

April 9, 2024

The Afton City Council met in special scheduled session at 6:30 PM April 9, 2024. Mayor Burger presided over council members Jeff Burger, Steve Kinyon, Kristie Nixon via zoom, Sheryl Parham and Dave Cunningham,

Cunningham moved to approve the agenda and Kinyon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried. Nixon moved to approve the consent agenda which consisted of the minutes of March 12, 2024 meeting, report of the City Clerk/Treasurer, Afton Police Department and the following bills. Kinyon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried

March 13, 2024- April 9, 2024			
Check #	Vendor Name	Fund-Purpose	Amount
574E	SIRWA	GEN/SR- WATER	\$ 120.00
575E	WINDSTREAM	GEN- INTERENET	\$ 353.72
576E	WINDSTREAM	GEN- PHONE	\$ 149.30
577E	EFTPS	GEN/RU/SR/ELEC- PAYROLL TAXES	\$ 3,077.78
578E	IPERS	GEN/RU/SR/ELEC- WITHHOLDING MATCH	\$ 2,143.89
579E	IOWA DEP. OF REV.	GEN/RU/SR/ELEC- WITHHOLDING PAYROLL	\$ 417.23
580E	CAPITAL ONE	SR/ELEC- OFFICE PAPER	\$ 49.88
581E	VERIZON	GEN- POLICE - APRIL	\$ 40.01
582E	PESPI CO	REC- DRINKS	\$ 204.24
583E	IOWA DEP. OF REV.	SR/ELEC- SALES TAX	\$ 1,414.29
584E	RPGI	ELEC- PURCHASE OF ELEC	\$ 39,077.29
33469- 33472	EMPLOYEES	Gen/SR/Elec/RU- Payroll 3/14/24	\$ 5,247.33
33473	MICHELLE BURGER	GEN-MAYOR PAY 1ST QTR	\$ 461.75
33474	ACCESS SYSTEMS	GEN/SR/ELEC- COPIER QTRLY CONTRACT	\$ 167.89
33475	BRETT STREET WASH	GEN- WINDOW WASHING	\$ 65.00
33476	ELAN FIN. SERVICES	SR/ELEC- EMAILS/TRAINING	\$ 420.36
33477	FASTENAL	REC- WATER	\$ 302.40
33478	MADISON NATIONAL	EB/RU/SR/ELEC-LIFE INS & SUPPLEMENT- APRIL	\$ 47.82
33479	MIDAMERICAN	GEN/RU- HEAT	\$ 169.03
33480	SW IA REC	CAP. PROJECTS- STORM SIREN WIRING	\$ 80.00
33481	ECHO	REC- CONCESSION PROJECT	\$ 1,850.79
33482	LANDER'S AGENCY	GEN- CYBER INS.- VOIDED REISSUED- HOMETOWN	\$ -
33483	MATURA	ELEC- 910 N CLAYTON- UNUSED LIHEAP- MOVED	\$ 97.74
33484	MEGGEN WEEKS	GEN- 28E/MOWING CONTRACT/PROPERTY LINE	\$ 242.00
33485	NEW COOP	GEN- GRASS SEED	\$ 131.61
33486	SERVICE TECHS	GEN/REC- MOWING MAINTANCE	\$ 159.45
33487	SOUTHWEST IA TOURISM	GEN- 1/2 PAGE AD	\$ 350.00
33488	WELLMARK BC/BS	EB/RU/SR/ELEC- HEALTH INS PREMIUM APRIL	\$ 1,293.99

33489-33492	EMPLOYEES	GEN/RU/SR/ELEC- EMPLOYEE PAYROLL	\$ 5,192.18
33493	BOMGAARS	RU-DUMPTRUCK	\$ 29.97
33494	FASTENAL	REC- WATER	\$ 302.40
33495	FEDERAL SIGNAL CORP	CAP. PROJECT- STORM SIREN	\$ 23,681.83
33496	IAMU	ELEC- MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$ 2,484.00
33497	IOWA ONE CALL	ELEC- EMAIL	\$ 18.90
33498	QUALITY GLASS	GEN- CEMETERY DOOR	\$ 54.00
33499	SW IA REC	ELEC- QTRLY SUBSTATION INSPECTION	\$ 232.60
33500	HOMETOWN INS	GEN- CYBER INS- REPLACEMENT CHECK	\$ 2,212.95
33501	AFTON STAR ENT.	GEN- MINUTES/PUBLICATIONS/ADS	\$ 677.45
33502	AKINS	REC- CONCESSION PROJECT	\$ 795.53
33503	BOYD	REC- MICROWAVE CONCESSION PROJECT	\$ 234.33
33504	CRESTON TRUE VALUE	REC- CONCESSION PROJECT	\$ 318.00
33505	ECHO	REC- BALL FIELD LIGHTS	\$ 621.72
33506	GLEN'S REFRIGERATION	REC- CLEAN FRIG @ BALL FIELD	\$ 150.00
33507	GOV FORMS & SUPPLIES	GEN- MINUTE BOOK	\$ 160.00
33508	IAMU	ELEC- ENERGIZERS	\$ 142.80
33509	Jim's Sanitation	Gen- Garbage MARCH	\$ 5,816.27
33510	LOGAN OSTERHOUT	MTR- FINAL BILL	\$ 222.23
33511	New Cooperative	RU- Fuel	\$ 195.82
33512	SW IA REC	ELEC- S. DOUGLAS	\$ 694.17
33513	USIC	Elec/SR/RU- Locates	\$ 248.67
33514	UTILITY FUND	MTR - FINAL BILL OSTERHOUT, KLOS, MILLS/PAR	\$ 457.77
		TOTAL	\$ 103,078.38

Expenditures		Receipts	
General Fund	\$ 12,767.06	General	\$ 14,354.88
Road Use	\$ 336.32	Road Use	\$ 7,126.32
Employee Benefit	\$ 6,428.33	Employee Benefits	\$ 14.96
Recreation	\$ 4,859.13	Lost	\$ 8,977.22
Capital Project	\$ 23,761.83	walking trail	\$ 0.93
Sewer Fund	\$ 748.53	Tyler Cem	\$ 254.20
Electric	\$ 44,808.87	Huss Cem	\$ 1.87
Meter Deposit	\$ 680.00	Recreation	\$ 1,166.29
Payroll	\$ 10,901.26	Capital Equipment	\$ 0.03
		Perpetual Care	\$ 1.07
Total	\$ 105,291.33	Sewer Fund	\$ 7,796.71
		Sewer Sinking	\$ 3,180.75
		sewer Imp	\$ 0.93
		Sewer Reserve	\$ 7.56

		Electric	\$ 69,020.41
		Electric Sinking	\$ 13,747.25
		Meter Deposit	\$ 360.03
		Total	\$ 126,011.41

PUBLIC FORUM:

RESOLUTION: Kinyon moved to approve the resolution 2024-12 RESOLUTION SCHEDULING PUBLIC HEARING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET ADOPTION HEARING TO APRIL 23RD 2024 FOR THE CITY OF AFTON, IOWA and Parham seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Nixon, Burger, Parham, Kinyon All voted aye. Motion carried

OLD BUSINESS:

Angie and Bill Wimber attended the council meeting to discuss the letter they received from Meggen Weeks, PLC on behalf of the City of Afton. The Letter addresses the issue with the gate across Iowa St. leading to Wimber’s property. Wimber’s asked the city to vacate past the gate and they would maintain that area. There was discussion that there are overhead utilities that are within the city right of way. If there are utilities then the city cannot vacate. Wimber’s and the city council agreed that the gate and posts that held the gate would be removed by August 1st. Then the city would spread rock down to the garage that is closest to the road.

Devon Springer spoke about some concerns and suggestions for the City Park. She suggested extending the fence on the east side of the square to the corner of the splash pad. She stated that the fence would make the splash pad and park safer and keep kids from running towards the street. It was also discussed adding a small strip of concrete between the splash pad and possible new fence. This would give more eye appeal and reduce mowing a small strip of grass between the splash pad and new fence. It was also suggested to add an umbrella and table or bench on the southeast corner of the splash pad for parents to sit, this would help parents keep a better eye on kids and keep them from going into the street. City Maintenance worker, Jesse Shade, was at the meeting and stated he could look into costs of fence and concrete. The city clerk will look into possible grants and cost of an umbrella, bench or table. Devon also stated that the Afton Community Club was looking into grants to update some playground equipment in the City Park, such as a handicap swing for the park. It was also mentioned that a joint grant could possibly be a for playground equipment at the City Park and the Rec ballfield. No motion was made at this time. There will be further research completed before moving forward.

At previous a meeting the Early Childhood Center asked the City of Afton to be a fiscal sponsor for a DNR Grant for nature playground at the new EU Early Childhood Center. After some discussion and research, the board is in favor of being a fiscal sponsor for the DNR grant for the new EU Early Childhood Center. Nixon made a motion for the City of Afton to be a fiscal sponsor for the DNR Grant for nature playground at the new EU Early Childhood Center. Cunningham seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Rec Board member Robbie Dike attended the meeting to discuss final stages of the concession stand and bills associated with the Rec. The Rec purchased 2 new iPads for the concession stand. The new iPads are compatible with using Square services for credit card payments. The Rec has communicated with the school and Fair board to see how the square feature works and if it would be something beneficial for the Rec board to use for their concession stand and for future sports registrations. Clarissa McCoullough from the EU school attended the council meeting and gave an explanation and demonstration of how the square services work. It would be free to set up an account and each account is able to have up to 5 users. There is a 1.6% fee per transaction taken out. Some options are to increase concession prices a little to cover the fee or pass the fee onto each customer at the time of purchase. At the end of every day a batch of total card transactions will be ACH to the city account to the Rec Fund. There are also multiple reports available to show beginning and ending balances as well as reports for inventory. Clarissa stated if the city was interested in using square services that she would help city employees and the Rec set up an account and users. Kinyon made a motion for the Rec to use the square services. Parham seconded the motion. All vote aye. Motion carried.

There was discussion about the Rec receiving LOST funds in the next FY25 to help cover some maintenance and utilities used by the Rec Board at the Rec ball fields. Nixon(via zoom) left the meeting at 7:31pm and returned at 7:48pm via zoom)The Council and Robbie discussed revisiting larger projects for the Rec field in the future and the use of LOST funding at that time. The Council let Robbie know that, if the Rec board wants to request LOST funds in the future, the Rec board must identify a project and have appropriate estimates for said project and present that to the council by Dec/Jan for budgeting purposes. Kinyon made a motion to allocate \$3000 of LOST funds in FY25 to the Rec to cover some maintenance/utility expenses. Nixon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding the City of Afton's Livestock Permit Ordinance possibly needing clarification/modifications. Afton's ordinance does not address a max number of animals, permit renewal time frames, or fines for having livestock without a permit. It was discussed that dog and cat owners have fees and renewal requirements and there are Golf Cart/ATV/ UTV permits have renewal requirements and fees. Some felt that the livestock permits should also have fees and renewal requirements. Others had opposite opinions about the livestock permits. The council asked the city clerk to look into other communities' ordinances regarding livestock before any action is taken.

Bee hives were briefly discussed at the March 12th meeting. Since, Bees fall into their own category and are not considered livestock. The council requested the city clerk to look into how other cities handle bees. Afton does not currently have an ordinance accepting or banning bee hives within city limits. The city clerk provided copies of Corning, Creston and Osceola Ordinances regarding bee hives for the council to review. Creston allows bees and there are no restrictions. No permit is required. Osceola allows bees and has no regulations to exclude them. If a nuisance is called and the beehive has become neglected , then it would be treated as a public nuisance. Corning allows bees, but must request permission from the city council, which permission may be revoked at any time by the council. if removal does not occur within 30 days the person will be assessed a civil penalty upward to \$500(1st offence) and \$750 for any subsequent offence. Each day after the 1st offence will constitute as a subsequent offence. Parham didn't think the council should require permission or a permit for beehives. no further discussion took place.

The council reviewed the updated livestock permit from Sheryl Parham. The council asked if the horse trailer that serves as a chicken coop is licensed. Sheryl stated that it is. Cunningham made a motion to approve Sheryl's livestock permit. Nixon seconded the motion. All vote aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

The City of Afton received 2 quotes back for street patching and resurfacing on E Kansas Street and N. Temple Street. Grimes Asphalt and Paving Corp. Came in with a bid of \$111,390. Blacktop Services came in with a bid of \$140,083.96. Parham made a motion to accept the bid from Grimes Asphalt and paving Corp. for \$111,390. Kinyon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

There is a serious potential buyer for the mobile home park just west of the fairgrounds. The buyer wants to put new mobile homes in the park. The buyer was asking about the city ordinances for the mobile home park in regard to the setback rules and foundation. The city of Afton's ordinance reads that the homes must sit on a slab foundation. The potential buyer wants to do frost free pillars. Which is up to date with the State of Iowa's current code. It was discussed that the City of Afton's ordinances for the mobile home park may be outdated. The potential buyer also wanted clarification on the setback ordinances from the city right of way/property line. The One existing home in the park sits right on the line. This home does not block any visibility from traffic on the street or intersection. Cunningham said he would check with the state verifying the state foundation requirements. The Council asked the City Clerk to review the setback ordinances again and collaborate with the City Attorney for clarification on the setback ordinance.

Correction of Feb Minutes- The Original February 13th minutes posted in the Afton Star Enterprise had two typos for the year (2023) instead of 2024 in the first and second paragraph. Also, in the list of bills, the bill for RPIG- electric purchase of \$55,960.58 should not have been included in this report. Nixon made a motion to approve the corrected minutes for February 13, 2024. Parham seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The council discussed hiring retired former City Clerk Toni Landers on a temporary flexible as needed basis while City Clerk Kayla Lacina is on maternity leave. Cunningham moved to approve the resolution 2024-13 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OF THE HIRING OF A TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS FOR THE CITY OF AFTON, IA Parham seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Parham, Nixon, Burger, and Cunningham. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The council reviewed 2 Livestock permits. Angie and Bill Wimber submitted an updated application consisting of 2 goats, 2 ducks and 1 alpaca. Kinyon made a motion to approve Wimber's application. Parham seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried. David Denton submitted an application for 5 chickens and 2 ducks. Cunningham made a motion to approve Denton's application. Kinyon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Updates from Committees: Nixon gave a reminder that the Greenlawn Cemetery cleanup day is Saturday April 13th, starting at 8am. Greenlawn is welcoming volunteers. Projects include cutting

trees/brush on the west fence line. Picking up dead vegetation and decorations that have blown away from monuments. Kinyon stated that the next meeting for the fire department is Sunday April 14th. Parham gave an update on Union County Emergency Management employees. Parham stated that Bonnie Castello resigned and Jo Duckworth will not be retiring at this time.

Kinton moved to adjourn and Burger seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the Council adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Michelle Burger, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Kayla Lacina, City Clerk