

Madrid City Council
Regular Meeting
June 5, 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 and Lane Shaver. Dave Cook was absent.

Other City Officials Present: City Clerk Mary Jo Reese, Deputy City Clerk Deb Biegger, Library Director Angie Strong, City Attorney John Jordan, Public Safety Director Rick Tasler, Fire Chief Jim Murry, Parks and Recreation Board Member Dualla Carlson, and Public Works employee Mike Fischer.

Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Kruse to approve the agenda for June 5, 2017.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Burich, seconded by Councilperson Chapman to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2017, Madrid Labor Day Meeting Minutes of May 23, 2017, and Board of Adjustments Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2017 by consent agenda.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Kruse to approve the claims for June 5, 2017 in the amount of \$99,260.16.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Diane Hinderaker of Boone County Community Services addressed the Council to advise of services they provide in Boone County including supervising adult probation, facilitating truancy mediation with schools, alcohol diversion programs. She stressed the organization is a non-profit who receives donations from several county funding sources. She thanked the City Council for its recent donation of \$1,000.

Perry Gjersvik of SEH Consulting advised many communities are creating a Storm Water Utility fund to generate revenue for storm water specific repair and maintenance issues. He provided information to the Council regarding the utility and advised SEH Consulting has personnel who are available to help the City set up the program. Gjersvik also advised he continues to work on a water system cost of services evaluation for the City. The cost of services study has been requested by Xenia Rural Water before rates for water sold to Xenia can be raised. He would like to see end of FY 16-17 figures before finalizing the report which will also be used to determine needed rate increases for water and sewer for residential and commercial users. Currently water being sold to Xenia Rural Water cost around \$7.52 to produce and is being sold to Xenia at a much lower rate. Mayor Ringgenberg stated water and sewer must pay for itself which it currently does not.

Mary Swalla Holmes of Madrid Area Chamber of Commerce thanked the Council for a recent donation to the Madrid Area Chamber. She advised there will be an "After 5" event at Modern Woodsman, and at Dance Driven on June 8th. Refreshments will be served at both locations. MACC is currently working on the new website, developing welcome packets, and working on business and organization signage for the High Trestle Trail. Mayor Ringgenberg stated Holmes will also be working on grant opportunities for the City.

Library Director Angie Strong reported the Summer Reading Program for the library kickoff will be held on June 7th with many activities being planned. Other programs include Chess Club on June 5th, Pinterest Party on June 7th and the weekly summer reading program begins the week of June 12th. Signups for the summer reading program can be done at the Library or on the Library's website.

Dualla Carlson of the Parks and Recreation Board advised swim lessons will begin on June 19th.

Fire Chief Jim Murry stated he attended a Fire Chiefs meeting where they discussed the problem of a lack of volunteers to handle calls during the daytime hours. It was decided that with the permission of the City councils, that cities could form an alliance where neighboring towns would be called out automatically to help in such an emergency during the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. The plan would allow for better coverage during the day. Mayor Ringgenberg stated the city is currently on the brink of hiring full time EMS. It may be possible in the future to split EMT and ambulance services with Boone County Hospital. He reported there is a problem with the airbag system on the rescue truck and may need to be sent out for repairs. He commented that Life Fight is called in cases where of extreme emergency. Even if called, Life flight does not charge a fee if they do not transport a patient. Murry advised that testing for the recent Firefighter I class will be held on June 14th.

Fire Chief Rick Tasler advised the recent fireworks law is now in effect. Fireworks are legal from 9a.m. to 10p.m. within the City. The City's noise ordinance is enforced at 10 p.m. Councilperson Shaver stated he has spoken to several members of the community who feel the City should follow the State's mandate on the fireworks law which allows for fireworks to be used and sold between June 1st and July 8th, and again from December 10th to January 3rd.

Tasler asked the Council to approve an expenditure to replace the 2008 Explorer currently used by Officer Mackey. He would like to purchase a 2016 Dodge Charger. Cost of the vehicle will be \$29,251.00. Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Kruse to allow Tasler to expend up to \$19,000 from the FY 16-17 budget with the remainder being paid in July from FY 17-18 budget. Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Kruse to approve the purchase of the vehicle.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Mayor Ringgenberg advised the City Planning and Zoning Variance Committee approved a variance for Frank Lawson to build an addition to his property at 310 West 21st Street. The addition would not fall within normal building ordinance requirements.

Public Works employee Mike Fischer advised the department started a storm sewer project on West 1st Street. The project is expected to take one week to complete. He also stated that sludge is being removed from the pits at the water treatment plant. The Council previously approved an expenditure from between \$15,000 and \$25,000 to clear the sludge from two of the holding cells. Fischer asked for permission to have the 3rd cell cleared as well. He is unsure of the exact cost of the additional cleaning at this time. Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Chapman to approve cleaning of the 3rd lime cell at the water treatment plant.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

Fischer asked the Council to consider adding to the cost of previously approved repairs to the dust collector at the water treatment plant. The Council originally approved \$16,748 to install the dust collector. Fischer would like them to approve an extra \$4,756.00 to add a leveler to the bid. Total cost of the project will be \$21,504.00. Motion by Councilperson Chapman, seconded by Councilperson Burich to approve the addition of the leveler to the project.

Ayes: All present

Motion Carried

Mayor Ringgenberg announced the date for the first budget workshop for FY 18-19 as September 28, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Ringgenberg advised of a recent meeting he attended with City Clerk MaryJo Reese and a representative from Continental Labs. Continental is looking to move their operation to another county, as they feel there is no expansion opportunities in Madrid. They asked that Mayor Ringgenberg sign an approval letter which would allow them to relocate to another county. Mayor Ringgenberg questioned Continental as to their plans for the current property once the relocation is complete and their plans for abatement of any hazards which may exist on that property. The business representative was unable to clarify that information, and Mayor Ringgenberg stated the City is under no obligation to approve such a letter at this time.

Mayor Ringgenberg discussed with the Council various pieces of property within the City and currently owned by the City. Many of these properties are not needed and will to be sold. Two of these lots are located on North Water Street. The matter will be further discussed at the next City Council Meeting.

Councilperson Burich advised he has heard commentary from the public regarding city spending. He explained to them the need to complete and update several projects within the city. He also commented on the cans collecting outside the can trailer at The Market of Madrid. The Council discussed various ways to alleviate the problem. Some suggestions were to put a can collection site at the City Shed or doing away with can collection. The matter was tabled until a later date. Burich mentioned a parking problem during baseball and softball games at Edgewood Park. There was a concern with children crossing the road during those events. The Council discussed various ways to alleviate the problem and it was decided that Public Safety will investigate the issue.

Councilperson Shaver advised of abandoned vehicles in Ward 2. He also received positive comments regarding Annex road from numerous constituents.

The Council considered a request for approval from SEH for a water tower and lime storage Maintenance Agreement. The Council chose to approve equal payments for the agreement over a ten-year period. The first payment of \$400,00 will be due when after the tower is painted and cleaned in the fall of 2017, and \$39,000 per year for the next 9 years. Motion by Councilperson Chapman seconded by Councilperson Kruse to approve the agreement.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

The Council considered a request from the Woodward Academy Knights for a donation to their scholarship fund through sponsorship during a golf outing. The council feels that although the scholarship fund is a worthy cause, donation funds are decided during the budget process and decided against making a donation at this time.

Motion by Councilperson Kruse, seconded by Councilperson Shaver to approve Resolution# 22-16-17, "Resolution Authorizing Utility Billing Clerk to Assess a Mosquito Spraying Charge Upon the Water/Sewer/Garbage Billing." The Council asked that mosquito spraying notifications be put on the Madrid website and on Madtap.

Ayes: All Present

Motion Carried

The Council reviewed thank you notes received from Madrid Performing Arts Council and Community and Family Resources for recent donations to their organizations from the City of Madrid. They also viewed an invitation to attend an Iowa Downtown Conference. Councilperson Kruse updated the Council on several upcoming conferences available to Councilmembers and City staff. Councilperson Burich advised he received commentary from the public about how much money was being spent on conferences. Councilperson Shaver stated Council and staff need to have the resources and training to move the City forward.

Wade Theilen of 325 North Market Street approached the Council to ask where the Council where they stand with developing an ordinance for backyard chicken coups. Mayor Ringgenberg advised

the City is currently reviewing all their ordinances. The Chicken Coup ordinance is among those being considered.

Mayor Ringgenberg advised Kurt Kruse recently wrote a grant application to the Madrid Community Endowment fund and received funding to install lighting at the Madrid signs on Highway17. Angie Strong also received a donation to buy additional computers for the library.

Mayor Ringgenberg also stated the Madrid Planning and Zoning Board is currently looking for an additional member.

Motion by Councilperson Shaver, seconded by Councilperson Kruse to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Reese advised City Hall will be closed on June 16th to allow for the installation of new carpeting in the office and council chambers.

Dirk D. Ringgenberg
Mayor

Mary J. Reese
City Clerk