

Council Proceedings

City of Steamboat Rock • Feb. 13, 2023

The Steamboat Rock City Council met in regular session February 13th, 2023, 6:30 p.m. in the City Council chambers. Present were Mayor Stearns and the following council members: Adam Blackburn, Dave Mull, Kevin Pieters, and Cory Schurman. Absent: Jon Schurman. Also present were JJ Veld, Julie Winters, Scott Williams, JD Holmes, Dawn Schaa, and by zoom Renee Oltrogge.

Mayor Stearns called the meeting to order. Pieters moved, seconded by Mull to approve the posted agenda. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman.

Pieters moved to approve the minutes of the January 9th, 2023 council meeting, seconded by C. Schurman. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman. C. Schurman moved, seconded by Pieters the motion to approve City bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman. Staff hours were not presented.

Mayor Stearns requested to appoint Dawn Schaa as City Clerk. Pieters moved, seconded by C. Schurman to make the appointment. Roll call; Blackburn - aye, Mull - aye, Pieters - aye, C. Schurman - aye. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman.

Mayor Stearns requested to approve Dawn Schaa on all banking accounts. C. Schurman moved, seconded by Pieters to approve Dawn as signor and access on all banking relationships. Roll call; Blackburn aye, Mull - aye, Pieters - aye, C. Schurman - aye. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman.

Public comments: 508 W Main St presented a building permit. C. Schurman moved, seconded by Mull to approve the building permit. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman. 508 W Main St presented a poultry permit. Pieters moved, seconded by Mull to approve the permit. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman.

Melissa Johanson, no report. Library PO# 2023020101, J.C. Powers and PO #2023020102, Mid-America Printing were presented for approval. C. Schurman moved, seconded by Pieters to approve the PO's. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman.

Fire Department presented paperwork to be signed for the funds transfer for payment on new fire uniforms. Williams presented PO# 87 for shop supplies. Pieters moved, seconded by Blackburn to approve PO #87. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman. Williams presented PO# 88 for Compressed Air \$130.00. Blackburn moved, seconded by C. Schurman to approve PO #88. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman.

JJ Veld presented water and sewer report. Veld discussed sewer back-up in front of 106 6th St. due to cloth rags from upstream and tree roots. Discussed having several sewer trouble spots lined to prevent tree root blockage. Veld discussed 207 W. Market manhole needs the upper concrete rings replaced this summer. Veld discussed updating our city code to be more specific who is responsible for which parts of water lines. Mayor Stearns will discuss further with city attorney three different scenarios.

Mayor Stearns advised on distressed properties; No new activity on 106 4th St. 208 3rd St., or 301 W Market St. Mayor Stearns sent 60 day notice on 308 6th St & 601 W Sycamore St and discussed if the City should begin legal action. C. Schurman moved, seconded by Pieters to move forward with legal action on 308 6th St and 601 W Sycamore. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman.

Nuisance Reporting- no report.
Grant status- no report.

River Rd Sewer Project & Hardin County Conservation Hook Up. Mayor Stearns advised the grant application is moving forward and the new County Conservation sewer is on hold until the City is able to get the grant approval.

Road repairs Veld reported a \$20,000/day fee to fill cracks, might be entire City in one day. Later the same year level up the cracks for another \$20,000/day fee, most of the City completed in one day. The two processes could be done in one calendar year, but over two fiscal years. This company does not patch holes and the patching needs to be completed first.

Nuisance Ordinance Update. final pending.

Municipal Infractions Ordinance

Update. final pending. Animal Control Code Ordinance Update. final pending.

How do we keep increasing pedestrian tourist traffic safe while crossing roadways in Steamboat Rock discussion requested by Mayor Stearns. Julie Winters from Regions VI discussed DOT grant options Mayor Stearns advised we would need approval from the County Engineer to do anything on the County Roads.

Mayor Stearns advised still working on ATV/UTV Code update.

Mayor Stearns discussed the IDNR proposed additional river parking and river access on City property north of the City solar panel at an estimated cost of about \$265,000. Mayor Stearns advised the IDNR has paid for the archeological study which did not require any further discovery or action. IDNR has paid for the landscape engineering that we have been using in the discussions. IDNR would consider a grant application in the amount of \$196,000. The city could apply for a \$25,000 Hardin County Community Endowment Fund Grant as part of the project. The city could apply for a \$35,000 grant from the Wellmark Foundation as part of the project. Discussed the layers of grant applications with a total estimated cost share needed of about \$10,000 from the City. Mayor Stearns met with the Hardin County Board of Supervisors on 2/13/23 requesting the ability to borrow the \$10,000 City share of the project. Board of Supervisors approved the request with favorable repayment terms of 5 annual \$1,000 payments and if all made on time, forgive the remaining \$5,000. The required \$10,000 match for all these grants could also tap volunteer time, in-kind, and cash donations in lieu of funds. This project would likely get underway in late 2024. Upkeep and maintenance by the City was discussed and estimated at a minimum of \$2,000 for rock and mowing annually. Julie Winters from Regions VI confirmed the grant options.

Max Tax Levy presented by Mayor Stearns. C. Schurman moved, seconded by Pieters to approve The Max Levy to be approved and submitted to the Iowa Department

of Management. Roll Call - Blackburn - aye, Pieters - aye, Mull - aye, C. Schurman - aye. Motion carried unanimously. Absent - J. Schurman.

Mayor Stearns requested Budget Hearing Date to be set during the next council meeting March 13th, 2023. Pieters moved, seconded by Blackburn to set the Budget Hearing Date as March 13th, 2023 at 6:30 pm. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman.

Resolution #2023-04 Hardin County Endowment Tidal Wave Grant application for \$25,000 was presented. Blackburn moved, seconded by C. Schurman to adopt Resolution #2023-04. Roll call vote, Adam Blackburn- yes, Dave Mull - no, Kevin Pieters - no, Cory Schurman- yes. Resolution failed. Absent: J. Schurman. Resolution #2023-05 Wellmark Foundation Build grant in the amount of \$35,000 and Resolution #2023-06 for the ability to borrow \$10,000 from Hardin County were no longer relevant to present for consideration since both were contingent on the ability to move forward with Resolution #2023-04.

Mayor Stearns presented a request to abandon all north/south alleys not adjacent to any other property owners, for Haven's property 207 Madison including pasture. Pieters moved to approve, seconded by Mull. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman.

Mayor Stearns discussed the renewal of insurance.

Mayor Stearns discussed the EMC Ask a Nurse program and how it related to workman's compensation claims for the city including the fire department.

Mayor Stearns presented renewal for the liquor license for Happenings. Pieters moved to approve the license, seconded by Mull. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: J. Schurman.

Mayor's comments: Dawn will make some calls to get some City Wide Clean-up dates.

Mull moved to adjourn the meeting, Blackburn seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Absent; J. Schurman. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

*Timothy A. Stearns, Mayor
Dawn Schaa, City Clerk*