

**STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
October 9, 2023**

The Stratford City Council met in regular session on Monday, October 9, 2023, with Mayor Brian Ouverson calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall and leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members answering roll call were: Carol Bergman, Catherine Bergman, Terry Bryan, Ht Buie and Jamie Nielsen. Also present were Jim Leiding from Bolton & Menk, Sheriff Doug Timmons from the Hamilton County Sheriff's department, Brad Westrum from the Stratford Fire and Rescue, Jim Bricker, Lucas Runyon, Kirk and Karen Richardson, Brad Larson, Kim Leeds and Cathy Siefken.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the tentative agenda. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie, – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Ht Buie to approve previous meeting minutes from September 11, 2023, and Special Meeting on September 14, 2023. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the consent agenda as follows: Financial Report for September 2023, Current Claims since Previous Council Approval for \$27,383.06 and Delinquent Utility Account Report. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Jamie Nielsen to appoint Catherine Bergman as Mayor Pro-Tem as appointed by the mayor and authorize her to sign checks in the mayor's absence. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – abstained, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Kim Leeds updated the council on the Stratford Community Development Corporation (SCDC) "Christmas in the Park" plans. The event is scheduled for Sunday, November 26, 2023, from 3 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with the tree lighting at Leland Carlson at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Jamie Nielsen, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve SCDC "Christmas in the Park" event plans. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

A short discussion was held concerning the future of Stratford Post Office. Currently City ordinance states that you must have council permission to put a mailbox on the mail route. City Council questioned how that affects our current post office. Council has asked that City Manager Leeds to gathering information on this topic.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to table the discussion on approving installation of a mailbox for 1725 Tennyson Avenue. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – nay, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen -aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to table the discussion on approving installation of a mailbox for 1127 Dryden Street. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – nay, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen -aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Jamie Nielsen to approve the demolition permit from Lucas Runyon for property located at 1300 Milton Street. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen -aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve and authorize the mayor to sign the Addendum to Professional Service Agreement to not exceed the fee of \$30,500.00. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen -aye. Motion carried.

Kirk Richardson was available to address the council about police presents in city limits. Council instructed City Manager Leeds to work with Sheriff Timmons and his department on the different options available to the City of Stratford in providing more police presence in town.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Ht Buie to table the discussion on the current 28E agreement with Hamilton County Sheriff or looking into adding a town cop until City Manager works on gathering more information. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Jaime Nielsen, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the Stratford Fire and Rescue membership application for Garrett Ament. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Brad Westrum Stratford Rescue Director was available to explain to the council that they had originally approved purchasing monitors for the new ambulance from Phillips for roughly \$55,000. However, they are having trouble getting those and in the midst of things VanDiest Medical Center and Mary Greely Hospital have purchased these monitors thru Zoll. Stratford Rescue has decided to also purchase monitors thru Zoll at a cost of \$60,090.95.

Moved by Jaime Nielsen, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the Stratford Fire and Rescue quote for new ambulance monitors in the amount of \$60,090.95 from Zoll. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Team Iowa Snowmobiler's 2023-2024 winter season snowmobile route in the incorporated limits of Stratford. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Jamie Nielsen to approve Resolution 2023-28, a resolution approving public streets and right of ways within City of Stratford corporate limits that snowmobiles may be operated on per City of Stratford Code §75.04 pursuant to 321G of the Code of Iowa. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Kim Leeds reviewed the generally accepted auditing standards and government auditing standards with the City Council.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Ht Buie to accept auditing standard and government auditing standards. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

City Manager Leeds reviewed audit report for FY22 from Cornwell, Frideres, Maher & Associates. It was discussed that the audit showed no deficiencies or exceptions.

Motion by Terry Bryan, seconded by Jamie Nielsen to approve the report for FY22 from Cornwell, Frideres, Maher & Associates. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Jamie Nielson, seconded by Terry Bryan to accept the only bid of \$50.00 for old telephone poles located at the south lot with thirty days to removed them. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Jamie Nielsen to move wood and wood chips from the south lot to the debris site for future burning. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the third reading of Ordinance 2023-02 – An ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Stratford, Iowa, by adding a yield sign on the southwest corners of Milton Street at the intersections of Milton Street and Avon Street and Milton Street and Byron Street. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Jamie Nielson, seconded by Ht Buie to approve Resolution 2023-27 – a resolution naming depositories for city funds and signators for depositories. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Resolution 2023-29 – a resolution authorizing the city clerk to certify to the county treasurer for collection from abatement work done for the City of Stratford. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Jaimie Nielsen to adjourn at 8:34 P.M. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.



Brian Ouverson, Mayor

Attest:



Kim Leeds, City Manager/Clerk