

**CITY OF ALTOONA COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2014, 6:30 P.M.
AT THE ALTOONA CITY HALL**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call at 6:30 pm

Mayor Conkling – present Boka – present Harmeyer – absent
Mertz- absent O’Connor – present Sloan- present

City Officials Present: Jeff Mark, Randy Pierce, Jody Matherly, Jerry Whetstone, Vern Willey, John Shaw, Aaron Putnam, Karen Oppelt, Amy Hill, City Attorney Bob Laden, Chris Lybarger

Audience Present: Paula Winslow, Melissa Horton, Ryan Hermes, Quinn Miller, Joe Hermes, Bruce Mason, Robb Vannoy, Sonja Vannoy, Terri Henkels, Bob Hall, Scott Sloan, Tim Stenseth, Ellen Bell, Ben Sloan, Ike Sloan, Chad Alshouse, Tom Johnston, Paula Secker Johnston

2. Perfecting and approval of the agenda

Mayor Skip Conkling requested to approve agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Y Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O’Connor 2 Sloan (3-0)

3. Swear in new reserve officers

Mayor Pro-Tem Michelle Sloan swore in new reserve officers, Tim Stenseth and Scott Sloan.

4. Approval of March 17 and 24, 2014, Council Minutes

Mayor Conkling requested a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Y Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O’Connor 2 Sloan (3-0)

5. Citizens to address the Council

*Rob Vannoy, 940 Red Hawk Way, Altoona, addressed the council in regards to the Campus referendum. He had questions in regards the square footage stated in the council minutes and Altoona Herald article. Campus Executive Director Bruce Mason answered the questions for Mr. Vannoy.

*Director Bruce Mason, 1500 8th St. SW, Altoona, spoke as a representative of the Healthy Altoona Partnership to ask the council’s permission to participate in the “Let’s Move – City, Town & County.” He gave a history of the program and how the Partnership would like to participate.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O’Connor Y Sloan (3-0)

6. Public Hearing for to consider adding stop signs to several locations

Mayor Conkling explained there are approximately 25 amendments to the ordinance. City Administrator Jeff Mark explained that most are new signs in new sub-divisions along with a few corrections and a street name change.

Open Hearing at 6:45pm

Public Comment: No one came forward to speak.

Closed Hearing at 6:46pm

7. Ordinance amending 2004 City of Altoona Code of Ordinances – Chapter 65.02 Stops Required (1st Reading)

**Ordinance No. 4-7-2014 #01 (392) AMENDING 2004 ALTOONA CODE OF ORDINANCES
– CHAPTER 65.02 STOPS REQUIRED (1ST READING)**

Roll Call Vote (1st reading):

Y Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor 2 Sloan (3-0)

8. Public hearing to consider amending Chapter 135.14 (Load & Weight Restrictions)

Mayor Conkling explained Altoona did not have an ordinance regulating excess size and weight loads. Community Services Director Vern Willey II explained currently, we issue annual letters to some companies that do business in and through Altoona on a regular basis. We also do individual single trip permits for such things as house movers, oversize construction equipment, etc. These take time and administrative tracking as the DOT does call us to make sure someone they pull has a valid permit.

Open Hearing at 6:48pm

Public Comment: Joe Free, 107 21st St., Altoona, explained that several communities are making this change to their ordinances even though DOT has had this law for a long time. This is difficult and can become expensive for the contractors that use large equipment and work in several communities. Mr. Free does not believe that an ordinance is the best way to handle this issue.

Council Members Dean O'Connor and Jeremy Boka asked questions about whether the cost was prohibited or whether it would be better review the issue again.

Closed Hearing at 6:55pm

9. Ordinance amending 2004 City of Altoona Code of Ordinances – Chapter 135.14 (1st Reading)

Council Member O'Connor moved to deny.

Roll Call Vote (1st reading):

2 Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (3-0)

10. Mike Norris, Country Cove Homeowner's Association, to discuss snow citation at 2012 Country Cove Lane SE

Mayor Conkling explained the snow clearing citation at 2012 Country Cove Lane. Mike Norris, 1809 3rd Ave. SE, Altoona, represents the homeowner's association and explained the snow removing operation for this particular situation. He requested the citation be waived this time. Council Member O'Connor moved to waive the fee this time.

Roll Call Vote:

Y Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor 2 Sloan (3-0)

11. Consider approval of the Altoona Health and Wellness Walk on Saturday, April 26, 2014, during the Arbor Day Celebration

Mayor Conkling explained the Altoona Healthy Partnership is seeking approval for events that will be held in conjunction with the Altoona Arbor Day ceremonies. Terri Henkels, 521 22nd Ave. SW, Altoona, explained they are planning a Wellness Walk on Saturday, April 26th, at 9am. The event will start at the Campus and conclude at the Enabling Garden. Then from 11am to 2pm, there will be a Health & Wellness Fair at the Civic Plaza. The Arbor Day Celebration will be at the Enabling Garden at 10am.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (3-0)

12. Consider approval of Altoona Community Garden

Mayor Conkling explained the Healthy Altoona Partnership is seeking council approval to proceed with the project and to start accepting applications. Terri Henkels explained the plans and layout for the community garden.

Roll Call Vote:

Y Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor 2 Sloan (2-0)

13. Consider Remote Control (RC) vehicle track at Lions Park

Mayor Conkling explained two young men have approached city staff regarding the creation of a Remote Control Car Track to be located in a city park. Ryan Hermes, 2217 Weatherstone Ct., Altoona, and Quinn Miller explained the group of RC enthusiasts would maintain the track once completed. Public Works Superintendent Aaron Putnam explained that staff has found a spot approximately 50' by 50' in the Lion's Park complex. The city staff would assist in the development of the dirt track and then require that the users be responsible for maintaining the track. This is for recreational uses only and not intended for any commercial use.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (3-0)

14. Resolution to consider approval of plat of survey for Parcel "P" in the west half of the SE 1/4, Section 19, Township 79 N, Range 22 W, consisting of 5.62 acres (Spring Creek Sports Complex)

Resolution 04-07-2014 # 01 TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PLAT OF SURVEY FOR PARCEL "P" IN THE WEST HALF OF THE SE 1/4, SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 79 N, RANGE 22 W, CONSISTING OF 5.62 ACRES (SPRING CREEK SPORTS COMPLEX)

Mayor Conkling explained this is a resolution to approve a Plat of Survey for Parcel "P" in section 19, Township 79 North, Range West, Altoona, Iowa. City staff explained the parcel is the ground located on the north side of the Spring Creek Sports Complex that is in the process of being annexed into the city. The purpose of the plat of survey is so that the City has a sellable, platted property for the development of residential lots.

Roll Call Vote:

Y Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor 2 Sloan (3-0)

15. Consider approval of Professional Services Agreement with Snyder & Associates for the Polk County FEMA Map Update

Mayor Conkling explained we learned from the IDNR that FEMA has decided to move forward with plans to produce updated Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) for Polk County on a cost share basis. City Administrator Jeff Mark explained Snyder & Associates has completed the floodplain modeling, but needs to complete the floodway model, in order for the information to be included in the DFIRM. The cost is a not to exceed \$8,775. Participating with FEMA on the DFIRM will lead to a binding legal document for many years for communities in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (3-0)

16. Consent Agenda

a) Allow Bills

b) Capital Projects

B1) Pay App #6 – Altoona Ambrose Pump Station Improvements – J&K Contracting, LLC. - \$212,795.35

c) Resolution approving requests for tax abatement

Resolution 04-07-2014 # 02 APPROVING REQUESTS FOR TAX ABATEMENT

d) Consider Yoga in the Garden at the Enabling Garden for summer 2014

e) Consider approval of league lease with Altoona Campus Wee-ball

f) Consider approval of league lease with Altoona Baseball League

g) Consider approval of league lease with Greater Altoona Girls Softball Association

h) Consider approval for letter of support for an application to the Iowa Flood Mitigation Program

Roll Call Vote:

Y Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor 2 Sloan (3-0)

17. General Business Items/Reports and Updates

*Council Member O'Connor gave an update on the Metro Waste Authority director search.

18. Adjourn at 7:20 pm

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka A Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (3-0)

Attest to: _____
Amy S. Hill, Secretary

J.M. Skip Conkling, Mayor