

Madrid City Council
Regular Meeting
March 20, 2017
5:30 p.m.

The City Council meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Dirk Ringgenberg presiding.

Present at Roll Call: Steve Burich, Kurt Kruse, Val Chapman, Dave Cook and Lane Shaver.

Other City Officials Present: Public Works Director Scott Church, City Attorney John Jordan, Deputy City Clerk Mary Jo Reese, Public Safety Director Rick Tasler, Labor Day Committee member Chuck Rigby and Planning and Zoning Board Member Randy Dalton.

Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Chapman to approve the agenda for March 20, 2017.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Kruse to open the public hearing regarding Ordinance # 474, # An Ordinance Amending the Code of the City of Madrid, Iowa, 1999, by Amending Title II, Division 2, Chapter 36 "Sidewalk Regulations."

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Deputy City Clerk MaryJo Reese advised there had been no commentary received at City Hall regarding the proposed Ordinance.

Peggy Welder of 509 N Kennedy Avenue approached the Council to request exemption from the sidewalk ordinance as 25' of her property has easements for utilities, while the remainder of her sidewalks are the corridor to Madrid High School, and is heavily used by snowmobiles during snow periods. Mayor Ringgenberg advised her sidewalk which is located on Highway 17 fall under the authority of the IDOT for repair. The IDOT plans to repair or replace sidewalks along Highway 17, and Highway 210 starting in 2022.

Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Burich to close the public hearing at 5:34 p.m.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Chapman, seconded by Councilperson Cook to approve the City Council meeting minutes of March 6, 2017, Library Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2017, Labor Day Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2017, Special City Council Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2017, and Park Board Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2017, by consent agenda.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Cook, seconded by Councilperson Chapman to approve the claims in the amount of \$42,447.37.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Jason Kemp from the organization "Home Base Iowa" approached the Council to explain the program was started in 2013 to make Iowa communities more veteran friendly and entice more veterans to relocate to Iowa. Kemp stated Home Base Iowa is a point of contact where veterans can go to see what is available to them in each city, and connects them with county,

state, and federal benefits. Kemp asks that each community have a city resolution passed explaining an incentive program within the city for veterans.

Perry Gjersvik of SEH Consulting explained the proposed SRF planning and design loan for the wastewater treatment project. He is currently working on the engineering study for the project. SHE would like the City to apply for the SRF loan which is a three year, zero interest loan which would cover all planning and engineering costs for the project. Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Burich to approve the SRF loan application.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Mary Swalla Holmes of the Madrid Area Chamber of Commerce invited the public to attend the MACC banquet on April 8, 2017 at 5:30. The banquet will be held at the Iowa Arboretum. Katie Healy, Boone County naturalist will speak about the economic impact of Boone County's parks. MACC will also hold a Visioning meeting on April 22, 2017 where they will discuss economic development for Madrid.

Chuck Rigby of the Madrid Labor Day Committee asked the Council to approve a contract for fireworks for the Labor Day Celebration with Night Magic. The original contract amount was \$7,000, and the committee would like to add additional fireworks for an additional cost of \$500.00. Mayor Ringgenberg asked the cost to add music to the fireworks presentation. Jeff Fischer stated cost to add music would be \$10,000. Motion by Councilperson Cook, seconded by Councilperson Kruse to approve the cost of \$10,000 for fireworks to be provided by Night Magic.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Rigby reminded the Council that a can drive will be held on Saturday March 25th from 10-2. Scott Church advised he will have a dump truck available at the Market of Madrid during that time for can collection. Committee members will also pick up can from residents.

Rigby commented the Grand Marshall for the parade has been chosen, and will be announced soon.

Rigby asked that there be a meeting with City Council members and City Hall staff to discuss details of the Labor Day Celebration and the budget for the event.

Motion by Councilperson Cook, seconded by Councilperson Burich to allow Samuel Poage to purchase items needed to install the volleyball court at Edgewood Park. Total cost of the items is approximately \$1,234.

Ayes; All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Chapman to approve the re-appointment of Dave Evans to the Library Board of Trustees.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Library Director Angie Strong advised the Library received \$1,000 in grant money from the Lowry Trust. The money will be used to purchase two new laptop computers for the Robotics program. The Library also received Direct State Aide funding in the amount of \$1,435.76. Upcoming events at Library include; Friends of the Library Book Sale on April 1, from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M., National Library Week which is April 9-15, Book Discussion on March 20th, Robotics on March 21, Adult Coloring on March 23, Chess Club on March 28, Early Out Movie on April 5, with the movie Moana, Movie Night on April 8 with the movie Rogue 1 and Pinterest Party on April 13.

Strong mentioned the City possibly acquiring grant funding for a water bottle filling station to be located in the downtown area.

Strong stated she is currently working with Midwest Technologies to possibly use existing equipment to provide a security system for the Library.

Mayor Ringgenberg stated the City will be selling stock it currently holds in IBM. Proceeds from the sale will go to the Library.

The Council discussed the opening date for Edgewood Park. Scott Church advised he would like to open the park on March 25th, and have it remain open year-round. Motion by Councilperson Cook, seconded by Councilperson Chapman to approve the opening of the park.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Becky Roorda, representing Friends of the Trail reminded the Council that the past City Administrator had been working with FTF Restorations on a burn plan for the prairie at the Delander trail head. The Woodward Fire Department has several qualified persons to help with the burn. She will have FTF contact Scott Church regarding the prairie burn plans.

Public Safety Director Rick Tasler advised he will be following up with recent junk ordinance violations and will be contacting several other residents regarding violations on their property. Tasler reported a resolution on a recent drug case with the DEA. Nate Fuson pleaded guilty to possession with the intent to deliver methamphetamine.

Tasler reported the Fire Department participated in a practice fire at the grain elevator in Napier.

Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Chapman to appoint Denny Bernholtz to head the Planning and Zoning Board for the City of Madrid. Mayor Ringgenberg stated Bernholtz will be an advisor for the City in regards to planning and zoning, and developing new ordinances. Bernholtz stated he hopes to bring Madrid in line with what other cities are doing in regards to ordinances and planning and zoning.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Mayor Ringgenberg stated the City will be looking at closing some alleyways where a portion is already owned by adjacent property owners. Alleys owned by the city will be maintained. John Jordan advised if a resident does not wish to purchase the alley, it can be offered to adjacent property owners. Utility easements still apply.

John Jordan stated Bernholtz will also be called to be an expert witness during upcoming litigation with abandoned building owners.

Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Shaver to approve a request for payment from the Iowa DOT for several invoices totaling \$7,4842.74. The invoices are for road signs and associated signage materials.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Mayor Ringgenberg advised of a recent meeting with officials from Xenia Rural Water. It was decided there is a need for an alternative water source in the event the primary pipe fails. The cost of the water by pass system will be around \$10,000 and would allow Madrid to be provided with water by Xenia in the event of a pipe failure. Motion by Councilperson Cook, seconded by Councilperson Chapman to approve the purchase of the by-pass system.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Shaver to approve a request for payment from Engineering Excellence in the amount of \$7,479.60 for replacement heaters at the Water Treatment Plant.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Kruse to approve the cost to rent an excavator for the approximate cost of \$15,000. The machinery will be used to clean and repair the south end of the drainage canal, perform work at the Sewer Plant and the possible tear down of a dangerous building.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Shaver to approve a request for payment from SEH in the amount of \$2,340.00. The invoice covers work on the Waste Water facility plan.

Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Chapman to approve the hiring of Ron Hodges as a seasonal summer employee for the City of Madrid.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Church discussed with the Council drainage problems at 5th and Walnut Streets. He asked the Council's permission to repair that drainage issue, and the previously discussed issue at 1st and Dalander. He plans to have Public Works employees perform the work. The cost of materials will be around \$12,000. Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Cook to approve the expenditure of \$12,000 to complete the drainage repair issues.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Councilperson Cook advised he had heard some complaints regarding public works issues and asked the public's patience while the city works through the improvement processes.

Church commented he will be attending a pre-construction meeting with the contractors for Annex Road. He stated work on the project could start as early as April 15th, depending on the weather.

Spencer Wignall with Snyder & Associates in Ankeny, Iowa approached the Council along with Madrid resident Dave Hellickson to advise of an upcoming DOT program involving towns with state highways. The program calls for repair or replacement of sidewalks along those streets by the DOT starting in 2022. Wignall stated many towns do other needed work in conjunction with the street program. Councilperson Shaver commented there is an issue with the size of the water main on South Kennedy Avenue, and it may be a good time to replace that section of main.

Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Kruse to accept the final draft of the Union Agreement for the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Chapman to close City Hall on April 19, 2017 to allow for staff training.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Mayor Ringgenberg reported on a recent meeting with Region XII Council of Governments regarding services offered by the organization that could be utilized by the city. Services include development of a strategic plan, update of ordinances which would include ordinances for Planning and Zoning. Region XII will provide a fee schedule for each of those services. The city will be looking at Iowa League of Cities for training to involve the City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk.

Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Burich, to approve Resolution # 18-16-17, Appointment of Mary Jo Reese to City Clerk.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Shaver to approve Resolution # 19-16-17, Appointment of Deb Biegger to Deputy City Clerk.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried.

Ringgenberg stated at this time, he does not feel the City needs to hire a City Administrator. The City will look at contracting out certain aspects of the City Administrator position. The Council will consider pay increases for Biegger and Reese at the City Council Meeting on April 3, 2017.

The Council considered an amendment to the Mutual Separation Agreement between Todd Kilzer and the City of Madrid. John Jordan advised that Kilzer wished to amend his agreement and is now requesting the City cover the cost of his health insurance for the duration of the term of the original agreement. Motion by Councilperson Chapman, seconded by Councilperson Shaver to amend the original Mutual Separation Agreement.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Mayor Ringgenberg advised of a recent meeting with City Treasurer Don Fatka. It has been decided that the City of Madrid will be moving some funds to higher interest bearing accounts, and will be soliciting offers from several banking institutions. He hopes to have a proposal for the Council by the next City Council meeting on April 3rd.

John Jordan reported a trial date of October 18, 2017 has been assigned for the City's lawsuit against Victory Promise Church. The church owns a building on West 2nd Street which the city feels is abandoned and dangerous.

Councilperson Burich commented on the condition of Annex Road. He also questioned the condition of the alleyway located behind Casey's General Store. Casey's is asking that bushes along the alley be trimmed, however adjacent property owners become upset when the bushes are trimmed. Mayor Ringgenberg asked Scott Church to consider the matter to determine what is alleyway, and what is personal property.

Councilperson Kruse asked Church to check on the intake at the northwest corner of 8th and Union. Streets. The area floods during periods of rain, and Kruse feels the intake may be plugged in that area.

Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Shaver to approve the second reading of Ordinance #474, "An Ordinance Amending the Code of the City of Madrid, Iowa, 1999, by Amending Title II, Division 2, Chapter 136 Sidewalk Regulations."

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Kruse to approve Resolution # 15-16-17, "Resolution Approving and Adopting a Revenue Purpose Statement for the Use or Expenditure of Revenues from a Natural Gas Franchise Fee."

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Cook, seconded by Councilperson Burich to approve a request for Residential Tax Abatement from Toni Christofferson for 107 Peterson Parkway. Denny Bernholtz of Safe Building advised he issued a temporary certificate of occupancy for the residence as some items on the outside of the dwelling have not been completed due to weather.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

The Council reviewed a thank you note received from the family of Anthony Beminio. It also viewed a Madridiowa.org usage report.

Don Lincoln of 1672 334th Road approached the Council to ask what Denny Bernholtz's position is with the City of Madrid. Mayor Ringgenberg advised Bernholtz will be paid as an

independent contractor for the City. Lincoln expressed his agreement with the process of using Berholtz to co-ordinate building practices and regulations for the city and stated it was greatly needed in the city.

Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Kruse to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Dirk D. Ringgenberg
Mayor

Mary J. Reese
City Clerk