

November 9, 2021

The Afton City Council met in regular scheduled session at 6:30 PM November 9, 2021. Mayor Burger presided with Council members Jeff Burger, Dave Cunningham, Mary Hill, Sherry Parrott and Steve Kinyon present.

Parrott moved to approve the agenda and Kinyon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried. Parrott moved to approve the consent agenda which consisted of the minutes of October 12, 2021 meeting, report of the City Clerk/Treasurer, Afton Police Department and the following bills. Kinyon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Employees	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Payroll	4,580.53
MidAmerican Energy	Gen/Sr-Gas	25.11
Precision Signworks	Gen-Aluminum Courthouse Mural	261.00
Unity Point Clinic	RU-Random Drug Screen Processing	42.00
Wellmark BC/BS	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Nov Health Ins.	1,371.92
Employees	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Payroll	4,590.24
941 Payment	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Oct Payroll Taxes	3,068.53
Bomgaars	RU-Truck & Shop Supplies	119.57
Drug/Alcohol Clearinghouse	RU-Annual Query Requirement	1.25
Iowa Dept of Revenue	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Oct Payroll W/H	511.59
IPERS	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec-Oct Retirement	1,973.42
Utility Fund	Mtr.Dep-Champlain Final Bill	135.00
Akin Building Center	Gen/RU/Sr/Elec/Rec-Supplies	229.61
Blacktop Service Co.	RU/Gen-Street Asphalt Maint.	97,857.84
Capital One	Gen/Rec/Sr/Elec-Office/Concessions	78.35
Courtney Phelps	Mtr.Dep-Balance After Final Bill	74.37
Ellen Jensen	Econ.Dev-Exterior Beautification	500.00
Gronewold Bell Kyhnn & Co	Gen-Final Audit Billing FY21	2,422.34
Iowa DNR	Sr-NPDES Permit Renewal Fee	85.00
Iowa Dept of Revenue	Sr/Elec-Sales Tax	1,444.00
Iowa One Call	Sr/Elec-Locates	40.50
Jim's Sanitation	Gen-Garbage/Recycling	5,313.41
Logan Osterhout	Gen-Cemetery Contract-Nov	3,623.75
NAPA	RU-Vehicle/Shop Supplies	125.66
RPGI	Elec-Purchase Electricity	31,695.30
SIRWA	Gen/Sr-Water	170.80
State Hygienic Lab	Sr-Lagoon & NPDES Sample Tests	311.00
TAC10	Gen-Annual TAC10 Maintenance	450.00
Utility Fund	Mtr.Dep-Phelps Final Bill	175.63
Verizon Wireless	Gen-Police Internet	40.01
FNB	RU/EB/Lost/Elec-Purchase CD	100,000.00
Casey's Business M/C	Gen-Gas	116.18
Fareway	Rec-Concession Supplies	46.00
Innovative Industries	Gen-Comm Ctr Cleaning	90.00
Iowa Pump Works	Sr-Lift Station Maintenance	798.00

Schildberg Construction	RU-Rock	1,670.99
Skogerson McGinn LLC	Gen-Legal Fees	90.00
United Farmers Coop	Gen/RU/Sr-Gas	317.74
USIC Locating Service	Elec-October Locates	212.00
Windstream	Gen-Phone System	154.29
Afton Star	Gen/Elec-Publications & Ads	364.92
Bomgaars	Gen/RU/Sr-Supplies & Gloves	123.72
Card Services	Gen/Sr/Elec/Rec-Office/Concessions	98.99
Graphic Displays	Gen-Aluminum Sign Info.	200.00
Iowa League of Cities	Gen-MLA Training	140.00
Iowa Rural Water Assoc.	Sr-Annual Membership Dues	225.00
Office Machines	Gen/Sr/Elec-Office Supplies	72.91
Southwest Iowa REC	Elec-Check and Change Meter	115.60
TOTAL		\$ 266,154.07

General Fund	\$ 60,500.15	Road Use	73,071.88
Employee Benefit	16,323.53	LOST	10,000.00
Economic Development	500.00	Recreation	197.03
Sewer Fund	2,122.67	Electric Fund	93,883.04
Meter Deposit	385.00	Payroll	9,170.77
		TOTAL	\$ 266,154.07

#### RECEIPTS:

General	\$ 75,444.45	Road Use	9,708.77
Employee Benefit	9,443.80	Emergency	1,680.03
LOST	11,451.07	Recreation	3,937.09
Capital Project	11,285.00	Sewer	8,386.67
Sewer Sinking	3,164.17	Electric	74,891.60
Electric Sinking Fund	13,667.25	TOTAL	\$223,059.90

**PUBLIC FORUM:** No one present spoke.

**ORDINANCE:** Parrott moved to place Ordinance #257 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF AFTON, IOWA 2018 BY AMENDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO PARKING RECREATIONAL VEHICLES on its second reading. Hill seconded the motion. Roll call votes of ayes: Hill, Parrott, Kinyon, Cunningham and Burger. Motion carried.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

An update on fire damaged property at 708 E. Grand was given. Clerk Landers sent the written nuisance abatement on 10/21, as requested last month, and it was returned unclaimed this week. Landers' is working with City Attorney who advised to have Police Chief McGuire personally serve the unclaimed notice. Council asked if 30 days would start over. Landers will contact City Attorney and keep working with attorney throughout the process. Landers mentioned a little work had started on the house and dirty siding that looked used was starting to go on bottom of

house even though the upper story had not been removed and new roof added yet. It was mentioned Melanie Beaman had said the siding and roof would all be done with new material.

**Tax abatement & Urban Revitalization Plan (URP):** Parrott stated she reviewed the draft URP Plan and also drove around and looked at lots Hill had provided. Parrott stated some lots were landlocked, others needed roads built to get to and feels like there is not a good plan now and Council should hold off spending up to \$8,000 on a URP plan until the plan is needed. Parrott moved to hold off on the URP plan until better economics or time for building or a need for tax abatement comes up. Burger seconded the motion. Hill stated tax abatement was already approved. Hill read August motion that we move forward on tax abatement. Council discussed further and it was mentioned we could start the plan later when needed and this motion was to hold off for now until there is a need. Roll call vote taken of ayes: Burger, Parrott and Kenyon and nays: Cunningham and Hill. Motion carried.

Council discussed and set up meeting on Thursday, November 18 at the Community Center at either 6:00 or 6:30 PM, whichever worked better for SICOG. The meeting is to discuss new grants that come from COVID funds with downtown property owners. Clerk Landers will schedule meeting with SICOG and notify all downtown property owners and post agenda.

An update was given on the trail route and fundraising. Parrott asked if they have talked to all the property owners along the way and have the route figured out. Hill said they have. The route goes to Greene's and crosses over Grand to fairgrounds property. Keith Wieland, Assistant County Engineer Managing, was present and discussed county area stating the need to find right-of-way and the trail needs to be on all private property or all in the R-O-W. County has easement to back of ditch. Wieland suggested hiring surveyor to determine property lines. He will help where he can and is talking to County Supervisors on project. Hill said Hardy & Thompson were fine with Trail in front of their houses. It was mentioned we should do 4' in that area because of electric poles and also trail versus sidewalk maintenance. Parrott wanted to make sure if they do the trail down Olive Street to stay in R-O-W area in case a road is ever needed to be built. Clerk Landers gave update on pledges/donations coming in for trail totaling close to \$36,000.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Parrott moved to approve El Ranchito Class C Liquor license renewal and Burger seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Hill moved to approve doing a half page color ad for \$350 in the Southern Iowa Tourism tabloid. Cunningham seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Hill moved to reappoint Larry Swanson to the Planning & Zoning Board and Cunningham seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried. Term will expire 11/12/26.

Hill moved to appoint Barb McIntire to fill opening and reappoint Scott Nixon to the Greenlawn Cemetery Board of Trustees and Cunningham seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried. Both five-year terms will run 1/1/22 to 1/1/27.

Parrott moved to allow Clerk Landers attend the virtual Budget Workshop Training on 11/23 and Burger seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Clerk Landers gave an update on a Wellmark Healthy Hometown project. This group discussed a programmable LED sign at the ASPIRE building along the highway that would scroll both school and community events. Clerk Landers talked to Tim Kuehl, East Union School Superintendent, and there is an interest in looking into doing a joint project with the City. Landers asked if City is interested and if so, could she look into sign options, prices and grants. Burger moved to allow proceeding with work on the sign and thinks it would be a good thing. Parrott seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Council received good news from our electric contractor that they would not have an increase in rates for next year and they also did not increase in 2021. Burger moved to approve the 2022 Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative Labor and Equipment Rates and Cunningham seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Council reviewed memo from DA Davidson on refinancing Series 2017 Electric Note for a cost savings. They would only be paid in the event of a successful closing of the potential refinancing. Parrott moved to approve signing engagement letter with no cost if we don't refinance with DA Davidson. Burger seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Kinyon moved to allow Dave & Connie Cunningham to replace the existing butterfly bench at the splashpad with a new butterfly memorial bench. Burger seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

A certificate of Appreciation was presented to Sherry Parrott for her 20 years on the City Council. Her term will expire 12/31/21 and she did not run for re-election.

Parrott moved to adjourn and Kinyon seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the Council adjourned at 7:36 PM.

---

Michelle Burger, Mayor

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

Clerk Landers received email from County Auditor on the official results of the 2021 election and performed Oath of Office on the following elected officials that will start their terms on January 1<sup>st</sup>:

- Michelle Burger, Mayor
- Kristie Nixon, Council
- Jeff Burger, Council