMBING, HEATI	SERVICES-PR	\$ 123.61
PUFFETT, JACOB	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 290.00
PURCHASE POWER	POSTAGE-PR	\$ 45.68
PUSH-PEDAL-PULL INC	EQUIP MAINT-PR	\$ 1,231.00
RATCHFORD, DANIEL	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 8.91
RECHKEMMER, LANDON	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 390.00
RECK, BRENT	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 50.00
REED, NOLAN	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 220.00
REED, RANGER	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 180.00
REICKS, DREW	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 205.02
RETROFIT ENVIRONMENTAL	SERVICES-CH	\$ 3,595.00
RIVER PALACE HOLDINGS INC	GRANT REIMBURSE-CH	\$ 40,000.00
ROMAN, ANDREW	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 650.73
ROTTINGHAUS, ANDY	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 950.00
RUMMEL, CARSON	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 460.00
RYAN EXTERMINATING INC	PEST CONTROL-PR	\$ 78.23
RYDELL AUTO GROUP	VEH MAINT-PD	\$ 46.76
SADLER, JD	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 270.00
SATTIZAHN, ALEX	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 196.11
SCHANTZ, LANDEN	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 305.00
SCHISSEL, CALE	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 1,030.00
SCHMITZ, MATTHEW	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 100.00
SCHULER, ANTHONY	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 142.63
SENSYS GATSO GROUP	SERVICES-PD	\$ 27,498.70
SIGNS & MORE	SIGNS-PR	\$ 965.78
SIMMERING-CORY IA CODIFI	CODE UPDATES-CH	\$ 668.00
SIMMONS, JENNIFER	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 151.54
SIMMONS, TAYLOR	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 106.97
SOUKUP, BRETT	PHONE ALLOW	\$ 50.00
SPAHN & ROSE LUMBER COMPA	SUPPLIES-PR,ST	\$ 16,295.87
SPEER FINANCIAL INC	SERVICES-CH	\$ 12,405.00
STAR EQUIPMENT, LTD	SUPPLIES-ST	\$ 28.74
STATE STREET BANK & TRUST	MISSIONSQUARE ICMA RC BENEFIT	\$ 11,187.58
STEVE GEE CONSTRUCTION	SERVICES-W,S,SW	\$ 14,870.87
STRAND ASSOCIATES	SERVICES-W	\$ 500.00

STRESSCRETE INC	SUPPLIES-ST	\$ 6,904.00
SUPERB CLEANING SERVICES	BLDG MAINT-PR	\$ 2,635.00
SYNTECH	SERVICES-A	\$ 271.00
T MOBILE	PHONE-PD,F,CH,B,PR,W	\$ 901.54
TASC	FLEX MEDICAL	\$ 2,769.46
TILL, BRODY	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 133.71
TROTT TROPHIES	AWARDS-PR	\$ 600.00
TRUE VALUE HARDWARE	SUPPLIES-PR,W,F	\$ 650.29
UMB BANK NA	BOND FEES-CH	\$ 300.00
US CELLULAR	PHONE-W	\$ 46.40
USA BLUE BOOK	SUPPLIES-W	\$ 678.89
VANSCOYOC, BRADY	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 360.00
VERIZON WIRELESS	PHONE-PD	\$ 41.47
WALMART COMMUNITY	SUPPLIES-PR,W,ST	\$ 455.95
WASTE MANAGEMENT	GARBAGE-ALL	\$ 52,624.98
WEBER, TREY	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 390.00
WELLMARK BCBS	HEALTH BENEFIT	\$ 45,856.15
WEX BANK	FUEL-A,CH,F,PD,PR,W	\$ 3,795.58
WHITAKER, LANDON	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 380.00
WILSON, DAVID	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 495.00
WINN, MCCOY	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 295.00
WOLF, JACOB	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 499.19
WOOD, HOLLI	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 220.00
WULFEKUHLE, JORDON	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 213.94
YOUNGBLUT, DAX	UMPIRE-PR	\$ 1,590.00
ZIMMERLY, MIKE	VOLUNTEER-F	\$ 26.74

**CLAIMS TOTAL \$973,742.86;** General Fund \$480,814.91; Library \$23,941.45; Streets Dept-Road Use \$36,005.18; Employee Benefits \$72,870.79; Economic Development \$40,000.00; Debt Service \$300.00; Cap Outlay Savings/LOST \$14,928.26; Water Fund \$52,498.78; Sewer Utility Fund \$63,555.93; Storm Water \$9,733.12; Storm Water Projects \$168,714.54; Self Insurance \$10,325.96; Self Insurance-Enterprise \$53.94.

**REVENUES MONTH TO DATE TOTAL \$2,770,236.49;** General Fund \$102,785.18; Library \$251.93; Employee Benefits \$140.00; Cap Project-Street Improvement \$900,000.00; Cap Outlay Savings/LOST \$942,385.35; Cap Project-1<sup>st</sup> St W Reconstruction \$425,000.00; Water Fund \$46,325.70; Sewer Utility \$156,467.01; Storm Water \$6,501.42; Storm Water Projects \$180,000.00; Self Insurance \$10,325.96; Self Insurance-Enterprise \$53.94.

The June 2025 bank reconciliation and the revenues and expenses by department to date were available for council review and discussion.

**INDEE STORAGE URBAN RENEWAL AREA**

Mayor Bleichner stated, pursuant to the agenda, he will now convene a public hearing for the establishment of the July 2025 Urban Renewal Area. City Clerk Lampe stated no comments were received regarding the July 2025 Urban Renewal Area. Mayor Bleichner closed the public hearing and stated City Clerk Lampe will note all comments in the record.

Council Member Jensen with a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution to declare necessity and establish an urban renewal area, pursuant to Section 403.4 of the Code of Iowa, and to approve the urban renewal plan and projects for the July 2025 Urban Renewal Area, second by Council Member O’Loughlin. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Hanna, Moore, Mayner, Prusator, O’Loughlin, Jensen, and Weber.

**Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2025-56 in the Official Book of Resolutions.**

Council Member O’Loughlin with a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance providing for the division of taxes levied on taxable property in the July 2025 Urban Renewal Area, pursuant to Section 403.19 of the Code of Iowa, second by Council Member Hanna. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Moore, Mayner, Prusator, O’Loughlin, Jensen, and Weber. Council Member O’Loughlin 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 Prusator. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Mayner, Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, Weber, and Moore. Nays: Hanna. Council Member Moore with a motion to have this ordinance that provides for the division of taxes levied on taxable property in the July 2025 Urban Renewal Area, pursuant to Section 403.19 of the Code of Iowa, be placed on its final passage for adoption pursuant to Iowa Code Section 380.3 and to authorize the Mayor to sign the Ordinance, second by Council Member Mayner. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, Weber, Hanna, Moore, and Mayner.

**Ordinance adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2025-610 in the Official Book of Ordinances.**

Council Member O'Loughlin with a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution that sets a public hearing on July 28, 2025, at 5:30 pm for the proposal to approve a development agreement with Indee Storage, LLC, including the proposal for annual appropriation tax increment payments, second by Council Member Jensen. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: O'Loughlin, Jensen, Weber, Hanna, Moore, Mayner, and Prusator.

**Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2025-57 in the Official Book of Resolutions.**

**RESOLUTIONS**

Council Member Prusator with a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution approving an extension of the moratorium on the enforcement of certain signage regulations, second by Council Member Jensen. Mayor Bleichner stated in October 2024 and February 2025, Council approved the moratorium on downtown signage. The Planning and Zoning Commission has been working on this, but it is taking longer than anticipated. Council Member Prusator asked how long the extension will be for? City Manager Schmitz replied it will be extended for another 120 days, and this is the third extension. Council Member O'Loughlin commented this is not an easy process as properties on the north side of 1<sup>st</sup> Street has the property line that goes to the curb and the south side does not. In order to be fair, Planning and Zoning has to be careful with this. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Jensen, Weber, Hanna, Moore, Mayner, Prusator, and O'Loughlin.

**Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2025-58 in the Official Book of Resolutions.**

Council Member Moore with a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution that approves Pay Application #2 in the amount of \$157,757.04 to Eastern Iowa Excavating & Concrete LLC for the 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW – IPF Stormwater Improvements Project, second by Council Member Jensen. City Clerk/Treasurer Lampe stated the project is not completed yet. This is just approving a pay application request. City Manager Schmitz shared he will have an update on the project during his report at the end of the meeting. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Weber, Hanna, Moore, Mayner, Prusator, O'Loughlin, and Jensen.

**Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2025-59 in the Official Book of Resolutions.**

Council Member Hanna with a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution to assess property owner(s) for Chapter 52, Mowing of Properties – Failure to Comply, second by Council Member Moore. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Hanna, Moore, Mayner, Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, and Weber.

**Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2025-60 in the Official Book of Resolutions.**

Council Member O'Loughlin with a motion to set a public hearing on July 28, 2025, at 5:30 pm for consideration of a rezoning request from C-2 Commercial to C-1 Commercial within the City of Independence, Buchanan County, Iowa, second by Council Member Weber. Council Member Hanna asked what the difference is between C-1 and C-2? Mayor Bleichner said the difference between the two is the set-back requirements and would allow 319 Social Club to place a sign in a better location. City Manager Schmitz said the set-back restrictions in C-1 are not as strict as C-2. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Moore, Mayner, Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, Weber, and Hanna.

**Resolution adopted and upon approval by Mayor assigned No. 2025-61 in the Official Book of Resolutions.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Council Member Mayner with a motion to authorize the City Manager to move forward with the purchase of a pickup for the Independence Streets Department, second by Council Member Hanna. City Manager Schmitz explained this is a Fiscal Year 2026 budgeted expense, but it is over the designated amount in the purchasing policy where it needs to be approved by the City Council. The pickup is here and it will just need to have the plow and other items added to it before the Streets Department takes delivery of it. Council Member Hanna asked if a vehicle was being traded in? City Manager Schmitz didn't believe there was a trade, but he would double check. The roll

being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Mayner, Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, Weber, Hanna, and Moore.

Council Member Mayner with a motion to authorize the City Manager to move forward with the purchase of extrication tools for the Independence Fire Department, second by Council Member Jensen. City Manager Schmitz stated this is being brought forth as it is over the \$50,000 limit in the purchasing policy and requires Council approval. The Independence Fire Department did receive two grants and held fundraisers to be able to purchase the tools. Independence Fire Chief Hayward spoke that the department did their research on the tools provided from different vendors before selecting MacQueen's quote. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Prusator, O'Loughlin, Jensen, Weber, Hanna, Moore, and Mayner.

Council Member O'Loughlin with a motion to authorize the City Manager to proceed with the project and to take necessary actions to update the signal at the intersection of Highway 150 South and Enterprise Drive, second by Council Member Jensen. Mayor Bleichner stated the City has verified the traffic signal is the City's responsibility. City Manager Schmitz said the signals are not detecting traffic and the decision was made to put them to a timing system until it can be repaired. City Manager Schmitz has been working with Independence Light and Power to get the signals updated to a radar system. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: O'Loughlin, Jensen, Weber, Hanna, Moore, Mayner, and Prusator.

Council Member Prusator with a motion to start the 657A process for the properties located at 204 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NE, 416 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, and 214 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, second by Council Member O'Loughlin. Mayor Bleichner stated the identified properties have been vacant for a long period of time. Council Member Hanna asked what is the City's plan for the properties if the City does acquire them? City Manager Schmitz said it is up to the Council to decide what the next steps are. At this time, staff is just looking to see if Council would support the start of the 657A process for them. Building Official Chesmore stated the property on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE might not be salvageable and encouraged the Council to drive by it. Discussion was held about the property on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW as some work had been done, but there is still more to be done. Council Member Moore asked what is the anticipated timeline to go through the process? City Manager Schmitz said it can vary from one property to another. Building Official Chesmore said the first step is to do a title opinion to know who owns the property for sure. The roll being called the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Jensen, Weber, Hanna, Moore, Mayner, Prusator, and O'Loughlin.

## REPORTS

The following comments were heard from Council and Staff: Building Department Report – Council Member Hanna asked what can the City do to address the comment on page 183 of the agenda packet that a resident made? Where is the City at with amending the ordinance that addresses this topic? City Manager Schmitz replied that the ordinance amendment is one of several he is working on. Mayor Bleichner commented on the number of projects and valuations. Hanna – She had a citizen ask her if the City has equipment to shave bumps in the roads? Moore – Asked for an update on the 1<sup>st</sup> Street West Reconstruction project. O'Loughlin – Didn't the City bond for the 1<sup>st</sup> Street West Reconstruction? When can another application be submitted? Kudos to everyone that worked on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July events. Mayner – Commended the departments that responded to the flash flooding events on Friday. Prusator – Has heard lots of positive feedback about Kluesner and the transition of services. Jensen – Impressed with the number of baseball events and seeing the little kids in jerseys. City Manager – The Street Department rents equipment to address bumps in the roads. He contacted AECOM earlier this month. The grants were awarded a few weeks ago, but no one has been notified of the status. It is worth noting that Federal funding for projects is still being worked on at the Federal level still. The 1<sup>st</sup> Street West Reconstruction project is still on his mind. Applications for that specific grant are due January of every year. The IPF project is moving forward. The cement was poured for the loading docks over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July as the plant was closed and this allowed the cement adequate time to cure. Debi Durham, IEDA Director, will be visiting Independence on Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> to visit the Gedney building. The new lighting project along Lovers Lane will be moving forward as schedules allow for both the City and Independence Light and Power. He would like to do lighting along Liberty Trail in the future. Council Members had a copy Cindy McCardle's retirement letter at their respective seats. Thanks to Streets Department for all the work setting up for the 4<sup>th</sup>. He also provided further explanation of Mr. Keninger's second letter he received. Mayor – Council Member Hanna, Council Member Moore, and himself attended the Buchanan County Supervisor's meeting held earlier today. The EMS Levy proposal will be on this November ballot again. City Clerk – Bond proceeds were earmarked for the 1<sup>st</sup> Street West Reconstruction from the 2023 issuance. Funds had to be moved to accommodate the IPF project as that was moving forward. There are funds from the 2025 GO Bond earmarked for each project.

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Council Member Jensen second by Council Member Mayner to adjourn. Ayes: All.

Whereupon Mayor Bleichner declared the meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Brad Bleichner, Mayor of the City of Independence, Iowa

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

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