REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, April 5, 2021

The Cambridge City Council met in regular session on Monday, April 5, 2021, 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, Thom, Todd, Baxter, Macki, McBreen. Absent: None. Visitors: Ryan Harr, Dale Hennick, Joe Marchesano, Joyce Williams, Mike Miller, Bobbi Miller, Orrie Peterson, Cory Sharp.

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 entering into a sewer revenue loan and disbursement agreement for the Wastewater System Improvements Project. No comments were brought forward by citizens in attendance, and no written comments were received prior to the hearing. A motion by Thom, seconded by Macki, to close the public hearing. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Mayor Kovarik opened for public comment the hearing to consider entering into a general obligation urban renewal loan agreement for the Cambridge Opera House Project. No comments were brought forward by citizens in attendance, and no written comments were received prior to the hearing. A motion by Macki, seconded by Todd, to close the public hearing. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Mayor Kovarik asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the March 1st and 15th meetings. A motion by Macki, seconded by Dave, to approve the minutes as written. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Comments from the audience were asked for with Joyce Williams, 518 Main Street, addressing the council with a complaint about the low hanging utility wires on her street. She has had damage to her house and lost power in the past when a semi drove on the street and pulled the wires down. She also reported that she stopped a similar incident from happening this past Saturday. After discussion, Mayor Kovarik agreed to look into it and make contact with the appropriate utility if needed.

Mike and Bobbi Miller, 417 Center Street, addressed the council with a report of solar decorations being taken from the cemetery. They discussed options to determine who was taking the items, and to discourage the thefts.

Ryan Herr, Iowa DNR, addressed the council on behalf of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Iowa DNR, Story Council Conservation Board, and landowners in the Skunk River Valley. He indicated that they were processing two applications from landowners to place portions of their properties into floodplain/wetland development programs. Parts of these parcels lie within the Cambridge city limits, and they are asking whether the council would have any objection to these projects. He reported that there would be no change in the land use or zoning requirements, and granting this type of easement does

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not mean it will be open for public hunting or shooting. After discussion, the council had no objection to the applications, and the mayor will provide a letter to this effect.

Following is a summary of receipts for March: General Fund, $6,447.91; TIF/Special Revenues Fund, $13,760.93; Road Use Tax, $3,579.77; Debt Service, $635.39; C.U.T. Fire Fund, $2.41; Library Fund, $4,571.55; Garbage Utility, $7,442.23; Water Utility, $12,638.02; Sewer Utility, $8,595.97. Total Receipts: $57,674.18.

Following is a summary of disbursements for March: General Fund, $23,591.37; TIF/Special Revenues Fund, $4,727.50; Road Use Tax, $1,656.39; C.U.T. Fire Fund, $1,331.78; Library Fund, $747.26; Garbage Utility, $6,372.00; Water Utility, $3,332.32; Sewer Utility, $12,425.83.

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

 A TO Z PAINTING Painting Comm. Center 3,000.00

 AG SOURCE Analysis 712.50

 ALLIANT ENERGY Monthly Service 5,402.58

 AMES OUTDOOR SUPPLY Parts 227.92

 ANKENY SANITATION Service-March 6,372.00

 ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY Filters, Parts 736.15

 BAKER & TAYLOR Books, DVD’s 321.48

 BALLARD DOLLARS FOR Scholarship 400.00

 SCHOLARS

 CITY OF HUXLEY Police Contract 14,108.62

 COUGHLIN, ERIN Reimb. for Expenses 264.72

 EFTPS Fed. & FICA W/H 2,829.28

 ERICKSON, DONALD Utility Deposit Refund 40.00

 FEH DESIGN Fees-Opera House 4,291.31

 FIDELITY BANK Printed Checks 164.35

 FOX ENGINEERING Fees 4,085.00

 GATEHOUSE MEDIA IOWA Publishing 66.56

 HAWKINS, INC. Water Treatment 1,802.63

 HUXLEY COMMUNICATIONS Monthly Service 430.18

 ISU TREASURER Radio Subscriber Fees 5,089.88

 I P E R S Retirement 1,833.61

 JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL Supplies 88.70

 KEMPKER’S TRUE VALUE Supplies 221.68

 KEYSTONE TRUCKING Rock, Delivery 894.51

 KOVARIK, STEVEN Reimb. Zoom Fees 601.37

 MARCO Copier Rental, Supplies 147.94

 MENARDS Supplies 535.87

 MOLLY MAID OF ANKENY Cleaning Services 500.00

 MUNICIPAL SUPPLY Valve Repairs, Supplies 1,123.17

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 PRECISION UNDERGROUND Water Main Repair 1,000.00

 UTILITIES

 SIMMERING-CORY/IOWA Code Update Contract 1,200.00

 CODIFICATION

 STOREY-KENWORTHY Utility Bills 264.00

 TRI AIR TESTING SCBA Analysis 195.01

 U.S. CELLULAR Monthly Service 73.73

 U.S. POSTMASTER Billing Postage 144.00

 USA BLUE BOOK Tongs, Adapters 255.84

 VAN WALL EQUIPMENT Rescue Saw, Parts 1,540.34

 WAGES Net Wages 8,804.86

 WELLMARK BC/BS Health Premium 3,891.53

 C.L. CARROLL Pay Request #1 23,640.75

 TOTAL CLAIMS $97,302.07

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

The treasurer’s report, budget balances report, bank reconciliation and list of outstanding checks, and police report were presented and accepted by the council.

Reports from standing committees were asked for with Thom discussing the new water service for the Opera House project. The project will require a minimum of a 4” water main to supply fire suppression equipment. Precision Underground is working on an estimate for the new line. Todd discussed animal control and solid waste violations, and a complaint about loose trash at Garbage Guys. Macki reported that he had a request to hold a wedding at Josiah Chandler this summer. He will work with the parties to determine if this is feasible. He also discussed the archery range project, and hiring some to mow and trim the cemetery this summer.

The first item under old business concerned the wastewater treatment system improvements project. The council discussed the status of the SRF loan and reviewed the notes from construction progress meeting #1. Pay Request #1 to C.L. Carroll Co. in the amount of $23,640.75 was submitted to the council. A motion by Thom, seconded by Macki, to approve the pay request and add it to this month’s list of claims. Roll Call: All Ayes.

The next item concerned the Cambridge Opera House project. The council discussed the status of the G.O. bond and reviewed the bids for the project. Four bids were received, with the apparent low bid going to King Construction of Iowa Falls at $1,255,000. Cory Sharp, FEH Design, submitted a recommendation letter to award the contract to King Construction with final completion in January of 2022. A motion by Thom, seconded by Todd, to award the contract for the Cambridge Opera House Project to King

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Construction, Iowa Falls, and to authorize the Mayor and clerk to sign the contracts. Roll Call: All Ayes.

The next item under old business concerned the update of the city code. The council reviewed the contract with Iowa Codification to update the code, including ordinances passed and legislative changes since the last update. A motion by Macki, seconded by Thom, to hire Iowa Codification to update the city code at a cost of $4,800.00. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Other items discussed under old business concerned the 2020 Derecho storm, and amending the city budget for FY2021.

The first item under new business was a notice from Ankeny Sanitation concerning an increase in their service rates beginning July 1, 2021. Residential service rates are increasing to $14.42 per cart. Business dumpster rates are also increasing. After discussion, the council will not be increasing rates charged to residents and businesses at this time.

The next item concerned an increase in sewer rates to utility customers. Mayor Kovarik reported that in order to pay for DNR mandated wastewater treatment system improvements, the city’s financial advisor has recommended the following sewer rate increases: $22.00 basic monthly service fee (up from $13.00), and a $5.00/1,000 gallons of water used fee (up from $4.00/1,000 gallons). A motion by Macki, seconded by Todd, to approve the increases and begin the adoption process. Roll Call: All Ayes.

The last item under new business was a notice from the Ames Chamber of Commerce that they are hosting a free Zoom event on Wednesday, April 14th, to discuss hot topics and issues with local small businesses. City administrations are also invited to attend.

Resolution No. 21-08, “Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Loan and Disbursement Agreement and Providing for the Issuance and Securing the Payment of $925,000.00 Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 2021”, was presented to the council. A motion by Macki, seconded by Thom, was made to approve the resolution. Roll Call: Ayes: Baxter, Macki, McBreen, Thom, Todd. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 21-09, “Resolution Taking Additional Action on Proposal to Enter Into General Obligation Urban Renewal Loan Agreement”, was presented to the council. A motion by Thom, seconded by Baxter, was made to approve the resolution related to the financing of the Cambridge Opera House Project. Roll Call: Ayes: Baxter, Macki, McBreen, Thom, Todd. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor/Council comments were asked for with the council discussing the request from Orrie Peterson to place rock on Railroad Street.

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A motion by Thom, seconded by McBreen, to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call: All Ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

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