

**CITY OF ALTOONA COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 21, 2008, 6:30 P.M.
AT THE ALTOONA CITY HALL**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Burget-present Conkling- present Nolin- present
Riding- present Sloan- absent Warren- present

City Officials Present: Jeff Mark, Randy Pierce, Vern Willey, John Shaw, John Gray, Jerry Whetstone, Amy Hill, City Attorney Bob Laden

Audience Present: Dennis Keller, Helen Blaney, Brent Culp, Sarah Burnett, Bob Johnston, Polly Soukup, John Shaffner, Marc Hessner, Russell Kinney

2. Perfecting and approval of the agenda

Roll Call Vote:

 Y Conkling A Sloan Y Riding 1 Warren 2 Nolin (4-0)

3. Mayor's Proclamation for Responsible Gaming Week

Mayor Tim Burget proclaims August 4 – 8, 2008, Responsible Gaming Week.

4. Approval of July 7 and 14, 2008 Council Minutes

Motioned made by Council Member Stacey Warren to add Item E to the Consent Agenda and correct address on item #11.

Roll Call Vote:

 Y Conkling A Sloan Y Riding 1 Warren 2 Nolin (4-0)

5. Citizens request to address council

Resident Bob Johnston, 109 8th Avenue SE, Altoona, IA, addressed the council on two issues. The first issue regarded the sewer backup issues in his neighborhood occurring about a month ago. Community Services Director Vern Willey stated that the dialer malfunctioned and also the Waste Water department has ordered larger pump to be installed.

The second issue Mr. Johnston inquired about was the nuisance policy; specifically, in regards to junk cars on property. Mayor Burget stated that the council will be reviewing the nuisance ordinance at the August work session.

Reverend Russell Kenney, Pastor at Altoona Assembly of God and Altoona resident, located at 502 4th Street SE, Altoona, IA, requested council to forgive either part or the entire water utility bill. Mayor Burget requested that the council review past situations which are similar to Altoona Assembly of God and bring this back for decision at the August 4, 2008, council meeting.

6. Public Hearing to consider an ordinance amendment to Chapter 167.02 Fences, Walls and Hedges

Mayor Burget stated this public hearing regards the most recent change to Chapter 167.02 Fences, Walls, and Hedges, section of the Zoning Ordinance. This change also deals with six-foot tall privacy fences on a corner lots that abuts major streets. City Administrator Jeffery Mark explained the major streets are listed in the ordinance in Section (1) paragraph (7). The landscaping requirements of subsection (6) below apply to the area between the fence and right-of-way along the major street or highway for the length of fence.

Open Hearing at 6:43 pm

Public Comment: no comment
Close Hearing at 6:44 pm

7. **Ordinance approving an ordinance amendment to Chapter 167.02 Fences, Walls and Hedges (1st Reading)**
ORDINANCE NO. 7-21-2008 #1 (282) TO AMEND CHAPTER 167.02 FENCES, WALLS AND HEDGES
Roll Call Vote: (1st reading)
2 Conkling A Sloan Y Riding 1 Warren Y Nolin (4-0)
Roll Call Vote: (Waive 2nd & 3rd reading)
1 Conkling A Sloan Y Riding 2 Warren Y Nolin (4-0)
Roll Call Vote: (to publish)
Y Conkling A Sloan Y Riding 2 Warren 1 Nolin (4-0)
8. **Resolution to approve a plat of survey for Fred and Dee Tingle for Lots 10 and 26 in Prairie Vista Plat 1**
Resolution #7-21-2008 #01 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A PLAT OF SURVEY FOR FRED AND DEE TINGLE FOR LOTS 10 AND 26 IN PRAIRIE VISTA PLAT 1
Mayor Burget explained this resolution was a request from a property owner in Prairie Vista to split off part of their lot to sell to their neighbor. The plat of survey will not affect zoning as setbacks are met and the existing easements will remain in place. The remainder of the Tingle lot will still be 0.42 acres.
Roll Call Vote:
Y Conkling A Sloan Y Riding 1 Warren 2 Nolin (4-0)
9. **Consider Resolution to set the Residential Garbage Collection Rates and Recycling Rates effective August 1, 2008**
Resolution #7-21-2008 #02 RESOLUTION TO SET THE RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE COLLECTION RATES AND RECYCLING RATES EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2008
Mayor Burget introduced that starting July 1, 2008 garbage and recycling costs to the city were increased. City Administrator Mark explained our current cost and what we are charging our residents. The proposal is to increase garbage rates to \$8.40 and recycling to \$2.60. This would cover our vendor costs, the cost of the fall clean-up and help pay for administration costs. Our residents currently pay \$10.00 per month for both services and we are proposing this increases to \$11.00 per month. Mr. Mark further expressed that the City has not raised the rates for these services since December 2003. City Council Member Warren stated that it was her understanding that the City was subsidizing the costs of the garbage collection and recycle rates and that the reserve funds were now depleted. Council Member Skip Conkling asked if the fuel surcharge was included in this rate increase. City Administrator Mark stated the reserve funds were depleted and this increase did not include a fuel surcharge at this time.
Roll Call Vote:
2 Conkling A Sloan Y Riding 1 Warren Y Nolin (4-0)
10. **Consider request from Prairie Meadows for a parade on August 23, 2008 at 10:00 am**
Mayor Burget explained that Prairie Meadows and the Altoona Chamber of Commerce are planning to hold a parade at 10:00 am Saturday, August 23rd. City Administrator Mark stated a joint meeting was held with City departments, Prairie Meadows, and the Chamber attending. Community Services Director Willey explained Prairie Meadows has offered to pay for and print the flyers to be hand delivered to affected neighbors by City staff a couple of days prior to the parade. Prairie Meadows has also offered to pay for Police Department staff time. The P.D. estimates it will need 8 officers at an average hourly cost of \$31.50 per officer. City will post NO PARKING signs along parade route and notification signs will be erected along Adventureland Drive to help alert

neighbors. The Chamber and Prairie Meadows will make up flyers to deliver to affected businesses (Settle Inn, Shrine, Git-N-Go, Subway, etc.). The parade should only last a couple of hours maximum, and traffic affected from 9:30 to noon.

Roll Call Vote:

1 Conkling A Sloan Y Riding Y Warren 2 Nolin (4-0)

11. Consider approval of land purchase for location of joint water tower connection and metering facility (2559 NE 80th Street, Altoona IA)

Mayor Burget stated this piece of property is a platted lot consisting of 1.17 acres which lies on the east side of NE 80th St. and just south of NE 27th ave. It will be used to place a building on which will house our connection to the Joint Water Tower and 16 inch water main that serves it. In the building will be metering equipment, valves and controls for monitoring and controlling our water usage from the connection. City Administrator Mark explained it may also have pumps and controls for chlorination if that becomes necessary in the future. The building will not be built until we combine it with the rest of the water main connection project, which is planned for fiscal year 2009-2010. The price is \$70,000.00 and the net price after deducts for tax and title is \$69,987.31. Bob Laden has acquired the title opinion and finds it to be ok and marketable property.

Roll Call Vote:

Y Conkling A Sloan Y Riding 1 Warren 2 Nolin (4-0)

12. Consent Agenda

a) **Allow Bills**

b) **Capital Project**

B1) Change Order #1 – Grading & Paving Adventureland Dr. NE & 11th Ave. NE – Eco Tech Construction, LLC - \$375.00

B2) Pay App # - Grading & Paving Adventureland Dr. NE & 11th Ave. NE – Eco Tech Construction, LLC. - \$165,153.06

B3) Change Order # 1 – North I-80 Utility Extension Division 1 – H& W Contracting, LLC - \$300.00

B4) Pay App # 4 – North I-80 Utility Extension Division 1 – H & W Contracting, LLC – 77,556.62

c) **Set Public Hearing for August 4, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. to consider a rezoning request from Altoona Economic Development Corporation from A-1 to C-3 for property at 3801 Adventureland Drive NW**

d) **Resolution approving requests for Tax Abatement**

Resolution #7-21-2008 #03 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE REQUESTS FOR TAX ABATEMENT

e) **Set a Public Hearing for August 4, 2008, at 6:30 p.m, to consider vacation of sewer easement on east side of AEDC property**

Roll Call Vote:

1 Conkling A Sloan 2 Riding Y Warren Y Nolin (4-0)

13. Beer and Liquor Permits

a) **Casey's General Store (1441 1st Ave. N) – Class B (Beer and Wine Coolers)**

Police Chief John Gray stated that there were no violations at this establishment.

Roll Call Vote:

Y Conkling A Sloan 1 Riding 2 Warren Y Nolin (4-0)

14. General Business Items/Reports and Updates

Mayor Burget reminded council that the City is offering the Altoona Leadership Program. The program begins Tuesday, August 28th at 4:30. Mayor Burget provided the council members a copy

of the application and stated he would appreciate if they would pass the information on to a citizen they felt would benefit from the program.

Mayor Burget also reappointed Marc Hessner to the Library Board.

Council Member Conkling wanted to remind citizens that were impacted by the rain events that caused damage to their homes including but not limited to sewer or storm water damage to basements should contact FEMA at 1-800-621-FEMA by September 22, 2008, to see if they qualify for funds to aid in repairs. Mayor Burget stated that City Administrator Mark and himself met with FEMA representatives and FEMA indicated they are very interested in projects that are proactive in controlling damage cause by natural disasters. The City of Altoona is contracting with Snyder and Associates for a study on how to develop Altoona around the Mud Creek. Mayor Burget stated that the city would be requesting financial support from FEMA to cover the costs of the study.

Council Member Conkling also expressed concern over our fence ordinance not requiring the fence contractor to pull the permit to install a fence a citizen's property. Mr. Conkling stated he was fine with a homeowner requesting a permit to install their own fence. Council Member Conkling stated that if the homeowner is using a fence contractor that he believes the fence contractor should be required to pull the permit. This would make the fence contractor take professional liability to be sure they are following fence requirements in the ordinance.

14. Adjourn

Roll Call Vote: at 7:06 p.m.

1 Conkling A Sloan Y Riding Y Warren 2 Nolin (4-0)

Attest to:

Amy S. Hill, Secretary

Timothy J. Burget, Mayor