REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, June 1, 2020

The Cambridge City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 1, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cambridge Community Center and remotely via Zoom ([www.cambridge-ia.us](http://www.cambridge-ia.us)) with the following council members present: Mayor Kovarik (in-person), Macki (Zoom), Thom (Zoom), Todd (in-person), Baxter (in-person), McBreen (Zoom). Absent: None. Visitors: Joe Marchesano (Zoom), Dale Hennick (in-person).

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kovarik at 7:00 p.m. He led the council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Kovarik opened for public comment the hearing to consider amending the current city budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. No comments were brought forward by citizens in attendance, and no written comments were received prior to the hearing. A motion by Todd, seconded by Macki, to close the public hearing. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Mayor Kovarik opened for public comment the hearing to consider the submission of an application for a Community Development Block Grant related to the Wastewater Treatment System Improvements Project. He made the following announcements related to the project: The need for the proposed project is due to the City receiving their NPDES permit with a compliance schedule to provide disinfection and meet new ammonia limits from the IDNR. The current wastewater treatment facility is not able to reliably meet new ammonia limits. In addition, the existing aerated lagoons do not have enough hydraulic capacity to meet IDNR sizing requirements. The project will be funded with a combination of CDBG funds and SRF Loan. It is estimated that total project costs will be $660,000. The CDBG grant application will be submitted to the Iowa Economic Development Authority no later than July 1, 2020, at midnight. The City is requesting $300,000 in CDBG funds for the proposed project. The project will result in a city-wide benefit and based on a November 2019 survey, 55.7% of the residents living in the community are of low-and-moderate income. The proposed activities will take place at the site of the City’s existing wastewater treatment facility. The proposed project will not result in the displacement or relocation of any persons or businesses. The nature of the proposed project involves the installation of baffle curtains to address hydraulic capacity issues, construction of a new outfall sewer to discharge the final effluent directly to the South Skunk River, and installation of a new UV disinfection system would be added to meet the new disinfection requirements. The existing aerated lagoon treatment system will be maintained. Mayor Kovarik asked the council and citizens in attendance if they had any questions or comments concerning the project. No comments were brought forward, and no written comments were received prior to the hearing. A motion by Macki, seconded by Thom, to close the public hearing. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Mayor Kovarik opened for public comment the hearing to consider a Community Development and Housing Needs Assessment related to the submission of an application for a Community Development Block Grant. The clerk indicated that this is a new requirement for block grant applications and is intended to give the council and community an opportunity to identify projects they feel are important to the city. No

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comments were brought forward by citizens in attendance, and no written comments were received prior to the hearing. The council discussed the Cambridge Opera House Project, that will add four housing units to the city when completed. They also discussed the issue of abandoned and dilapidated houses in the city. A motion by Macki, seconded by McBreen, to close the public hearing. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Mayor Kovarik asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the May 4th meeting. A motion by Macki, seconded by Baxter, to approve the minutes as written. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Comments from the audience were asked for with Public Works Director Dale Hennick reporting that the pump had gone out of the power washer. He indicated that it will cost $130.00 to replace the pump. The unit is 4 years old. It will cost $400.00 for a new one. After discussion, the council asked him to try just replacing the pump.

Following is a summary of receipts for May: General Fund, $12,205.71; TIF Fund, $10,552.15; Road Use Tax, $7,806.49; Debt Service, $771.74; C.U.T. Fire Fund, $18,251.99; Library Fund, $1,809.96; Garbage Utility, $5,561.91; Water Utility, $9,375.14; Sewer Utility, $7,246.27. Total Receipts: $73,581.36.

Following is a summary of disbursements for May: General Fund, $45,869.39; Road Use Tax, $12,815.15; C.U.T. Fire Fund, $27,471.58; Library Fund, $560.06; Garbage Utility, $6,699.20; Water Utility, $2,203.75; Sewer Utility, $7,691.08. Total Disbursements: $103,310.21.

The following list of claims was presented to the council for June:

AG SOURCE Analysis 685.50

ALLIANT ENERGY Monthly Service 4,539.90

ANKENY SANITATION Service-May 6,549.20

ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY Parts 23.38

BAKER & TAYLOR DVD 22.47

C.U.T. FIRE FUND Matching Funds, Radios 18,250.00

Payment

CEDAR RAPIDS BANK & City Center Bond Payment 170,838.50

TRUST

EFTPS Fed. & FICA W/H 2,862.55

GATEHOUSE MEDIA IOWA Publishing 751.58

HAWKINS, INC. Water Treatment 335.40

HOLUB GARDEN Plants 167.76

HUXLEY COMMUNICATIONS Monthly Service 427.28

IOWA FINANCE AUTHORITY Water, Sewer Bond Payments 112,740.00

I P E R S Retirement 1,824.02

JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL Supplies, Chemical 636.11

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KEMPKER’S TRUE VALUE Supplies 104.52

MARCO Copier Rental, Supplies 155.59

MENARDS Supplies 555.93

MOLLY MAID OF ANKENY Cleaning Services 245.00

MOODY ELECTRIC, INC. Light Switch 340.00

NEDZA, JONATHAN Utility Deposit Refund 80.00

PERRY, JACKLYNNE Utility Deposit Refund 100.00

RACOM CORPORATION Radios Payment 24,842.92

SOUTH STORY BANK & Fire Truck Bond Payment 6,402.44

TRUST

SWANK MOVIE LICENSING License Fee 342.00

USA

U.S. CELLULAR Monthly Service 72.86

U.S. POSTMASTER Billing Postage 105.00

VAN WALL EQUIPMENT Blades 263.80

VISA Supplies 40.00

WAGES Net Wages 8,356.69

WELLMARK BC/BS Health Premium  3,955.86

TOTAL CLAIMS $366,616.26

After discussion, a motion by Todd, seconded by Thom, to accept the receipts and approve all claims for payment. Roll Call: All Ayes.

The treasurer’s report, bank reconciliation and list of outstanding checks were presented and accepted by the council. The budget balances report and police report were not available for this meeting.

Reports from standing committees were asked for with Todd reporting that an appliance/scrap metal drop-off event had been scheduled with Speck for mid-July. She also discussed properties that are violating the grass/weed ordinance. The council set a rate of $50/hr. with a minimum of one hour when city personnel have to mow a property. The council reviewed and approved a proposal from LL Pelling Co. in the amount of $32,308.50 plus patching materials for street repairs this summer. Macki discussed plans for the archery range. He also discussed park re-opening plans and softball and baseball practices. The clerk reported that the library director was back in the library and offering curbsite pick-up for patrons. Thom discussed the status of bid letting for the Cambridge Opera House project. McBreen reported that the Union Pacific Railroad was not longer offering grants to cities, and that Prairie Meadows would not be offering grants this year due to the pandemic.

The first item under old business concerned the wastewater improvements project. Public Works Director Hennick submitted the report of an inspection of the system that had recently been completed by the IDNR, including a second letter of noncompliance. The

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clerk submitted easement documents prepared by the Story County Conservation Board for the new sewer outfall. A motion by Thom, seconded by McBreen, to approve the documents and to authorize the Mayor to sign them. Roll Call: All Ayes.

The next item concerned the Cambridge Opera House. There was no additional discussion or action on this item.

The next item concerned the review of the city code related to fireworks and building codes. Todd reported that she had met with the city attorney two weeks ago to go over the amendments. He will prepare drafts of the amendments for the council to review at the July regular meeting.

The last item under old business concerned the hiring of an assistant public works director. The clerk reported that the deadline for submitting applications has been set for June 15. After that time, Mayor Kovarik and Public Works Director Hennick will review the applications and schedule interviews.

The first item under new business was an application for a cigarette permit for the Tattered Toad. After discussion, a motion by Baxter, seconded by Thom, to approve the permit pending the completed application and fee payment. Roll Call: All Ayes.

The next item concerned renewal of the city’s insurance package for FY21. The clerk submitted a proposed renewal quote from I.C.A.P. for $13,005.23. After discussion, a motion by Macki, seconded by Thom, to approve the renewal. Roll Call: All Ayes.

The next item was a notification from GSS Inc. to initiate the process and comment period related to the construction of a new radio tower for Story County on property east of the city limits. The council reviewed the preliminary plans and had no comment or objection.

The last item under new business was the contract for animal rescue services from Story County Animal Control. There were no changes to this contract from the previous year. A motion by Todd, seconded by Thom, to approve the contract. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Resolution No. 20-12, “City Budget Amendment and Certification Resolution-FY2020-Amendment #1”, was presented to the council. A motion by Macki, seconded by Baxter, was made to approve the budget amendments. Roll Call: Ayes: Baxter, Macki, McBreen, Thom, Todd. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 20-13, “Resolution Accepting Temporary Construction Easement(s) for the Purpose of Construction and Installation of Wastewater Improvements in the City of Cambridge, Iowa, and a Permanent and Perpetual Easement for the Purposes of Constructing an Outfall Wastewater Plant Discharge Pipe from Story County Conservation Board”, was presented to the council. A motion by Thom, seconded by

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Macki, was made to approve the easements. Roll Call: Ayes: Baxter, Macki, McBreen, Thom, Todd. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor/Council comments were asked for with Mayor Kovarik reporting the donation of hand sanitizer to be used primarily by the fire department. He also relayed information he received at the county emergency management meeting last week concerning the pandemic, including the number of cases and the re-opening of business and public buildings. The council also discussed a request from YSS to potentially use the community center for Kid’s Club this summer. Macki discussed the Ballard School District’s summer food distribution program.

A motion by Baxter, seconded by Todd, to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call: All Ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Debra L. Thompson, City Clerk Steven P. Kovarik, Mayor