

**STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
May 13, 2024**

The Stratford City Council met in regular session on Monday, May 13, 2024, 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, Clark Conklin and Chase Haman. Also present were Nancy Baker from Stratford Development Corporation (SCDC), Steve Brush from Van Wert Company, Toni Larson, Brad Larson, and Kim Leeds.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the tentative agenda. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve previous meeting minutes from regular meeting on April 8, 2024, and Special Meeting on April 22, 2024. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the consent agenda as follows: Financial Report for April 2024, Renewal of Rungo’s License #LC0037613 for Class C Liquor, Outdoor Service and Sunday Sales, Stratford Country Store Retail Cigarette/Tobacco Permit Application Renewal, Stratford Food Center Retail Cigarette/Tobacco Permit Application Renewal, Current Claims since Previous Council approval for \$32,258.90, and Delinquent Utility Account Report. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Nancy Baker from SCDC was present to update the council on the current donation for fiscal year 2024 it was originally to go to the Stratford Food Center kitchen update, but because of change in management and other circumstances they were unable to get kitchen done at this time. They would like to use the money donated for fiscal year 2024 for roofing on the Stratford Fitness Center/Mercantile Building. Nancy also gave a brief update on the “Stratford on the Loose” July 13th event and requested the closing of main street from Commercial Street to the north side of Tennyson Avenue starting about 9:00 am. The event will begin at 10:00 am and will include a parade, vendor fair, carnival rides for children, games on main street, and music in the evening. Baker also briefly addressed other upcoming events like Day of Caring in September, Stratford Business Expo in October, and Christmas in the Park November/December.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the City’s fiscal year 2024 donation to SCDC for roofing on the Stratford Fitness Center/Mercantile building, and to allow them to close off street on July 13th, 2024 for “Stratford on the Loose’ from Commercial Street to the northside of Tennyson Avenue. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Steve Brush from Van Wert Company was present to introduce the council to the Tenetra system which is Iton's next generation cloud- based mobile meter data collection and management system. It is a radio read based system that will upload the read accurately and efficiently to the utility billing system by routes and store data in current time.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Clark Conklin to approve demolition permit for the property located at 1200 Dryden Street. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Mayor Ouverson's appointment of Becky Young to the Stratford Library Board. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Stratford Fire and Rescue application for membership for Michael Anderson. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Iowa One Call A Proxy Member Jenny Puffer. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Chase Haman to approve quote for \$3,275.00 from Durable Coatings to sand, clean, and coat pool office and bathroom floors using LOSST funds. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – nay, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

City Manager Leeds had a quick review with the council on the results of the sanitary sewer smoke testing done by Iowa Rural Water. Council discussed the findings and went over what to do next. It was suggested to get the engineer involved to help us look at the trouble areas.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve contacting City's engineer with Bolton & Menk to assist with sanitary/storm sewer issues. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Council had a discussion on the driveway ordinance chapter 140. Ordinance currently says that all driveways shall be paved to the property line with one of the following types of surfaces: six-inch plain P.C. concrete, five-inch mesh reinforced concrete, five-inch crushed stone base with two-inch asphaltic concrete overlay, C-4 concrete mix. After a discussion council decided to leave ordinance as is.

Moved by Clark Conklin, seconded by Terry Bryan to leave ordinance chapter 140 driveway as it currently reads. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Clark Conklin, seconded by Chase Haman to table discussion of ordinance chapter 151 trees to read and gather more information on what other cities are doing on trees. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

A short discussion was held with council on establishing a betterment committee. The council decided to split the town into five area and write down properties that are not following the ordinances. The list will then come back to the City Hall for review. The purpose of this process it to try to get the town clean-up.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to table request from Stratford Fire and Rescue to have their own gas pumps at the Stratford Fire Station to come up with more information on how to store them and the location of them. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve second reading and waiver third reading of Ordinance 2024-03 - A ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Stratford, Iowa, by adding a new section pertaining to debits subject to the setoff program. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Resolution 2024-19 – A resolution approving policy for change funds at Stratford City Hall and at Stratford Swimming Pool office and concessions. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Resolution 2024-20 – A resolution transfer TIF funds to Debt Service to pay our General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Resolution 2024-21 – A resolution re-appointing Zachary Chizek of Groves & Chizek Office as the City Attorney to serve as City attorney for fiscal year 2025-2626 and 2026-2027. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

City Manager Leeds reported that there has been vandalism at the City park the last few nights. City Manager is contacting the Hamilton County Sherriff office to keep an extra watch on the park.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Chase Haman to adjourn at 9:02 P.M. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.



Brian Ouverson, Mayor

Attest:



Kim Leeds, City Manager/ Clerk