

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
ZEARING CITY COUNCIL  
ZEARING, IOWA  
June 8, 2020**

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the City of Zearing will be holding this city council meeting electronically via a conference call. If you would like to participate, before the meeting start time, you must call: Dial-in number (US): (701) 802-5090, Access code: 505133#, International dial-in numbers: <https://fcdl.in/i/zearing>, Online meeting ID: zearing, Join the online meeting: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/zearing>, For additional assistance connecting to the meeting text "Help" to the Dial-In number above. Message and data rates may apply.

7:00 PM Mayor Herr called the meeting to order and roll call was taken; Present: Obrecht, Tisdale, Murrell, Perisho and Skinner.

Obrecht motioned to approve the agenda. Skinner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tisdale motioned to approve minutes from May 11, 2020 regular meeting. Murrell seconded the motion. Motion carried. Tisdale motioned to approve minutes from the May 18, 2020 special meeting. Perisho seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Perisho motioned to pay the claims from May 11, 2020 to June 8, 2020. Tisdale seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CLAIMS REPORT		
VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
AG SOURCE LABORATORIES	LAB WORK	192
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC	2,101.38
AMES TRIBUNE	NEWSPAPER	18.33
BRIAN'S COLLISION CLINIC	REPAIRS	390.8
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	SUPPLIES	1,724.61
CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTION SERVI	CHILD SUPPORT	572.3
AMES, CITY OF	LANDFILL FEES	2,908.50
ZEARING, CITY OF	ADDL HEALTH DED	97.08
DAVE TISDALE	SUPPLIES	39.56
DAVISBROWN LAW FIRM	LEGAL FEES	2,381.00
DDM ELECTRIC INC.	REPAIRS	405.08
DES MOINES REGISTER	NEWSPAPER	28.7
ELECTRIC PUMP	SERVICE	653.74
GANNETT	PUBLICATIONS	230.11
HOKEL MACHINE SUPPLY	SUPPLIES	16.45
INNOVATIVE AG SERVICES	SUPPLIES	202.1
IMWCA	WORK COMP	4,527.00
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICES	FED/FICA TAX	1,814.00
IOWA FINANCE AUTHORITY	LAGOON PAYMENT	78,685.00
IOWA REGIONAL UTILITIES ASSOC	WATER PURCHASE	3,383.48
I P E R S COLLECTIONS	IPERS	1,170.24
BAILEY SERVICE, LLC	GARBAGE SERVICE	4,711.00

KAREN DAVIS	CELL REIMBURSEMENT	70.7
KATHY HERR	SUPPLIES	10.98
KYLE CHITTY	CELL REIMBURSEMENT	50
MAGUIRE IRON, INC.	WATER TOWER	9,877.00
MAX'S AUTO REPAIR	REPAIRS	34.71
MINERVA VALLEY TELEPHONE	TELEPHONE	341.84
MORTON BUILDINGS, INC	FIRE STATION REPAIRS	4,620.00
NESSA SPRAYER SUPPLY	SUPPLIES	171
PORTABLE PROS	PORT A POTTY	95
STAPLES	SUPPLIES	166.78
TIM ADAMS	HERITAGE ROOM REIMBURSEMENT	375.75
US BANK	COPIER CITY HALL	557.98
WELLMARK BC/BS	INSURANCE	2,514.54
Accounts Payable Total		125,138.74
Payroll Checks		5,712.72
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		130,851.46
GENERAL		29,917.48
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT		2,514.54
WATER		16,212.28
SEWER		82,207.16
TOTAL FUNDS		130,851.46

Sheriff's Report – none.

Open Forum – Julie Jeffries requested the surety bonds for the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem. The confirmation from the insurance about the coverage of the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem is awaiting a return phone call. There is disagreement about what is required by Iowa Law for the surety bond. Jefferies will address that at a different time.

NB: 108 E Main Rental. A potential renter looked at the apartment and was not willing to rent due to the neighbor and safety concerns. Possibility to move the Heritage room to a commercial space at 108 E Main. The biggest drawback seems to be the neighbor when people look at the building for a purchase or rental opportunity. Talked with the neighbor about selling his building to the City, he stated he would think about it and there has been no further contact.

Setting of a Public Hearing for the Sale of City lots at 202 W. Main and 101 N. Pine. Tisdale motioned to set a Public Hearing for July 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM with a \$16,000.00 minimum and acceptance of sealed bids. Murrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IPIB Resolution - Special Meeting – The details about how to document the

Employee Reviews – Special Meeting or the July Meeting. Reviews will be held at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

City Sign and Flower Pots – Hire/Volunteers? Post a volunteer request on Website and Facebook Page. It was asked who is currently taking care of this. Kyle has done some of the weeding at the City sign and the flower pots are still in the basement of the Dakins Center.

Child sized motorized toys on City Streets. Young kids on city streets that are driving perhaps carelessly. These are not regulated through the city ordinance. Nicole Jeffries explained the devices that her children have and the calls they made to check on placing flags on the devices. There is a lack of sidewalks for the kids to ride on, so

they ride on the streets. This is more of an awareness issue for parents and children to make sure they are being safe when riding these devices. The biggest concern is safety for all - children and drivers.

COVID -19 Recovery and Reopen. Clerk requested that Council think about how to open: Dakins Center, Library, City Hall, Park Shelter and Park Restrooms. Plexiglass will need to be installed at City Hall and Library before reopening. Check with the Library Board and Park Board if they would like to collaborate on an opening plan. Clerk will check with the boards and see when a meeting could be planned to put a protocol plan in place. Check on supplies that each department may need to accomplish re-opening.

Despite not having Zearing Days this year, it was discussed that there are projects that should be done regularly to have the community ready. A project list should be developed and when there rainy days or excessive heat, they should be sent home. Murrell motioned to rehire the two summer employees from last year. Perisho seconded the motion. Motion carried.

An Open Records Request from Julie Jeffries was received with a request for the fees to be waived. Jeffries repeated that what she is requesting is open records and she would like to review the reports to be better prepared for future grants that she would like to apply for. Murrell motioned to review the records and prepare an estimate for the cost of the records being requested. Then let Jeffries know the cost. Perisho seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Murrell motioned to renew the contract with Story County Animal Control for FY21. Obrecht seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor's position, tabled from last meeting. Based on information received today, our insurance company has assigned defense counsel. We have been asked to refrain from comment at this time.

Council Members Conduct – member is voted in by the tow. Council member should work together as a team of 5. Shouldn't be working for someone else or letting outside forces micro manage the council and trying to get other members removed. Council members are starting to not enjoy being on the Council. If others in the community want to be on the Council, put your name on the ballot and get voted on. Perisho asked Obrecht for an apology for questioning her ethics. Obrecht will consider it.

Based on the request from the EMC attorney, there was no closed session. He has requested time for him to acquire and review information.

Old Business: Delinquent water bills. 1 regular letter was sent out. COVID19 water letters were sent out to 7 customers. This letter notified customers of the bill now being due with a shut off date of June 15th.

City Sidewalks - Repairs needed. The city owned sidewalks will be looked at for bids and grant possibilities. Tisdale will talk with the Company that will be doing the cement work at the fire station. Letter was sent to a local resident to provide a response about their sidewalk replacement.

Nuisance properties. All Council members were asked to provide any names by the week's end of properties that need to receive a letter.

Planning and Zoning – Tisdale motioned to approve D. Pickles fence and J. Chance concrete work. Perisho seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Superintendent report: Written report was submitted. Tisdale asked that he block the sidewalk in front of the old brick bar as there are loose pieces falling.

Clerk Report – Worked on Budget Water Lot Transfer is continuing. The Superintendent explained in a phone call that the Water Tower Lot will be used for parking this fall for staff. They will plan to remove sod and place gravel. The Abatement process has begun at the school and they are hoping to award a demolition bid and the target date in August for demo seems to be on track.

Mayor Report – This past month has been turbulent and Mayor has been staying away from city hall. Hasn't talked to many Council members this past month. He has been available by phone for any questions. He has talked to Eric Cowles about the Pearl Street Bridge. The bridge work will be starting with core samples. The bid letting should be around late October. Bridge crews do work through winter. Contract is available is needed.

Council member report – NESCO Family Medical Clinic. April and May numbers were better than expected due to COVID 19. Voom meeting options were set up, but now patients are wanting to return with regular appointments. Brooke Ibeling was hired as the second provider. Rural Health designation was received as well as Medicare reimbursements. Hansen Family Hospital has been very thankful for the City's support. Connie Tjelmeland from SCCF came and looked at the fire station. She was pleased with the project and how the building looks.

Next Regular City Council will be held on Monday, July 13, 2020 at 7 PM, at City Hall.

Tisdale motioned at 8:35 PM to adjourn meeting. Murrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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Martin Herr, Mayor of Zearing

Attested:

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Karen Davis, City Clerk of Zearing, Iowa