

March 9, 2021

The Afton City Council met in regular scheduled session at 6:30 PM March 9, 2021. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and social distancing requirements the meeting was held at the Afton Community Center. Mayor Burger presided with Council members Sherry Parrott (via electronic media), Jeff Burger, Dave Cunningham, Mary Hill and Steve Kinyon present.

Kinyon moved to approve the agenda and Hill seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried. Parrott moved to approve the consent agenda which consisted of the minutes of February 9, 2021 meeting, report of the City Clerk/Treasurer, Afton Police Department and the following bills. Cunningham seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried. Hill requested nuisances be added back to regular agenda items again.

Chamber Auctions	RU-Down Payment-Box Blade	500.00
Utility Fund	Mtr.Dep-Void-Wrong Amount	(180.00)
Utility Fund	Mtr.Dep-Schmitz Final Bill	74.30
Wellmark BC/BS	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Mar. Health Ins.	1,343.33
Employees	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Payroll	4,372.96
941 Payment	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Feb Payroll Taxes	2,900.17
Iowa Dept of Revenue	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Feb Payroll W/H	484.18
IPERS	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Feb Retirement	1,900.29
Madison National Life Ins.	RU/EB/Sr/Elec-Life/Supplemental	45.46
MidAmerican Energy	Gen/Sr-Gas	214.28
Paul & Chris Anderson	Elec-AC Rebate	100.00
FNB	Gen/LOST/Elec-Purchase CD's	160,000.00
Afton Star	Gen-Ads & Publications	298.04
Bomgaars	Gen-Uniforms	36.98
Creston True Value	RU-Supplies	31.77
FNB	Gen-Safe Deposit Box Rent	20.00
Green Valley Pest Control	Gen-Qtrly Pest Control	55.00
IAMU	Elec-Electric Member Dues	2,433.00
IMFOA	Gen-Annual Dues	50.00
Innovative Industries	Gen-Janitor Svc-Comm Ctr	90.00
RPGI	Elec-Purchase Electricity	61,219.32
SAPIC	Gen-Annual Cemetery Dues	40.00
SIRWA	Gen/Sr-Water	120.00
Terrinda McIntire	Gen-March Cemetery Contract	3,518.33
Veenstra & Kimm	Sr-Lagoon Piping Project	2,492.80
Verizon Wireless	Gen-Police Internet	40.03
Walmart	Gen-Clerk's Office Lock	67.00
Wilson, Hanson & Assoc.	Gen-Legal Fees	120.00
Employees	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Payroll	4,434.49
Mayor Pay	Gen-1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr Payroll	461.75
AgriVision	RU-Backhoe Filters	12.92
Card Services	RU-Car Parking Only Template	79.95
Casey's Business M/C	Gen-Gas	146.85

Hometown Insurance	Gen/Sr/Elec-Prop/Liab/Auto Ins	42,092.00
Iowa Dept of Revenue	Sr/Elec-Sales Tax	1,998.00
Jim's Sanitation	Gen-Garbage/Recycling	5,303.41
Robin Creveling	Mtr.Dep-Balance After Final Pd	93.10
Schildberg Construction	RU-Rock	393.29
United Farmers Coop	RU-Gas	277.52
Utility Fund	Mtr.Dep-Creveling Final	16.90
Broadview Networks	Gen-Phones	168.60
T&S Industries	RU-Haul Plow Truck to Altoona	500.00
TOTAL		\$ 298,366.02

General Fund	\$ 59,702.41	Road Use	1,888 .88
Employee Benefit	6,080.80	LOST	45,000.00
Sewer Fund	4,977.59	Electric Fund	171,442.84
Meter Deposit	4.30	Payroll	9,269.20
		TOTAL	\$ 298,366.02

#### RECEIPTS:

General	\$ 11,975.62	Road Use	7,385.58
Employee Benefit	59.57	Emergency	10.21
LOST	56.72	Recreation	90.00
Perpetual Care	80.00	Sewer	7,178.77
Sewer Sinking	3,128.34	Sewer Reserve	6.29
Electric	76,099.94	Electric Sinking Fund	13,614.17
		TOTAL	\$ 119,685.21

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Mayor Burger announced at 6:32 PM it was time for the public hearing on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. The estimated total tax levy rate per \$1000 valuation on regular property after rollback is \$12.00585. There was no one present with comments and no comments were received at City Hall. The public hearing was closed at 6:33 PM.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** K'Lea Johnson presented a letter from the Afton Development Corporation requesting City consider reinstating tax abatements for new single and multi-family dwellings, with the exception of subsidized. Johnson mentioned the Afton Star has received concerns regarding an offensive flag in town. Johnson said the Afton Star has over 25 written positive comments on extending the trail and over 40 likes on Facebook. Jane Eklund commented on W. Kansas/Hwy 34 intersection stating she almost got hit pulling onto highway and not being able to see around car parked in the car parking only spot.

#### RESOLUTIONS:

Hill moved to approve Resolution 2021-09 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022. Burger seconded the motion. Roll call votes of ayes: Kinyon, Cunningham, Burger, Hill and Parrott. Motion carried.

Parrott moved to approve Resolution 2021-10 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF IOWA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (IEDA) COMMUNITY CATALYST BUILDING REMEDIATION PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION AND APPROVING CITY FUNDING AMOUNT. Cunningham seconded the motion. Roll call votes of ayes: Hill, Kinyon, Parrott, Cunningham and Burger. Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Council reviewed two draft options of a possible snow emergency ordinance. City Clerk Landers talked to apartment owners on the square and they were both okay with possible changes. Council discussed wording options and Landers will make changes and have ordinance ready for review and first reading at the April meeting.

Landers contacted Barb McIntire regarding questions on memorial bench previously requested. McIntire is still waiting on details on bench and they may place it elsewhere. If they decide they want it on city property she will be back in touch. Someone mentioned during Public Forum the City should consider making a plan on where memorial donations could be used.

Council discussed reopening Wi-Fi Center. Landers received a call from 4 people willing to volunteer. Mayor Burger said she will close once a week and Hill volunteered to help as well. Hill has some others willing to possibly help or check with other groups willing to help. Council decided to just have it open various times when volunteers are able to open & close. Landers will try to coordinate a schedule with those willing to help and get it opened back up.

An update by City Attorney Weeks on the remedy hearing held on 3/4/21 for dangerous building at 250 N. Douglas was read aloud by Clerk Landers. Judge issued Municipal Infraction fine of \$750 and gave owner 90 days to tear down back buildings. If this is not done the City has option to go onto property and tear down the back buildings and assess costs to owner. In order to assess costs the City would have to go to Court and request amount to be assessed with proper evidence. The City has the option to file a Motion to Reconsider up to 14 days after final Order from the Court. The Judge indicated with the new evidence from the Engineer the Court would consider the Motion to Reconsider if the City were to request that the entire building be found to be a municipal infraction and not just the back portion. This could happen within the next 30 days or so. Since the Council already approved the legal action no new motion is needed. Attorney is not doing anything new, just requesting that the judge reconsider.

Clerk Landers gave update on grant received for Pocket Park, Planters, Trails and Signs. Sandy Ralya is wrapping up the grant with the remaining funds left. New planters were installed today and she will be getting potting soil, screens for drainage, plants, Way finding signs for trail areas, parking markers for pocket park and possibly lake to wrap up the grant. The deadline is April 1 so we will be requesting an extension through May. Council all agreed it was ok to proceed.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Council reviewed road map marked for summer maintenance by Maintenance Employee Shade. Two areas were marked for concrete patches and remaining will be asphalt. Asphalt bids will be reviewed in April. Feldhacker Contracting bid was reviewed for concrete areas. Burger moved

to approve the maintenance map and Feldhacker concrete bid of \$23,487. Kinyon seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Burger moved to reappoint DyAnn Clark to the Afton Housing Commission and Kinyon seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried. New term will expire 4/1/26.

Parrott moved to accept Afton Housing Commission Financial Statements for Year Ended March 31, 2020. Burger seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried. Hill commented on hiring Treasurer for City & Housing if it would help for segregation of duties. Clerk Landers stated we both would still receive that finding as it would require hiring several. If Council wants to pursue hiring Treasurer we could. No motions were made.

Council reviewed bid for clearing branches from electric primary, secondary and service lines. There are issues getting to 3 large trees in back yards at 400 & 412 E. Filmore that are constantly growing into lines. Homeowners were contacted and are okay with City removing trees. Hill moved to approve McNeill Tree Service bid of \$6,500 for clearing in Map 3 and additional trees added by City along with approval of removal of 3 large private trees at \$1,000/ea. Burger seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

The incoming EU Junior class has requested permission to leave the fundraising can trailer in town as per email from Sponsor Clarissa McCollough. Cunningham moved to allow the can trailer to remain in Afton and Burger seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Parrott moved to adjourn and Burger seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the Council adjourned at 7:44 PM.

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Michelle Burger, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Toni Landers, City Clerk