Audubon City Council

Regular Meeting

March 8 2021

5:30 pm

City Hall

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jacobsen at 5:30 pm. Council in attendance: Grabill, Murray, Hemmingsen. Hemmingsen moved, Murray seconded, to approve agenda. ALL AYED. Murray moved, Grabill seconded to approve Consent Agenda. ALL AYED.

**Public Comments:** Rod Jensen- discussed the sawdust that filled the main near Quality Machine that caused a back up of the sewer into his business. He explained that Waspy’s and AMVC truck washes were plugging the sewer lines with sawdust from their respective truck washes. If this continues, tax payers will be the ones that will have to pay for repairs and replacements caused by this continuing issue.

Derek Tessman- Spoke to the water rate increase and how it affected out of town users. He compared the water rates of several other cities.

Mike Christensen- Spoke to the water rate increase, stating the rates were too high for the out of town users.

**Public Hearings-** Amendment to Citywide Urban Renewal Plan- Mayor Jacobsen opened the hearing at 5:35pm. Nobody was present to discuss. Mayor Jacobsen closed the hearing at 5:36pm.

**Departmental Reports:**

Police-Presented a written report

Fire- Presented a written report. 911 inspections were beginning and should take most of March.

Fire Association- Work has begun to demolish the Landus building

Public Works- Nothing

Clerk- Water rates on approximately 4 commercial customers were in error, due to an error in placement of a decimal point when Gworks set up the new rates. The FY20 Audit will be completed by the end of March. Encourage that the subcommittee for the new City Hall building meet to advise JEO on the wants and needs for each department.

Library- All programs are scheduled for this summer.

**Old Business:** Ordinance 752- Hemmingsen moved, Murray seconded, to adopt this Third Reading to establish a Historical Preservation Committee. ROLL CALL: AYES; Murray, Grabill, Hemmingsen. NAYS; None ABSENT; Weihs, Hocker. THIRD READING PASSED 3to 0.

**New Business:**  Outside water rates- Murray moved, Hemmingsen seconded, to instruct an Ordinance to amend the code, eliminating the multiplier on out of town water bills. ALL AYED.

917 Broadway- Bertelsen asked for and explanation for the abatement notice. Steve Stetzel discussed option for handling the abatement. NO ACTION TAKEN

Sheriff Department- Sheriff Johnson presented the Council the option for the County to take over the law enforcement of the City. Tiffany Hinkle was present to discuss Financial costs and comparisons. NO ACTION TAKEN.

Stop sign- Brandon and Heather Toft requested from the Council an additional stop sign be placed at the intersection of 3rd Avenue and South Street. Murray moved, Hemmingsen seconded, to table. ALL AYED.

Property Liens- Bradi Burr requested the City waive special assessments on 112 Nasby Avenue to make it more affordable for her to buy the property and develop. Murray moved, Grabill seconded, to eliminate the special assessments, since the current owners weren’t paying the taxes and Burr would as well as develop the property. ALL AYED.

Insurance Renewal- Tim Anderson presented the annual renewal to the Council. He highlighted the current adjustments and offered a few options to consider. Hemmingsen moved, Grabill seconded. To approve the renewal adopting option 3. ALL AYED.

Sewer sludge- Dirk Rasmussen, from US Water, discussed the increase of sludge through the plant due to Waspy’s Truck Wash. Currently there is an agreement with a local farmer to take the sludge and spread it on their fields. The increase will be more than that farmer will be able to take soon. NO ACTION TAKEN.

Ordinance 753- Grabill moved, Murray seconded, to approve the First Reading of this Ordinance that amends the code to allow for charging of Fire service fees. ROLL CALL: AYES; Murray, Grabill, Hemmingsen. NAYS; None ABSENT; Weihs, Hocker. FIRST READING PASSED 3to 0.

Resolution 21-17- Council discussed that until the Ordinance 753 is into law, This Resolution should not be voted on. NO ACTION TAKEN.

Fire Station Committee- The Committee updated the Council on the new station project. The building was being torn down. Then the discussion centered around the need to possibly bond for the station. NO ACTION TAKEN.

Resolution 21-16- Hemmingsen moved, Grabill seconded, to adopt this resolution adopting Amendment #1 for the Citywide Urban Revitalization Plan. ROLL CALL: AYES; Murray, Grabill, Hemmingsen. NAYS; None ABSENT; Weihs, Hocker. RESOLUTION PASSD 3to 0.

Resolution 21-14- Grabill moved, Murray seconded, to adopt this resolution setting a public hearing for the FY21 budget amendment for April 12, 2021. ROLL CALL: AYES; Murray, Grabill, Hemmingsen. NAYS; None ABSENT; Weihs, Hocker. RESOLUTION PASSED 3to 0.

Permanent Easement- Hemmingsen moved, Grabill seconded, to instruct the Mayor to sign a permanent easement with the School. ALL AYED.

Engineering Agreement- Grabill moved, Murray seconded, to instruct the Mayor to sign an engineering agreement with JEO for the sidewalk project by the school. ALL AYED.

Water project change order #3- Hemmingsen moved, Murray seconded, to approve this change order adding the addition of a new well back into the Water project. ALL AYED.

Resolution 21-19- Hemmingsen moved, Grabill seconded, to adopt this resolution designating the low bidder on the Water project. ROLL CALL: AYES; Murray, Grabill, Hemmingsen. NAYS; None ABSENT; Weihs, Hocker. RESOLUTION PASSED 3to 0.

Resolutiion 21-20- Grabill moved, Hemmingsen seconded, to adopt this resolution awarding the construction contract to Kings Construction for $1,583,145. ROLL CALL: AYES; Murray, Grabill, Hemmingsen. NAYS; None ABSENT; Weihs, Hocker. RESOLUTION PASSED 3to 0.

US Cellular- US Cellular is offering to purchase the lease agreement with the City for their communications tower. The City currently receives $525 per month. US Cellular is offering $87,000 to get a permanent easement. NO ACTION TAKEN.

**Proposition-** Mayor- Debower land is purchased.

Hemmingsen- having some issues with delayed delivered emails. He wondered if other Council members were having issues

Meeting adjourned 8:05pm

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Barbara Jacobsen, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Joseph Foran, City Clerk