

City of Preston

Regular City Council Meeting

June 28, 2021

Mayor Tyler Sieverding called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

ROLL CALL Present: R. Petersen, A. Reuter, Matt Gerardy, Matt Petersen. Late: JT Thomson at 6:02

OTHERS PRESENT: Kelley Brown ECIA, Officer Cory Pirtle, City Administrator Teresa Weinschenk.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented by M. Petersen. Seconded by M. Gerardy. Ayes: AR, RP, MP, MG. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

CITIZEN/PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion was made by R. Petersen to approve the consent agenda as presented. A. Reuter seconded. Ayes: MG, MP, RP, JT, AR. Nays: 0. Motion carried. Approval of 6/14/21 City Council Meeting Minutes, Class C liquor license for Genos and Dollar General, Approval of Cigarette Permits for Oly's Garage, Dollar General and the Downtown Pub.

PUBLIC HEARING: A motion was made by M. Petersen to open the public hearing for the Status of Funded Activities for the Preston Wastewater Project. Seconded by M. Gerardy. Ayes: RP, JT, AR, MP, MG. Nays: 0. Motion carried. Kelley Brown from ECIA read the status of the WWTF as follows.

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

The following is the Status of Funded Activities for the Preston Wastewater project.

Preston CDBG 2019 Wastewater Improvements

Status of Funded Activities - Contract #19-WS-015

June 28, 2021

The City of Preston applied for and was awarded a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to provide for improvements to the City's wastewater plant in order to meet the requirements in the NPDES permit to comply with the limits for ammonia, DO and E. Coli. The existing wastewater treatment plant was not capable of meeting these limits. In addition, the projected 20-year design flows and loads exceed the capacity of the existing plant. The proposed improvements will increase the capacity to meet the anticipated limits when the NPDES Permit is renewed in 2021.

The City's wastewater plant services the entire City and directly benefits every resident including the 55.17% LMI population. The City owns and operates its own water, sewer and electric utilities and has operated the plant since 1955.

There have not been any amendments to the original contract that was dated July 01, 2019.

The budget for this project is \$1,264,000. 37.7373% of the construction costs are reimbursed by the grant and the remaining 62.2627% of the project is paid by local funds. 100% of the administration costs are reimbursed by the grant. To date, \$231,924 been requested for construction costs and \$7,779 for administration costs. Partial payment #5 is in the amount of \$183,825 of which \$69,371 will be reimbursed through the grant. This will be paid after the successful completion of this hearing. The local cost expended for this project year to date after the payment of this invoice will be \$497,109.

Project Status:

This is a brief summary of the current status as of June 29, 2021.

The construction project that was awarded to Staab Construction in October of 2020 and has proceeded very smoothly thus far. The project is anticipated to be completed within budget and in conformance with the compliance dates set forth in the Compliance Schedule as a part of the renewed NPDES permit.

The remaining compliance dates are as follows:

August 1, 2021 – Complete Construction of Wastewater Treatment Improvements.

September 1, 2021 – Achieve Compliance with all final Ammonia, DO, and E.coli limits.

There were no Public comments.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: M. Gerardy made a motion to close the public hearing. Seconded by A. Reuter. Ayes: RP, JT, AR, MP, MG. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

JCEA UPDATE: Nic Hockenberry, JCEA will attend the July 12th City Council Meeting and provide an update at that time.

DISCUSS ORDINANCE 3-1-5.5 TREES IN THE CITY RIGHT OF WAY: T. Weinschenk stated that neither Maquoketa or Bellevue allows trees in the City ROW. JT Thomson stated that Maquoketa is planting trees in the ROW and that he will look at their ordinance. M. Petersen stated it would be nice if there were some types of requirements on what type of tree you can plant. JT Thomson stated that if you had a tree and it is taken down, it would be nice if you could plant one back. M. Petersen stated that he is on the fence regarding the planting of trees. The rest of Council agreed. Mayor Sieverding stated in the older parts of town there is not room on the homeowner's property to plant a tree. JT wondered if there as a tree person? M. Petersen mentioned Jackson County Conservation. T. Weinschenk stated that she could contact Trees Forever. M. Gerardy mentioned that D. Bormann had mentioned signing a document and taking ownership of that tree, that the Council can agree that it is not an option to answer D. Bormann's question. M. Petersen stated when the tree is in the ROW the City is responsible. M. Petersen would like to become educated on it and come up with requirements. Getting the trees trimmed every 5 to 10 years helps keep the tree smaller. Council decided to hold off on making any decisions until they have more information. T. Weinschenk will contact Trees Forever or look for an expert to come in and talk with Council.

SIDEWALK PROGRAM: Discussed the current program. T. Weinschenk stated that the program was utilized and that others are now replacing their sidewalk. T. Weinschenk informed Mayor and Council that \$15,000 is in the budget starting July 1. After much discussion, Council decided to appropriate \$10,000 towards the sidewalk program with the additional \$5,000 being held back at this time.

DONATION TOWARDS THE JACKSON COUNTY K9 OFFICER: The Council discussed Jackson County not having a drug dog and the need for one. Officer Pirtle stated that when requesting a K9, it now needs to come from another County. M. Gerardy stated a K9 is a good asset for the community. M. Petersen stated it is good to have a K9 for the safety of our officers. M. Petersen made a motion to donate \$500 to the Sheriff's Off for a K9 Officer. R. Petersen seconded the motion. Ayes: MP, AR, MG, JT, RP. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2021-44 establishing salaries for employees as of July 1, 2021: Mayor Sieverding stated that himself and the Personnel Committee met after the Council Meeting on 6/14 to discuss salaries. Chief Thayer's salary will stay the same. The library has been approved by the library board. The rest of the full-time employees will get a 3% increase other than T. Weinschenk; she is going to get a little more. Being in that role we should get her on top where she should be. M. Petersen supported Mayor Sieverding's comments. A. Reuter made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-44 establishing salaries for employees as of July 1, 2021. JT seconded the motion. Ayes: RP, MP, AR, MG, JT. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: T. Weinschenk mentioned that Jesse Kilburg said to sell the old street sweeper as is. R. Petersen mentioned the High School parking lot and water management. T. Weinschenk stated that Ray Ernst had a conversation with Jesse Budde and landscape has been graded to distribute the water the same way as when the school was there. It will be divided between Mitchell Street and DeGroat Street.

Mayor Sieverding requested a motion to adjourn. Motion made by A. Reuter. Seconded by M. Gerardy. Ayes: RP, AR, JT, MP, MG. Nays: 0. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Mayor Tyler Sieverding

ATTEST:

Teresa Weinschenk, City Clerk/Administrator