

Mount Pleasant, Iowa, January 10, 2024

The Mount Pleasant City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 307 East Monroe Street, second-floor meeting room. The meeting was called to order by the Mayor and the roll being called there were present Steven K. Brimhall in the Chair and the following named Councilmembers.

Present: Engberg, McWilliams, Batty, White, Crull

Absent: Griffith

It was moved by Councilmember White and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council approve the following consent agenda items with one roll call motion vote: the minutes of the December 27, 2023, City Council meeting; the payment of bills totaling \$124,663.59; the report of officers including the following receipts for the month of December- \$114,934.91 General Fund; \$111,699.12 Road Use Tax; \$31,215.00 Housing-Rehab; \$112,614.05 LOST; \$8,814.18 TIF; \$26,494.56 Debt Service; \$8,135.18 Capital Projects; \$3,100.00 Trust & Agency; \$288,074.35 Sewer Revenue; \$64,569.28 Solid Waste; \$4,049.68 Library General Fund; \$119.11 Library Gift Fund. And the following disbursements for the month of December - \$623,660.95 General Fund; \$144,824.67 Road Use Tax; \$33,303.75 Debt Service; \$38,649.05 Sewer Sinking; \$123,255.10 Sewer Plant Improvement; \$267,952.22 Capital Projects; \$127,957.82 Sewer Oper. & Maint.; \$71,015.91 Solid Waste; \$42,731.50 Library General Fund; \$2,175.90 Library Gift Fund. Resolution No. 2024-01 including the following inter-fund transfers for the month of December - \$31,057 from General Fund to Library Fund for 1/12<sup>th</sup> library operating expenses; \$89,903 from Sewer Revenue Fund to Sewer Sinking for 1/12<sup>th</sup> Sewer Debt; \$50,000 from Sewer Revenue Fund to Sewer Operation & Maint Fund; \$1,021,505.62 from 2022 bond proceeds Capital Projects to Henry Street Project to complete project; the Renewal of a Class E Retail Alcohol License for Wal-Mart Inc #784 at 1045 N Grand Avenue.

Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

Mike Gardner, Airport Advisory Committee Chair, gave an update on the Airport and thanked the City Council and Mayor for their support.

Councilmember McWilliams moved and Councilmember Batty seconded that the Council approve the agenda as printed.

Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

Councilmember Engberg moved and Councilmember Batty seconded that the Council read for the second time the following ordinance:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 21 "SOLID WASTE" AND CHAPTER 25 "SOLID WASTE CHARGES" OF THE CITY CODE OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA, CODE OF ORDINANCES**

The Mayor asked for questions or comments from the public at this time:

Bob Griffith was present at the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Randy Beary, 804 E. Harvest, asked if the Council considered an opt-out option for the citizens who do not use the City's garbage collection. Beary believes that the system is not fair to all citizens and the City should charge based on use. He asked if the Ordinance can be changed before the third reading. Beary asked if a bid for haulers was taken or considered. Beary stated that the agenda items and notifications were not transparent.

May Swarm, 1009 N. Locust, also asked if an opt-out option was considered as she feels that this is the main concern for residents. Swarm asked what residents will do with their unused garbage stickers. Swarm asked if the Ordinance could be changed or amended before the passing of the third reading. Swarm asked if it is standard procedure to sign a contract before the Ordinance has been approved. Swarm questioned the policy of posting and publishing agendas and if the agenda is valid if it was not posted in the local paper.

Lane Evans asked why there was no opt-out option and why no bid was taken for the collection. He asked for a breakdown of solid waste fees on his utility bill; \$4.25 recycling fee, \$3.00 solid waste fee; \$1.00 landfill closure fee. Evans has heard that some apartments uptown would now have a dumpster rather than having to use the new system. He requested that the City post agendas on Facebook.

Karl Braun, 505 S. Hoaglin, asked if the apartments he owns would be included in the new collection system.

Lynn Conrad, Henry Street, asked how you determine if an extra building is charged the solid waste fees.

Judy Williams, Iowa Avenue, asked if the Council had held a meeting since the December 27, 2023, Council Meeting to discuss the concerns that were presented at that meeting.

John McDowell, 302 S. Locust, is concerned about truck traffic having to pick up on one side of the street and then the other side. Also concerned about truck traffic in the alleys and if a vehicle is blocking the area where the trash receptacle is located, will it still be picked up.

Michael Packer asked the Council if they would periodically review the new collection system and make changes if needed.

Councilmember McWilliams left the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Susie Kerr is concerned about the senior citizens in Mount Pleasant and those on social security. She told the Council that the new garbage collection fees will take one third of their cost of living increase.

Councilmembers listened to all questions and concerns and responded. The Council will take all questions and concerns into consideration.

Roll call vote 5-0. Motion approved.

It was moved by Councilmember Crull and seconded by Councilmember White that the Council designate the second and fourth Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. as the time of regular City Council meeting. Motion carried, 5-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Griffith and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council confirmed City Council meetings will be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order. Motion carried, 5-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Griffith and seconded by Councilmember White that the Council approve Stephen Engberg as Mayor Pro-Tem. Motion carried, 5-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Griffith and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council designate the official publication for City Council public notices to be the Mount Pleasant News. Motion carried, 5-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Griffith and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council approve the City Council Standing Committee assignments as follows. (the asterisk designates chairman)

**Finance & Personnel**

\*Engberg, McWilliams, Griffith

**Sanitation**

\*Crull, Engberg, Griffith

**Streets**

\*White, Batty, Engberg

**Ordinance**

\*Griffith, White, McWilliams

**Public Safety**

\*McWilliams, Batty, Crull

**Public Improvements/Utilities**

\*Batty, Crull, White

Motion carried, 5-0.

Councilmember White moved and Councilmember Batty seconded that the Council authorize the Mayor to sign an Engineering Services Agreement with Warner Engineering for E. Pearl Street – Main Street to Adams Street 2024. Motion approved, 5-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Griffith and seconded by Councilmember Engberg that the Council adopt the following entitled Resolution No. 2024-2:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA  
APPROVING RONALD S. GALUSHA TO POLICE OFFICER**

Roll call vote 5-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor and hereby made a portion of these minutes.

It was moved by Councilmember Griffith and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council adopt the following entitled Resolution No. 2024-3:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA  
APPROVING THE PROMOTION OF JONATHAN L. BODY TO POLICE SERGEANT**

Roll call vote 5-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor and hereby made a portion of these minutes.

It was moved by Councilmember Griffith and seconded by Councilmember Engberg that the Council adopt the following entitled Resolution No. 2024-4:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA  
APPROVING THE PROMOTION OF ROBERT D. SZEWCZYK TO POLICE SERGEANT**

Roll call vote 5-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor and hereby made a portion of these minutes.

It was moved by Councilmember Engberg and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. to meet in regular session on Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

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Steven K Brimhall, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lori Davis, City Clerk