

Delaware City Council Meeting Minutes
Saturday, March 11, 2023

Mayor Fishler called the meeting to order at 8:00am.

Roll call of members present: Rick Lahr, Barb Ries, Kevin Clark, Larry Tibbott, Burt Davis. Absent: None.
Also present: John Dolan, Alex Elgin.

Building Permit Applications/Livestock Applications

None.

City Insurance Renewal – John Dolan, Dolan Insurance

John Dolan reviewed the insurance renewal with the Council. The Council discussed with Dolan the property valuations and the insurance renewal. Dolan will work with City staff to reevaluate the property valuations as some seemed high in an effort to reduce the premium.

Public Hearing on the “Maximum Property Tax Dollars Resolution” for the budget for Fiscal Year 2024

Mayor Fishler opened the public hearing at 8:28am. The City Clerk reviewed the max levy with the Council and discussed the budget challenges for fiscal year 2024. There being no written comments on file and no comments to be heard, Mayor Fishler closed the public hearing at 8:40am.

Motion by Lahr, seconded by Ries to adopt the Resolution Approving Maximum Property Tax Dollars for Fiscal Year 2024. Motion carried, all ayes.

Motion by Ries, seconded by Davis to set April 8, 2023 at 8:00am as the date and time for a public hearing on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2024. Motion carried, all ayes.

Main Street Closure

The Council discussed the closure of the intersection of Main Street and Highway 38. The Council noted the IDOT needs to extend the guard rail past the intersection and paint the lines straight through as well as repair the radius on East Washington Street.

Keep Iowa Beautiful Hometown Pride City Park Project Update

Council Member Ries reviewed the estimates for the proposed playground equipment and mulch with the Council. Ries updated the Council on the grant applications being submitted and fundraising letters being sent out.

City Siren Update

Mayor Fishler informed the Council that the siren was in need of repairs and that Jim Locke would be out to look at it in the near future to see what work needs to be done.

Spring Street Maintenance

Council Member Lahr informed the Council that they are going to need some reclaim to repair the roads. The Council discussed the repairs needed and how to complete them.

Department Reports

Fire/Civil Defense: Mike Haar has looked at the generator at the fire station as they have been having some issues with it. It hasn't been serviced for several years. Haar will work with his company to get the city estimates on the repairs and annual maintenance.

Water: The new house on East Jefferson Street would like to have the water meter installed and the City is waiting to get the parts needed. The Council discussed ensuring the house was heated before installing the meter due to the predicted freezing temperatures and the potential liability.

Sewer: Evan Elgin has sheep that can be placed at the lagoons for the summer to keep the grass down. The Council discussed spraying the thistles and weeds at the lagoons.

Other Business

The Clerk discussed options for credit card and ach payments for city bills. The Council discussed items to include in the spring mailing. The Council discussed the property at 200 East Jefferson Street, specifically their parking on street right-of-way in the rear of their property and the shed that is in disrepair. The Council reviewed a proposal from City Operator Alex Elgin. The Council was supportive of the proposal once Elgin becomes certified for water and wastewater.

Standing Business

Motion by Lahr, seconded by Ries to approve the following standing business items: minutes of the February 11, 2023 City Council meeting; payment of the bills; Delaware County Sheriff's Office February 2023 Report; February 2023 Revenue and Expense Report; February 2023 Utility Collections Report. Motion carried, all ayes.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Davis that the meeting adjourn at 10:10am. Motion carried, all ayes.

Erin Learn, City Clerk