

**CITY OF ALTOONA COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2015, 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 – present
Mertz- absent O’Connor – present Sloan- present

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

Audience Present: Bruce Mason, Morgan Bauge, Tammie Bauge, Melissa Horton, John McClain, Steve Johnson, Dustin Vandeweerd, Vic Piagentini

2. Perfecting and approval of the agenda

Mayor Skip Conkling requested to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka Y Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O’Connor Y Sloan (4-0)

3. Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Conkling declared April 25, 2015, as Arbor Day in Altoona.

4. Approval of March 30, 2015, Council Minutes

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka Y Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O’Connor Y Sloan (4-0)

5. Citizens request to address council

No one came forward to speak.

6. Consider approval of management agreement between City of Altoona and Altoona Campus for the operation of the Altoona Aquatics Park

Mayor Conkling explained the agreement between the Great Altoona Community Service Campus and the City of Altoona is for the management of the Altoona Aquatics Park by the Campus. The Campus' Executive Director Bruce Mason shared the changes in equipment being installed. He also explained that the dates were now set for June 3 – August 23. Director Mason also explained the change in operating hours to Monday – Friday 12:00pm to 7:00pm; Saturday and Sunday 10:00am – 6:00pm.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka Y Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O’Connor Y Sloan (4-0)

7. Consider approval for Prairie Meadows to conduct fireworks on Friday, July 3, 2015, with a rain date of Saturday, July 4, 2015

Dustin Vandeweerd of Prairie Meadows at 1 Prairie Meadows Dr., Altoona, is requesting to conduct a fireworks display on Friday, July 3, 2015, at approximately 10:00PM, with a rain date of Saturday, July 4, 2015.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka Y Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O’Connor Y Sloan (4-0)

8. Consider approval of the contract between City of Altoona and the Animal Rescue League for animal shelter and impoundment services for stray animals

Mayor Conkling explained the only change from our current agreement is that the cost for shelter services will increase from \$100 per animal delivered to \$125 per animal.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka Y Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (4-0)

9. Consider approval of the Fire Union Contract

Mayor Conkling explained the Altoona Professional Fire Fighters, Local 4743, have ratified the collective bargaining agreement with the City of Altoona. City Administrator Jeff Mark explained this is a 5-year agreement beginning July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2020. The changes to the agreement include; per council's request: the removal of longevity pay from the agreement for all new hires, starting June 30, 2015, and the agreement also provides for a 3% cost of living adjustment each year for all five years of the agreement.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka Y Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (4-0)

10. Resolution to consider approval of a preliminary plat for Laird Estates Plat 1

Resolution 4-6-2015 #01 APPROVAL OF A PRELIMINARY PLAT FOR LAIRD ESTATES PLAT 1

Mayor Conkling explained the applicants: Cheryl Laird Humphrey, owner and Don Timmins, developer, are seeking preliminary plat approval for Laird Estates Plat 1. Engineer Vic Piagentini of AEC, 2917 Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy, Des Moines, explained the property is located on the west side of Prairie Vista subdivision, south of 24th Street SE. The plat will include the southerly extension of 3rd Avenue SE. The owners are proposing to plat the property into 31 duplex lots for a total of 62 housing units.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka Y Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (4-0)

11. Resolution to consider approval of a site plan for Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino Horse Exerciser Roof

Resolution 4-6-2015 #02 APPROVAL OF A SITE PLAN FOR PRAIRIE MEADOWS RACETRACK AND CASINO HORSE EXERCISER ROOF

Mayor Conkling explained the applicants, Polk County and Prairie Meadows are seeking site plan approval for the Horse Exerciser Roof. Dustin Vandeweede of Prairie Meadows explained the project is located on the east side of Prairie Meadows Drive, west of the horse barns. Prairie Meadow is proposing to construct a new roof over an existing horse exercise area. The roof is 5,193 square feet in area (roughly 72' x 72'). Council Member Dean O'Connor motioned approval subject to waiving the architectural design standards to use a metal wall end which will match/compliment the other structures in the area.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka Y Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (4-0)

12. Consider event request from Polk County Master Gardeners for Arbor Day Celebration at the Enabling Garden

Mayor Conkling explained the event is scheduled again this year on April 25th from 11-1 at the Enabling Garden.

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka Y Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (4-0)

13. Consent Agenda

a) **Allow Bills**

b) **Capital Projects**

B1) **Pay App #11 – 12th Ave. NW Water Main & Footing Drain Collector Improvements – Synergy Contracting, LLC. - \$33,817.34**

c) **Resolution approving requests for tax abatement**

Resolution 4-6-2015 #03 APPROVING REQUESTS FOR TAX ABATEMENT

d) **Resolution approving writing off of rescue fees for bad debt accounts – Medicare – Medicaid - CMS collections fees**

Resolution 4-6-2015 #04 APPROVING WRITING OFF OF RESCUE FEES FOR BAD DEBT ACCOUNTS – MEDICARE – MEDICAID - CMS COLLECTIONS FEES

e) **Resolution setting date for public hearing for Monday, May 4, 2015 at 6:30pm on 2015 amendment to urban renewal plan for Altoona Urban Renewal Area**

Resolution 4-6-2015 #05 SETTING DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING FOR MONDAY, MAY 4, 2015 AT 6:30PM ON 2015 AMENDMENT TO URBAN RENEWAL PLAN FOR ALTOONA URBAN RENEWAL AREA

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka Y Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (4-0)

14. General Business Items/Reports and Updates

*Council Member Jeremy Boka shared that the Daggy property has contracted to have the building demolished at 109 8th St. SE.

15. Adjourn at 6:43pm

Roll Call Vote:

2 Boka Y Harmeyer A Mertz 1 O'Connor Y Sloan (4-0)

Attest to: _____
Amy S. Hill, Secretary

J.M. Skip Conkling, Mayor