

**STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
December 11, 2023**

The Stratford City Council met in regular session on Monday, December 11, 2023, with Mayor Pro-tem Catherine Bergman 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 Chase Haman. Mayor Brian Ouverson was absent. Also present were Clark Conklin, Tanner Jensen with KT&T Landscape, Toni Larson, Brad Larson, and Kim Leeds.

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

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve previous meeting minutes from November 13, 2023. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the consent agenda as follows: Financial Report for November 2023, Current Claims since Previous Council approval for \$101,173.58 and Delinquent Utility Account Report. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Council held a brief discussion concerning speed limit complaints on east Tennyson Avenue on the gravel portion. One of the citizens has requested a speed limit sign. It was discussed that a sign would not due much but add expense. City Manager has been directed by the council to speak to the sheriff office concerning the complaint and see if they can monitor it.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve holding a council budget workshop before the next regular council meeting on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, beginning at 6:30 PM. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman -aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Ht Buie to approve quote from KT&T Landscape for \$9,250.00 for line clearance for east side of Stratford. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Chase Haman to table the request from Keith Carlson for Destination Stratford for \$500.00 for an advertisement until the City of Stratford obtains more information. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve noise permit application from Copperhead Saloon for December 31<sup>st</sup> New Year's Eve celebration. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

A discussion was held with council concerning United Cooperative bin electric upgrades project. City Manager Leeds explained that the Coop will be putting a new transformer up and will have some underground boring in this project. The rough costs for expenses on this project are \$60,000. The City will be sitting down with Midland Power and the Coop in the near future to get more specifics.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Ht Buie to table the moving permit from Jessica Geerdes at 1006 Adams to have her gather more information. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Chase Haman to approve applying for the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTPA) Grant through Department of Transportation (DOT). Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Council reviewed the current water and sewer rates. City Manager Leeds reviewed the projected revenues and expenses for the City's Municipal water and sewer funds. It was explained that the ideal carryover balance should be twenty-five percent of operating and maintenance budget. Currently water and sewer are projected to carryover five to fifteen percent of current budget. It was suggested that council move forward with a five percent increase in water and sewer rates.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve a rate increase for water and sewer utility of five percent. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Ordinance 2023-03 – An Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Stratford, Iowa, by amending Chapter 135 pertaining to mailboxes. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

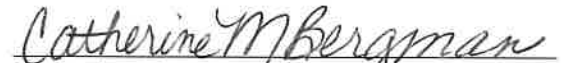
Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve Ordinance 2023-04 – An Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Stratford, Iowa, by adding yield signs on the northwest and southeast corners of Avon Street and Byron Street at the intersection of Milton Street. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Ht Buie to approve Resolution 2023-31 – A Resolution Authorizing the transfer of Funds for payment of debt fees and interest. Roll call vote: Carol

Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve Resolution 2023-32 – A Resolution of Appreciation to Ht Buie. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Carol Bergman to adjourn at 7:58 P.M. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Ht Buie – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

  
Catherine Bergman, Mayor Pro-Tem

**Attest:**

  
Kim Leeds, City Manager/Clerk