

**MINUTES
FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, June 18, 2019**

Mayor Bradley A. Randolph presided with Council Members Chris Greenwald, Bob Morawitz, Kevin Rink, Rusty Andrews, Matt Mohrfeld and Mark Lair. Council Member Chad Cangas was absent.

VISITORS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

Colin Tutill, 2515 Avenue H, felt straightening the curve out on Avenue L would lead to more speeding there. He said there is excessive speeding now. He also complained about projects such as the bridge replacement project in the 2700 block of Avenue I. He felt people should work 60 hours a week on these projects until they were done instead of only three to four people working 15 hours a week.

AGENDA

Lair MOVED and Rink SECONDED to approve the agenda.

MOTION PASSED 6-0

CONSENT AGENDA

Greenwald MOVED and Morawitz SECONDED to approve the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of June 4, 2019;
- Liquor License Renewal: Quality Inn & Suites, 6169 Reve Court, effective July 1, 2019 – Class B Liquor with Sunday Sales;
- Liquor License Renewal: Fort Madison Elks Lodge, 719 Avenue H, effective July 1, 2019 – Class A liquor with Sunday Sales;
- New Liquor License: The Victoria Gallery Tea Room, 718 Avenue G, effective June 19, 2019 – Class C Native Wine and Living Quarters;
- May Financial Report;
- Partial List of Cigarette Permits; and
- Payment of Claims.

MOTION PASSED 6-0

ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

2nd READING, CHANGE SEWER RATES: Greenwald MOVED and Rink SECONDED to approve the second reading of an ordinance amending Title 8, Public Ways and Properties, Chapter 7, Sewage Works, Section 2, Sewerage Rate System, Subsection A, Unit Rates, Monitored and Nonmonitored Contributors, of the Fort Madison City Code to allow for a change in the sewerage rates.

Morawitz MOVED to amend the ordinance by increasing rates 10% the first two years and then 3% subsequent years. There was no SECOND. Following a brief discussion, Morawitz WITHDREW his motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Greenwald, Morawitz, Rink, Andrews, Lair
 NAYES: Mohrfeld

MOTION PASSED 5-1

The Mayor then declared the second reading of said ordinance PASSED and APPROVED this 18th day of June, 2019.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-38, PORT TRAIL PHASE 4 GRANT APPLICATION: Rink MOVED and Lair SECONDED to adopt a resolution authorizing the filing of an application for the Iowa Department of Transportation's State Recreational Trails program for construction of Connecting Fort Madison! Phase 4.

Public Works Director Larry Driscoll explained this is to extend the trail from Avenue L north to the intersection of River Valley Road and 48th Street. The grant is \$100,000 which is 50% of the project cost.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Greenwald, Morawitz, Rink, Andrews, Mohrfeld, Lair
 NAYES: None

MOTION PASSED 6-0

The Mayor then declared said Resolution ADOPTED and ENACTED this 18th day of June, 2019.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-39, SET P.H. AMERICAN CRUISE LINES LEASE: Greenwald MOVED and Mohrfeld SECONDED to adopt a resolution setting public hearing for July 2, 2019, at 5:30 P.M. concerning a lease agreement with American Cruise Lines, Inc..

Morawitz asked the yearly rates be changed to a percentage instead of 25 cents per passenger since that does not increase during the 20-year term of the lease.

City Manager David Varley said he would make that request. Mohrfeld said the real benefit to having them stop is far beyond what they are going to pay per passenger.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Greenwald, Morawitz, Rink, Andrews, Mohrfeld, Lair
NAYES: None

MOTION PASSED 6-0

The Mayor then declared said Resolution ADOPTED and ENACTED this 18th day of June, 2019.

Randolph recognized the efforts of Carol Foss for making phone calls and using her background in the tourism industry to get Viking to look our way. He felt once Viking looked at Fort Madison, then American did too.

RECONSTRUCTION OF 34TH STREET “S” CURVE ON OLD HIGHWAY 61

Driscoll presented to Council the plan for reconstructing the “S” curve between 35th and 36th Streets on Avenue L. He said when the study was done several years ago, 27th Street and Avenue L and this “S” curve had the highest number of accidents. The 27th Street intersection was changed a couple years ago. The estimated project cost \$550,000. A total reconstruction of the “S” curve without changing the curve will save about \$60,000. When the original study was done with public input most of them were interested in straightening out the curve. The only land acquisition will be a land swap. This project would be in July and should be done by October.

Concern was expressed by Council regarding the speeding in the area. Driscoll said this is a stretch of road that is prone to accidents, many people do not stay in their lane through the curve. Mohrfeld said it is a challenge with a truck and trailer. There will also be a 10-foot walking trail on the north side that will eventually run out to the Comfort Inn.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-40, ORDER CONSTRUCTION, SET P.H., BID LETTING:

Mohrfeld MOVED and Morawitz SECONDED to adopt a resolution setting ordering construction, setting public hearing and bid letting for Public Improvement Project 2019-04, Avenue L Reconstruction 35th Street to 36th Street.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Greenwald, Morawitz, Rink, Andrews, Mohrfeld, Lair
NAYES: None

MOTION PASSED 6-0

The Mayor then declared said Resolution ADOPTED and ENACTED this 18th day of June, 2019.

OTHER

PREPARE PIER: Greenwald MOVED and Morawitz SECONDED to approve the project to prepare the City’s pier for the arrival of American Cruise Lines and approve the bid of Hall Towing for this work.

Varley reported American Cruise Lines have committed to pay the City \$15,000 towards these preparations. After Lair expressed concern the work would start before the lease was signed, Driscoll said some of this work has to be done no matter what happens with American Cruise Lines as there are issues with the catwalk.

MOTION PASSED 6-0

COMPUTERS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT: Mohrfeld MOVED and Rink SECONDED to approve the purchase of eight computers for the Police Department at a cost of \$8,662.

MOTION PASSED 6-0

DISCUSSION ITEMS

CITY PARKING LOTS: Driscoll said the City has been in negotiation with the State to use SRF funds for the depot parking lot. The State wants the other two parking lots redone as they qualify more than the depot parking lot. Permeable pavers will be used. The total cost is estimated to be approximately \$850,000 with the City Hall parking lot bid as an alternate.

He estimated many of the parking spaces in the west lot would be lost due to the increase in the slope. The positive is there will be access to the depot when the river is flooding. It was noted there are some times during the flooding this year that the flooding covered the "K" Line track so persons could potentially go through a few inches of water to get to the lot.

Concern was expressed over the loss of parking spaces. Driscoll said if the design process is continued then we will learn exactly how many spaces will be lost.

Greenwald MOVED and Andrews SECONDED to proceed with an engineering agreement with HR Green for the three parking lots in question using SRF interest funds.

MOTION PASSED 6-0

VIKING CRUISE LINES: Varley requested Council's opinion on whether to continue negotiations with Viking. He said it will be at least 2-3 years before a Viking boat would dock in Fort Madison and Fort Madison will have to come up with \$1.2 million in order to prepare the dock for them. Greenwald agreed that Fort Madison can't write that check. He and Randolph were reaching out and contacting agencies to see if there were any grants available. Randolph felt Council should continue to exhaust this option until we cannot. Greenwald felt should put this up for a bond vote by the citizens. Council was not in favor of taking this off the table at the present time.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: Sheriff Weber reported two persons have been pulled over on the “S” curve within the last hour. A house fire yesterday at 1427 Ave. D resulted in a total loss to the structure. Chief Herren said no one was hurt but it was a difficult fire to fight. Driscoll reported the first FEMA meeting will be Thursday. The Avenue H from 2nd to 6th Street project will be in July and should be finished by spring. The Avenue I bridge project is on hold. Liquidated damages have been assessed to the general contractor for not meeting the time frame for completion. There are some issues with High Point. Driscoll is negotiating with the general contractor on that project. He believes the problems are due to concrete failure.

LIAISON REPORTS: Nothing remarkable to report.

POSSIBLE ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT FUTURE COUNCIL MEETINGS

- ◆ Update of Title 4, Business

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:10 P.M., Greenwald MOVED and Morawitz SECONDED to adjourn until Tuesday, July 2, 2019, at 5:30 P.M.

VOICE VOTE APPROVAL

MANUAL CLAIMS & WARRANTS: See Claims dated June 13, 2019, in the amount of \$263,842.01.

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| <u>PAYROLL</u> | 6/7/2019 |
| General | \$180,124.06 |
| Spec. Revenues | 4,084.97 |
| Road Use | 23,931.82 |
| Water | 28,659.30 |
| Sewer | 39,600.25 |
| Solid Waste | 12,063.85 |
| Airport | 486.54 |
| Storm Water | 3,490.81 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$292,441.60 |

Mayor Bradley A. Randolph

ATTEST:

Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk