

**NEW SHARON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
May 17, 2017**

The New Sharon City Council met in regular session at city hall, Wednesday, May 17, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Dustin Hite presiding and the following members answering roll call: Kenneth Ward, Wes White, Terry Hudson and Keri Lamberson. Others in attendance were Kevin Lamberson, RD Keep, Linda Steel, Steve Marsh, Don Boyd, Gary Strobel, Jeff and Kay Bittner, Dwight Thompson, Russ VanRenterghem, Jason Freese, Misty White, and Eric Chistensen. Larry Applegate was absent.

Roll Call answered by:

Ayes: Ward, White, Hudson, Lamberson

Motion was made by Lamberson and seconded by White to approve the following consent agenda items with these changes.

05/03/17 minutes

05/17/17 agenda with the following amendments, deduct Steve Dawley for building permit as he did not turn in his application

05/17/17 distributions pending

AYES: Lamberson, Ward, White, Hudson

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Public Comments:

Don Boyd and Dwight Thompson- brought in a note from the American Legion stating they encouraged Jeff to help the Legion at a funeral. Dustin stated that the city has no problem with helping at a funeral the problem was that Jeff did not tell anyone where he was going or ask permission to be gone and expected the city to pay his wages for that time without permission.

Steve Marsh- Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities was here to introduce himself

Eric Christensen- CEO of the new Mahaska County YMCA was here to introduce himself

Requests from the Community: None

Public Hearings:

- A. Motion was made by Lamberson and seconded by Hudson to open public hearing at 6:05 p.m. for building permits for Carolyn Brickley, 208 Depot, fence and Bryan Hipsher, 110 N. Park, garage

AYES: Ward, White, Lamberson, Hudson

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

- B. Motion was made by Hudson and seconded by Ward to close public hearing at 6:06 p.m.

AYES: Hudson, Ward, White, Lamberson

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

- C. Motion was made by Lamberson and seconded by White to approve building permits for Carolyn Brickley, 208 Depot, fence and Bryan Hipsher, 110 N. Park, garage.

AYES: Lamberson, Hudson White, Ward

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Resolutions and motions:

- A. Motion was made by Lamberson and seconded by White to set public hearing for June 7 at 6:00 p.m. for building permits for Shane Farnum, 208 E. Cherry, garage and Jason Freese, 308 W. Cherry, fence and shed.

AYES: Lamberson, White, Ward, Hudson

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

- B. Motion was made by Hudson and seconded by Lamberson to approve a six month extension for building permit for Wes White, 301 N. Main, fence.

AYES: Ward, Hudson, Lamberson

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: White

- C. Jeff Bittner declined to go into a closed session to discuss his performance as water superintendent. Discussion was held in response to some issues of misconduct. Discussion was held in response to some dates that water shut offs was not done. Also May 1st issue of Jeff giving a copy of another employee's time card to a citizen for them to give to a council member. It was stated this may not be public information and if it is then there is a process that does need to be followed.

Also discussed May 4th issue of city issued pickup being at Jeff's residence for an extended period of time during the work day as reported and observed by Wes White.

May 8th was discussed with city issued pickup being at Jeff's residence for 3 hours in the morning and he was checked into work as observed by Wes White. Jeff said that he had went to a funeral but did not call to let anyone know that he was there and did not punch out so was paid by city. This was not acceptable to not have permission from either the mayor or a council member prior.

May 12th pickup was home at 11:20 and Jeff was still punched in then left at noon to take the afternoon off.

After much discussion regarding these and other issues from an October 2016 meeting a

Motion was made by Lamberson and seconded by Hudson to terminate Jeff Bittner's employment from the city effective immediately due to misconduct.

AYES: Hudson, Lamberson, Ward

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: White, per advice from the city attorney.

Ordinances:

- A. Motion as made by Lamberson and seconded by White to approve second reading of Ordinance 050317 vacating South Elm Street south of East Oak and North of East Spruce Street.

AYES: Hudson, Lamberson, White, Ward

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

- B. Motion was made by Lamberson and seconded by Hudson to approve second reading of Ordinance 050417 vacating East Spruce Street west of South Mulberry St. and East of South Elm Street.

AYES: Ward, Lamberson, White, Hudson

NAYES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Department Reports

- a. **Water Report-** hydrants are all flushed, MCCI wanted to purchase 4000 gallons of water per day. They have already set up a contract with Mahaska Rural Water
- b. **Sewer Report-** none
- c. **Street Report-** LL Pelling have finished seal coating the streets they had bid. Received a nice thank you from a citizen in regards to North Elm.

- d. **Police Report-** on table.
- e. **Cemetery Report-** none

- f. **City Clerk Report-** sent out 54 reminder notices east side, finalizing budget amendments and working with Datatech to set up Capital Improvements Project accounts.
- g. **City Attorney Report** None
- h. **Fire Department Report-**
- i. **Library Board-** None

10. Departmental Requests:

11. City council Information

12. Mayor Information: - There is a trust in Oskaloosa that would like to give up to \$25,000 for one project which they would like to be something they can have their name on not a variety of small projects. Dustin will check into this more and asked us to think of anything we think might be a good fit.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Hudson and seconded by White to adjourn at 6:48 p.m. All in favor, whereupon the Mayor declared said motion approved.

Lisa Munn
City clerk

Dustin D. Hite
Mayor