

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
November 3, 2011

The City Council met at 5:00 p.m. in regular session with Mayor Larsen presiding. Council present: Humann, Shepherd, Tooley, True and Zimmerman.

Guests in attendance: Izetta Dierking and Linda Booth.

City staff in attendance: Jim Blum and Shannon Wood

Motion by Tooley, seconded by Shepherd to approve the agenda. Ayes: Humann, Zimmerman, True, Shepherd, Tooley. Carried.

Motion by Shepherd, seconded by Humann to approve preceeding month's minutes and Library minutes. Ayes: Tooley, Shepherd, True, Zimmerman, Humann. Carried.

Motion by Tooley, seconded by Zimmerman to approve the Treasurer's and Clerk's Reports. Ayes: Zimmerman, True, Shepherd, Tooley, Humann. Carried.

Blum reported that the Walnut Street Curb and Gutter Project is finished and grass has been seeded, but if the seeding doesn't come up McCarthy's will come back in the spring to re-seed it. Shepherd inquired who would pay for the grass seed if it does not come up; Blum informed her that McCarthy's will do the re-seeding at their own cost.

Motion by Tooley, seconded by Zimmerman to approve Pay Request #4 in the amount of \$38,122.82 in favor of McCarthy Trenching. Ayes: True, Shepherd, Tooley, Humann, Zimmerman. Carried.

Motion by Humann, seconded by Shepherd to adopt Resolution 11-11-04, A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE WORK. Ayes: Shepherd, Tooley, Humann, Zimmerman, True. Carried.

Lynn Driver was unable to attend the November meeting, but is planning to attend the December meeting to discuss possible business incentives for the old Villager Restaurant. Blum said Lynn Driver is planning to meet with some council members before the December meeting. Mayor Larsen would like Terri Abel to make a list of possible incentives before the December meeting.

Mayor Larsen noted that he is having reservations about putting a three-way stop on Antique City Drive in front of the school because there are some issues with parking at that location, which would make it harder to see children. Blum agreed that putting the stop signs up will be more dangerous to children crossing the street. Humann said she thought we would be accomplishing two things at once with the stop signs, giving the children a safe place to cross and slowing down traffic on Antique City Dr. She also suggested that the school use a crossing guard to keep the children safe. Tooley suggested that the school needs to take an active role in helping themselves also. Blum said there needs to be No Parking Signs at least 20 to 30 feet from the crossing. Tooley suggested that it be tabled for a month and have Blum and Mayor Larsen go to the school and meet with school administration to let them know what we are thinking and how this can be improved. It was agreed that Mayor Larsen and Blum would meet with the school within the next week and report back at the December meeting.

There was no Fire Department discussion.

A letter of resignation from Jim Tooley as Zoning Administrator was received and accepted. It was decided to put an advertisement in the paper for the position. Mayor Larsen noted that the position is a paid position.

There were no requests for the Residential Sidewalk Replacement Program.

Wood reported that there was no new information on the Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Mayor Larsen reported that Abel has paid the \$10 fee to transfer the assignment of the property and written a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting that they forgive the property taxes on the property located at 308 Atlantic St. Tooley asked that Blum take charge of deciding the best way to demolish the property and what the costs may be. Blum agreed and said he is planning to board up the property once we have possession. Wood reported that the liability of the property is still the owners until the City takes possession.

Blum reported that he and Abel checked with other garbage haulers in the area to see if there is any interest in hauling trash for the City of Walnut. There is some interest; however some haulers were hesitant to haul to Malvern. Blum stated that Atlantic charges \$80 per ton, Carroll charges \$50 per ton, Mills County charges \$23.50 per ton, which is where we haul to now, and the Hancock Transfer Station is jumping to \$100 per ton from \$50 per ton in July 2012. Mayor Larsen stated that Herb Wood has requested to continue to haul to Hancock until the end of his contract in December 2012. Humann questioned if it is possible and legal for us to break the contract with Herb Wood. Blum reminded the council that there is a twenty-five year contract with Iowa Waste Systems to dispose of the City's trash at the Malvern landfill. Blum also said

that one of the possibly interested companies does haul to Malvern already. Zimmerman suggested that we go to Wood with a contract change and ask him to give us a price for the change. Tooley suggested that we terminate Wood's contract on July 1, 2012 and open up bidding for a 6 month contract to allow Wood to rebid the last 6 months of his contract, which includes hauling to Malvern, in order to see some other options. Mayor Larsen stated that he will talk to Wood and ask if he will haul to Malvern and what it will cost. Mayor Larsen will bring that number back to the Council and from there they can make a decision.

Motion by Zimmerman, seconded by Tooley to adopt Resolution 11-11-01, A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND INTO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE EQUIPMENT TRUST FUND. Ayes: Humann, Zimmerman, True, Shepherd, Tooley. Carried.

Motion by Humann, seconded by Zimmerman to adopt Resolution 11-11-02, A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND INTO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AMBULANCE TRUST FUND. Ayes: True, Shepherd, Tooley, Humann, Zimmerman. Carried.

Motion by Shepherd seconded by Tooley to adopt Resolution 11-11-03, A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND INTO THE CITY EQUIPMENT FUND. Ayes: Zimmerman, True, Shepherd, Tooley, Humann. Carried.

Motion by Zimmerman, seconded by Humann to accept the City Annual Finance Report. Ayes: Shepherd, Tooley, Humann, Zimmerman, True. Carried.

Mayor Larsen asked the Council to go through each employee's evaluation and insert any questions or comments. He also asked that Blum fill out an evaluation on Wayne Rush and that Abel fill out an evaluation on Shannon Wood, also Mayor Larsen will fill out evaluations for both Blum and Abel. All should be included in the December packet so the Council has a chance to review them before the meeting. Discussion will be held at the end of the December meeting with all employees present.

Blum reported that the EDR guy had been here and that only a couple of gauges needed recalibrated, other than that everything looked great. He asked about the wear and tear on the system because of the volume of water used by the Splash Pad, he was told it would not lessen the lifetime of the EDR system. Blum stated that we need to do something to get more revenue into the water fund, to plan for any future maintenance on the EDR system. Mayor Larsen stated that according to the audit, the City should be paying the water fund for the water used at the Splash Pad from the General Fund. Mayor Larsen also suggested a possible donation box at the Splash Pad.

Blum also stated that the Christmas lights will be going up in the next couple of weeks in preparation for the Christmas Walk, including the new Christmas decorations. The new decorations that were ordered will not all be in, however they are sending temporary replacements for this year and at the end of the season they will be returned and the new ones will be delivered. There are only 4 or 5 that are wrong this year. Blum stated that the trees downtown need to be trimmed this year before the lights go up and that next year we may need to get a bucket truck to put them up.

Blum reported that the new plow is in for the back of the tractor and the new plow for the front of the truck is in Avoca. Blum will get the truck plow as soon as Avoca gets their new plows in; he also stated that it should cost less than \$500. Blum will be going to Harlan to get some salt and sand to prepare for the winter.

Humann asked if there was a decision made about the Christmas tree for the street. Blum told her that we will be getting the tree from Walt Sievers.

Regarding Mayor items or announcements, Mayor Larsen announced to the public that they are not to burn wet leaves and do not burn them in the street. If leaves are wet, please haul them to the City tree dump.

Relative to Council items or announcements, Mayor Larsen announced that garbage collection during the week of Thanksgiving will be Wednesday, November 23, 2011 for the entire city. Recycling will be Tuesday, November 22, 2011 also for the entire city. He also stated that Municipal Leadership Academy is available to the Council.

Humann stated to the public that the Feral Cat Program is in no way funded by the City or tax payers; it is completely funded by donations. Humann also inquired on the follow up of the Bradley alley complaint. Mayor Larsen stated that the vehicle is licensed and that all of the items in the alley are saleable items. The Mayor informed Bradley that he needs to clean up the weeds and the garbage that is in the alley. Mayor Larsen will be checking further into the situation, and if nothing is done, Bradley will be cited.

There were no public items or announcements.

Motion by Humann, seconded by Zimmerman to pay the following bills and issue warrants for the same. Ayes: True, Tooley, Shepherd, Zimmerman, Humann. Carried.

#17899	Terri Abel, wages.....	1,113.68
#17900	James Blum, wages.....	1,086.19
#17901	Wayne Rush, wages.....	862.49
#17902	Shannon Wood, wages.....	350.06
#17903	Cardmember Service, training, bricks, materials.....	1,047.48
#17904	Don Walter, sidewalk replacement.....	20.00
#17905	Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, employee insurance.....	5,415.23
#17906	Terri Abel, wages.....	1,113.68
#17907	James Blum, wages.....	1,086.19
#17908	Wayne Rush, wages.....	862.49
#17909	Shannon Wood, wages.....	318.86
#17910	Herb Wood, hauling, recycling, rent of dumpster, general.....	3,510.00
#17911	Pottawattamie County Treasurer, transfer tax certificate.....	10.00
#17912	Visiting Nurse Association, employee flu shots.....	75.00
#17913	U.S. Postmaster, billing postage.....	113.68
#17914	Terri Abel, wages.....	373.08
#17915	James Blum, wages.....	362.16
#17916	Sherry Jacobsen, wages.....	21.35
#17917	Margo Matthies, wages.....	914.56
#17918	Wayne Rush, wages.....	90.08
#17919	Judy Schrecengost, wages.....	290.96
#17920	Michelle Tooley, wages.....	368.42
#17921	Akin Building Center, repairs.....	9.39
#17922	Andrew Perina, refund of water deposit.....	1.13
#17923	Banyon Data System, backup storage, support.....	899.00
#17924	Walnut Boy Scouts, October park mowing.....	125.00
#17925	Cappels, repairs to Jones St. lift station.....	18.07
#17926	Center Point Large Print, books.....	136.42
#17927	City of Atlantic, sewer testing.....	300.00
#17928	City of Walnut, water deposit applied to account.....	48.87
#17929	Counsel Office & Document, copier maintenance.....	149.56
#17930	Daves Country Repair, mower repair.....	28.26
#17931	Dona Grooms, treasurer fee.....	100.00
#17932	Follett Software Company, subscription renewal.....	289.00
#17933	Food & Family, subscription.....	20.12
#17934	Gale, books.....	33.94
#17935	GE Betz, Inc, EDR service visit.....	535.00
#17936	Hach Company, water testing supplies.....	239.74
#17937	IPERS, withholding.....	1,633.27
#17938	J.D. Wyman Service, ambulance repair.....	457.63
#17939	Jessica Newcomb, cleaning City Hall.....	50.00
#17940	Jim Tooley, building permit fee.....	10.00
#17941	Kasperbauer Cleaners, Inc., cleaning floor mats.....	47.03
#17942	Kum & Go, fuel.....	618.73
#17943	Margo Matthies, library supplies, mileage.....	162.20
#17944	McCarthy Trenching, Pay Request #4-Walnut St. Curb & Gut.....	38,122.82
#17945	Medivac – Atlantic, ambulance mutual aid.....	600.00
#17946	Michelle Tooley, mileage.....	53.28
#17947	MidAmerican Energy Co., gas & electricity.....	3,296.96
#17948	Movie Licensing USA, movie license.....	125.00
#17949	Orschelns, fertilizer, air chuck.....	16.38
#17950	Our Iowa, subscription.....	28.98
#17951	Overdrive, Inc., wilbor.....	756.50
#17952	Pottawattamie Co. Fire & Rescue Assoc., annual software fee.....	287.00
#17953	Quill Corporation, supplies.....	169.51
#17954	Ron Winter, refund of water deposit.....	50.00
#17955	Salvo, Deren, Schenck, Lauterbach, consults.....	128.00
#17956	Sam’s Club, DVDs, book, magazine, supplies.....	274.51
#17957	Snyder & Assoc., Inc., engineering-Walnut St. Curb & Gutter.....	8,306.96
#17958	Terri Abel, milage.....	54.39

#17959	Titan Machinery Omaha, tractor repair.....	163.39
#17960	U.S. Postmaster, postage.....	88.00
#17961	United Electric Supply Co., street light globes.....	402.66
#17962	Verizon Wireless, cell phones.....	134.64
#17963	Walnut Bureau, publications.....	485.67
#17964	Walnut Farm Supply, repair of EDR system.....	57.00
#17965	Walnut Merchants Assoc., contribution to Christmas Walk.....	1,000.00
#17966	Walnut Telephone Co., phone, fax, internet.....	239.41
#114E	Internal Revenue Service, Federal withholdings.....	1,163.50
#115E	Internal Revenue Service, Social Security withholdings.....	1,662.89
#116E	Internal Revenue Service, Medicare withholdings.....	463.63
#117E	Employee Benefit Systems, handling fee for employee insurance.....	77.49
#118E	Employee Benefit Systems, employee insurance self-funding.....	1,474.62
#119E	EMS Billing Services, ambulance billing.....	819.37

Summary of Receipts: General, 37,801.86; Road Use Tax, 5,757.42; Trust & Agency, 24,934.20; Water, 10,087.71; Sewer, 4,093.54; Customer Water Deposit, 150.00; Water Revenue Bond Sinking Fund, 1,650.00; State Improvement Capital Project Fund, 92,461.64; Local Option Capital Improvement Fund, 7,496.90; TIF Fund, 18,290.78; Ransom Subfund, 6,849.87; IPAIT Fire Account, .35; IPAIT Library Account, .82; TOTAL: 236,075.09.

Meeting adjourned, 6:04 p.m.

Gene Larsen
Mayor

Shannon Wood
Deputy City Clerk