

## COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

### APRIL 12, 2023

Charles City city council met in a planning session on April 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in council chambers. Mayor Dean Andrews presided and the following council members were present: Keith Starr, Patrick Lumley, DeLaine Freeseaman, Phillip Knighten (via zoom) and Phoebe Pittman.

Jen Burton who works with the mobile food pantry came to the council to discuss the possibility of having the staff participate in a city volunteer night. Jen explained that the mobile food pantry is located at the Youth Enrichment Building at the Floyd County Fairground on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month. Volunteers are needed between the hours of 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Volunteers would be able to come and help whenever they are available during that time. She explained that since they are serving such a large number of families, quite a few volunteers are needed. Volunteers are needed to set up the space, bag food, and clean up. She gave her contact information out to anyone who was interested in volunteering individually, but would also like the city to consider having a city staff night.

Rustin Lingbeck, SEH Project manager, was at the meeting to discuss pay estimate #2 for the clearwell project. The pay request is in the amount of \$549,051.55. Rustin explained that over half of the pay estimated is for stored materials for the project and remainder of the payment is for excavation, demolition and other site work, and half of the mobilization. He offered the council members and staff to contact him if they had any questions during the project or would like to take a tour of the construction site to see how work was progressing. Rustin explained that the product that is being removed such as sand and black dirt are being stored out by the lime lagoons for future city projects. The project is on track and estimated substantial completion date is scheduled for November 30<sup>th</sup>.

The proposed 401 Main Street parking lot project was reviewed. At the next council meeting council will be asked to approve the preliminary plans and specifications of the project as well as set the letting and public hearing dates. Requesting those dates to be May 11<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup> respectively. The parking lot serves the Charles City Chamber of commerce, Charles City Area Development. The parking lot has been rapidly deteriorating causing a safety concern for pedestrians. Start date of the project on or before August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and completion date of November 3, 2024.

The council has been discussing moving away from providing City Administrator, Diers with a vehicle and instead paying Diers a stipend for him using his own personal vehicle. Diers is requesting a \$500/month (\$6,000/yr.) stipend. Diers has put together some numbers for the council regarding the current costs of the city owning the vehicle. Per Dier's presented figures the cost of the eight years of the city owning and maintaining his current vehicle works out to \$6,204 per year based on current vehicle replacement. The stipend could be included in Diers's employment contract that he would be responsible for providing his own vehicle and his

insurance would cover him for general use. It was confirmed through Sisson & Associates that if Dier's was on city business and got into an accident the city insurance would provide coverage. Citizen ,Ryan Boehmer, addressed the council with his opposition to this change. The council thanked Steve for his work on providing him with information on cost associated with this topic.

City Administrator reported that he, the mayor, and Mark Wicks had attended a Iowa Rural Summit in Ames. He said common themes of issues cities were experiencing were housing, ambulance service, childcare and broadband. He shared information on our current arboretum project. WRRF project is getting close to completion waiting for some warranty information to come in for the basin. He reminded council that the ground breaking at NIACC was going to be held Friday at 10:30. At the next planning session he plans on having a representative from Mid-American in attendance to talk about franchise fees. Pat Callahan will also be coming to a planning session to start working on the City's capital improvement plan. Steve is also looking at going over the goal setting report in the next planning session. Steve and the Mayor will be meeting tomorrow with people from Soil & Homes about a possible project in Charles City. Last Friday Steve had a student that was job shadowing.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

Virginia Titus, Deputy City Clerk

Dean Andrews, Mayor

