

Regular Session

March 8, 2023

The Primghar City Council met in regular session on March 8, 2023, at 5:00 PM in the council chambers with Mayor Kurt Edwards presiding. Council present – Steve Wittrock, Tim Honkomp, Ryan Jenness, Ken Miller, and Kevin Smith. Staff present – Carol Chicoine, Sarah Rohwer, and Mike Warnke. Motion Jenness, approving the consent agenda, approving March 8th agenda, council minutes from February 8, 2023; golf board minutes from February 21, 2023; Dee Vander Pol Library Board Application; and Just One More Class C Liquor License with Outdoor Service and Sunday Sales. Second Wittrock, all ayes, motion carried.

Brad Stevens with the O'Brien County Sheriff's Office gave update to the council. Parking tickets are still being issued and there is an open investigation in regard to illegal dumping at the City Dump. Darwin Gaudian and Kevin Mars with the O'Brien County Fair Board were also in attendance to ask if the City to authorize the approval for the writing of a Foundation Grant for the Fair Board again. The O'Brien County Fair will be 100 years old in 2024. In preparation for this celebration, the show ring will be remodeled to expand the canopy on the west side. Mars also inquired if the city camping spots that are closest to the fairgrounds property could be upgraded to 50 amps to better accommodate the food trucks that come in during fair week.

Dana Genereux, Arborist with JEO Consulting, joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams to explain the results of a tree inventory that was done in early July of 2022. Out of 541 City trees, 59% are Maple, 19% are Ash, and 6% are Linden. From the inventory it was also concluded that 27% of trees need management and 15 are recommended for removal. Ash trees were also examined to determine if the Emerald Ash Borer is in the community.

City Attorney Bruce Green was not available for comments. Mike Warnke gave council an update on projects that city employees have been working on including removing snow piles, scraping roads, branch pick up, tree trimming, servicing the rest of the equipment, fire extinguisher inspection, fire rings are ready to be picked up, fixing streetlights, and lagoon transfer.

Motion Honkomp open Public Hearing for FY24 Budget. Second Jenness, all ayes, motion carried. Public hearing opened at 5:49 pm. No comments were received written or oral. Chicoine did outline the differences that were going to be present with the new legislation from the state regarding the Property Tax Rollback. Motion Miller to close Public Hearing. Second Smith, all ayes, motion carried. Public Hearing closed at 5:58 pm. Motion Jenness Consider Resolution Approving Primghar FY24 Budget. Second Smith, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Honkomp open Public Hearing Amendment 2 FY23 Budget. Second Jenness, all ayes, motion carried. Public hearing opened at 5:58 pm. No comments were received written or oral. Motion Wittrock to close Public Hearing. Second Miller, all ayes, motion carried. Public Hearing closed at 6:00 pm. Motion Honkomp Consider Resolution Approving Primghar Budget Amendment 2 FY23. Second Jenness, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion Honkomp Resolution for Prior Approval for Application Urban Revitalization Tax Abatement for William Klinker, Cory Crouch, Carol Chicoine, and Gary Lansink. Second Wittrock, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Wittrock Resolution for approval for Application Urban Revitalization Tax Abatement for Hunter and Kelsey Fiddelke. Second Jenness, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion Honkomp Resolution Determining the necessity and Fixing a Date for a Public Hearing on the Matter of the Adoption of a Proposed Amendment NO. 1 to the Urban Revitalization Plan for April 12, 2023. Second Miller, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Honkomp Resolution approving agreement between NIPCO and Primghar Municipal Utilities for switch gear. Second Jenness, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion Smith Resolution Accepting Community Development Block Grant. Second Wittrock, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Jenness Resolution Authorizing Application O'Brien County Foundation Grant O'Brien Count Fair Board. Second Smith, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Honkomp Resolution to approve Agreement between Northwest Iowa Planning and Development Commission for the administration of CDBG Grant. Second Miller, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion Smith Resolution Approving Wage Increase for Amber Mulder. Second Jenness, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Honkomp Resolution Ordering Construction of the Generation Addition and Fixing a Date for Hearing Theron and Taking of Bids Therefore. Second Wittrock, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Honkomp Resolution approving Bad Debt Write off. Second Jenness, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Wittrock Resolution approving FY23 Transfers. Second Miller, all ayes, motion carried.

Discussion was had about the city's current Golf Cart Ordinance. The current ordinance states that operators shall only be allowed to operate the golf cart on city streets by taking the most direct route to and from the storage location and the municipal golf course. Discussing the changes that council would like to see would include removing the section of the ordinance that talks about only going to and from the municipal golf course and allow the operator to go wherever they want.

Motion Smith approving Contract CIMS for Cemetery Search Implementation. Second Jenness, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Jenness approving purchase of new server and VPN. Second Honkomp, all ayes, motion carried.

Clerk Chicoine gave updates on the Street, Electric, and Lagoon projects that the city has been working on. For the lagoon project, the City of Primghar was awarded the \$300,000 Community Development Block Grant. While discussing upcoming street projects, Chicoine informed council that Justin Christensen with DGR Engineering has been in communication with Ahlers and Cooney to prepare for the upcoming project on 4th Street NE. Chicoine also informed council that Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) will be hosting a "How Well Do You Know Your Municipality" Survey. Chicoine proposed the idea of having Primghar's incentive for completed surveys filled out/brought into City Hall be a reusable insulated grocery tote that would feature the municipal utility logo and the Missouri River Bright Energy Solutions logos.

Motion Smith approving the February Finance Report. Second Jenness, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Smith approving the March Claims and bills paid in vacation. Second Miller, all ayes, motion carried. No new updates were given for ongoing nuisance abatement cases. Motion Honkomp to adjourn. Second Smith, all ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm.

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ATTEST: Sarah Rohwer, Deputy City Clerk

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Kurt Edwards, Mayor