

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
MAY 11, 2016

Charles City City Council met in a planning session on May 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in council chambers. Mayor Erb presided and the following council members were present: Keith Starr, Jerry Joerger, DeLaine Freeseaman, Michael Hammond and Dan Mallaro. Also present was City Administrator Steve Diers and City Engineer John Fallis.

Mayor Erb reported that several from the city went to Oskaloosa the day before to tour some buildings that had been converted to other uses, including old school buildings that had been converted into apartments. Also, his upcoming city notes will high light pending capital projects in the city.

Karen Anderson, co chair of the Relay for Life event, was present to discuss a request to use the southwest corner of the parking lot at HyVee. They are looking at May 25th from 8:00 a.m. to approximately 9:30 a.m. People will be able to drive through this sectioned off area with a donation and then receive a cupcake. It was asked if HyVee had been asked about this and they hadn't yet, but Karen will check with them before the council meeting on Monday where this item will be acted upon.

Eduardo Concepcion was present to ask for street closure on May 28th for a parade to celebrate Flores de Mayo. They procession will be traveling from Immaculate Conception church to the Senior Center using Clark Street, Wisconsin Street, Blunt Parkway and down Milwaukee Street to the senior center. This will start at 2:30 p.m. Council will act on this request at the next regular meeting.

Housing director Heidi Nielsen presented information on a request from HUD for the city to take on extra vouchers for the 9th Street apartments. That contract is up in August and they will not be renewing it, so HUD is asking us to take them. There would be 11 vouchers. Heidi says we would be able to take these over with no problem with the current resources we have.

The city has been approached by a local business to rent an empty city lot next to his establishment to set out kayaks to dry out during the day and then the kayaks would be stored inside his building. The past two years this lot was leased for a garden, but the soil isn't really conducive for this purpose and the lessees aren't interested in continuing that lease. This item will be on the next regular agenda for action.

HyVee had requested a lease of 6 parking spaces to store their garden center supplies such as potting soil and were going to put their plants along the side of the building, which they own. However, they are actually using 11 parking spaces and are using two separate "end caps" on other parking areas. City Administrator Diers has calculated that each stall costs \$9 to rent per month, so HyVee is requesting an amendment to their original lease to expand to these 11 spaces. They have also been asked to remove the material from the end caps, especially since they have covered up a fire hydrant located on one of those end caps. This will be on the next council agenda for action.

A section of Jackson Street has been looked at for conversion to parking spaces. City Engineer Fallis presented two different options for a layout of the lot located in the 100 block of N. Jackson that would include both off street and on street parking. One option, using head in parking, would allow 143 total spots of both on street and off street parking. The second option, using diagonal parking, would garner 162 total spots. This possible change in parking had been discussed with all the businesses in this area to get their ideas and comments. All comments made were positive. The staff is trying to utilize as much of the existing pavement as possible with any new layout. That's why that block of N. Jackson street would be converted into parking and would no longer be a through street. The businesses there can continue to use the dumpsters where they are currently located. The parking lot in the 200 block of North Jackson has also been evaluated and consideration is being given to removing the cement planters there and also removing the raised island. There are now 48 stalls and removing those items would increase the stalls to 66. With McQuillen Place development going up, these extra parking stalls would be very helpful. A rough estimate for changing the layout of these two parking lots is \$300,000. Consensus of council was a good plan and to start with the lot in the 200 block of N. Jackson first.

Dirk Uetz, street superintendent, presented bids for a new batwing mower for the street department. The current one is 31 years old and it was decided that this was needed more than a scissor lift originally planned for purchase. Four bids were received as follows: Agland \$12,760; Mark's Tractor \$12,834; Case \$12,945 and Swartzrock \$13,550. All the units quoted would work well for our purposes. Council consensus was to stay local with Swartzrock. This item will be on the next regular agenda for action.

City Administrator Diers had another model of tablet to demo for the council, a Lenovo. Council had previously seen an HP. Both have the larger screen. The Lenovo has a detachable keyboard while the HP is more like a laptop. The HP is less expensive than the Lenovo. Council consensus was to go with the HP model.

City Administrator Diers informed council that Mary Mooberry, representing the Patriotic Association, would like to request closure of one block of Main Street from Court to Gilbert on Memorial Day during the service to be held at the courthouse Veteran's Memorial. It would only be approximately 45 minutes and would allow the speakers to be heard during the ceremony. Normally the traffic there is so loud it makes it hard to hear. This request will be on the agenda for Monday's regular meeting. He also reported that we have received bids from two local banks for the fire truck loan so this item will be on the agenda for Monday as well.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

James A. Erb, Mayor

Attest:

Trudy O'Donnell, City Clerk