

**CITY OF CLARKSVILLE
CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING
July 6, 2023**

The Clarksville City Council met in regular session on July 6, 2023 in the City Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Michael Grantham presiding and Council Members Taran Sherburne, Wendy Brooks, Roger Doty and Brock Lodge present, Jennifer Kielman was absent. Other city employees present were: Molly Bohlen, City Clerk, Jared Brunner, Maintenance, and Police Chief Mackey. Members of the public present: Bruce Toenjes, City Attorney, Jerad Corbin, Teresa Negen, Cindy Wedeking, Chris White, Rhonda Landrum, Representatives from VT: Adam Mapes, CW Miller, and Raju Vuppalapti, and Nicholas Vassios, Clarksville Star.

Rhonda Landrum commented on how good the flag poles look after the dedication ceremony.

Mayor Topics: None

Motion Brooks, Doty to approve and adopt items contained in the Consent Agenda and Minutes for (06/19/2023). Ayes: Sherburne, Lodge, Doty, Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman.

Update on vacating Weare St by VT Industries. Toenjes states that the city has the ability to vacate the road, but would take at least 2 council meetings and public hearing. In order for the city to vacate the road ½ of the road would go to each side to the property owners. If VT needs entire width of street they could go to each land owner and see if they would deed the street to VT. Toenjes also brings up Baughman St that runs north and south and that would become a dead end road. This is something that council would want to think about because this road is part of the levy system. Adam Mapes states that VT would possibly be expanding in the future as well. VT does rent storage space from Leibold's in their shed. Toenjes states that VT would need to talk with homeowners regarding the street and that he, Mayor, and City Clerk could work with them prior to next meeting to get a plan in place.

Jerad Corbin of Access Copier was present and able to discuss copier proposal and comparisons regarding new equipment vs leased equipment contract. He was able to provide background of the company and services that they do offer. Council agreed after hearing proposal that it would be cost effective and beneficial to purchase new copier.

Motion Brooks, Sherburne to purchase new copier for City Hall. Ayes: Sherburne, Lodge, Doty, Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman.

City Clerk provided update from Lucas, Fehr-Graham Engineering with Ilgenfritz Storm Sewer Project. He is projecting putting the project out for bid by next council meeting on July 17th and that things are moving forward as expected.

Maintenance provided updates on the follow:

1. Prospect Street replacement, curb & gutter quote, replacing curb & gutter where fire hydrants were replaced last year. Presented quotes for street replacement from Blacktop Services and curb/gutter replacement from Bloker Masonry. Sherburne questioned if they could do asphalt curb/gutter instead of concrete, no one knew the answer. Lodge states that concrete would probably hold up longer than asphalt.

Motion Sherburne, Doty to table discussion until we can check on finances and how to fund the project as we have many projects going. Ayes: Sherburne, Lodge, Doty, Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman.

2. Barnett did replace the curb & gutter on West & East Superior today during the day. Proposed cost of the project was ~\$2000. Brunner states Barnett was able to provide help with concrete needed at the playground in conjunction with the curbs getting done.
3. Update provided on fire hydrant replacement by the trailer court waiting on Barnett to provide details of what to order from supplier to get the items needed.

Motion Brooks, Sherburne to approve Ord No. 310: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CLARKSVILLE, IOWA BY AMENDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO CHAPTER 77 GOLF CARTS. RCV/Ayes: Sherburne, Lodge, Doty, Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman.

Motion Brooks, Sherburne to waive 2nd & 3rd readings of Ord No 310. Ayes: Sherburne, Lodge, Doty, Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman.

Teresa Negen representing Main Street Businesses Group was present and spoke regarding concerns in the downtown area. The following were discussed: 1. Drainage: when snow is on both sides of the road the drainage system doesn't seem to keep up. 2. Snow removal: State clears Hwy 188, followed by city clearing the parking area and then business owners clear sidewalks back into the street which makes that area not as

accessible. 3. Sidewalks: over the years have deteriorated and need some repair. They were unsure who was responsible for the upkeep/maintenance of it. 4. Working to fill buildings in the downtown area and that brings up safety concerns, rundown buildings, question building inspection process, etc. 5. Commercial properties being filled with residents. At one time Negen states she thought there was an Ordinance preventing commercial storefronts from being resided in. 6. Grants: Negen has been researching grant opportunities and feels that there could be many that would apply to the downtown area. These issues/concerns were brought to the council to help with problems solving ideas. Council appreciated Negen bringing these items up and will do some research to see if they could help.

Lodge wanted to discuss Street Repair by Todd Backer. Lodge states that a tree in the City ROW caused the problem. There were tree roots in the sewer line and it needed to be repaired so in fact it wasn't the home owners problem, but the cities. Wedeking asked if the tree had been removed. Lodge states that 1 tree had been removed and 1 remained.

Motion Brooks, Sherburne to approve City paying for street repair on W Jefferson St. Ayes: Sherburne, Lodge, Doty, Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman.

Cindy Wedeking was present to give a playground installation update and states that currently 3 pieces of equipment are cemented in. She stressed that a few generous volunteers and city employees have helped with getting them in place. She is needing to update grant information and is hoping that the project will be completed in a month or two.

Maintenance provided lift station quotes from Iowa Pump Works and Electric Pump as requested by council to include the electrical panel. Discussion around the quotes.

Motion Sherburne, Doty to accept Iowa Pump Works quote for lift station. Ayes: Sherburne, Lodge, Doty, Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman.

Building permits were presented by Maintenance.

1. Joe Wedeking Jr. Corner of West Greene & South Adams. He wants to put up a single family dwelling.
2. Stacy Ragsdale: 1118 S Mather St. adding a new garage and small storage building, as well as removing current buildings on the property. Motion Lodge, Sherburne to waive and approve the square footage
3. Mark & Bobbie McMullen: residential improvement and storage. Upon council request they did obtain neighbors signatures.
4. Arlene Conklin: 121 East Sycamore St. Adding sidewalk in front of house.
5. Dustin Blue: 420 W Poisal St. Fence to keep dogs in the yard. Maintenance went to look at fence and stated to Deputy Clerk that we needed the height of the fence. On 06/23/23 Deputy clerk contacted Dustin and stated that the fence could only be 4 feet tall, but Dustin states his is 5 feet and maintenance measured it at 5 feet. Blue had stated that he would use bolt cutters to shorten the fence. Maintenance did not approve the building permit and wanted to have council approve it. Blue was told that council was not going to meet again until 7/6/23 and he stated that he didn't want to wait to put it in. At council meeting it was stated that the fence was in fact put in. Council discussed this issue and made decision. Chief Mackey states that he would check on this.

Motion Brooks, Sherburne to have Dustin Blue remove the fence and re-do according to the Ordinance. Ayes: Sherburne, Lodge, Doty, Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman.

Motion Sherburne, Brooks to approve all other building permits as presented by Maintenance. Ayes: Sherburne, Lodge, Doty, Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman.

Camper/Treehouse Discussion-City Clerk had received a phone call questioning if a treehouse could be built on top of a camper that had a deteriorating roof. The camper is registered and has wheels which makes it mobile. Council discussed and stated that they would not approve this being done.

Motion Brooks, no second to approve Res 23-13 for Library Staff Salaries as approved by Library Board. Motion did not pass, however Library Board of Trustees has already approved Library employee raises.

Motion Sherburne, Brooks to approve Casey's Cigarette/Tobacco Permit for the 2023-2024 FY. Ayes: Sherburne, Lodge, Doty, Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman.

Discussion regarding the following: ADA sidewalks on Main, Superior St., school, and other areas in town. Mayor states that there is a RAISE grant for this. Mayor asks maintenance if he could provide a list and number of intersections that need fixed.

Residential sidewalk replacement update-Ragsdale. Lodge has had discussion with Ragsdale regarding the sidewalk and states it will be replaced by next summer after things have settled. Brooks also had a discussion with Ragsdale regarding the sidewalk. Ragsdale states that he has done a lot of work in town and

put a lot of money into making improvements. He did bring up an issue that his neighbor parks on the sidewalk and has a lot of things sitting in the yard.

Motion Brooks, Sherburne to approve June monthly expenditures and clerk reports as presented by City Clerk. Ayes: Sherburne, Lodge, Doty, Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman.

Salary comparison and proposed salary increases, COLA discussion. Discussion surrounding pay, benefits, total package provided by the city. Clerk explained that each month Health Insurance and IPERS claims are published in the paper for the public to see, as well as Payroll. Lodge states that he wants the public to see what the package deal looks like working for the city.

Motion Brooks, Doty to approve pay increases to be set annually for the FY starting in July. Ayes: Doty, Brooks. Nays: Lodge, Sherburne. Absent: Kielman. Motion not carried.

Motion Brooks, no second to have performance reviews completed annually by June 1 prior to FY. Motion not carried.

Performance Evaluation for Molly Bohlen completed by Kielman and presented to the council.

Motion Brooks, no second to give 5% pay increase to City Clerk effective July 1, 2023. Motion not carried.

Motion Sherburne, Brooks to adjourn regular City Council meeting at 8:46 pm.

Michael Grantham
Mayor

Attest: Molly Bohlen
City Clerk