

City of Preston
Regular City Council Meeting
February 22, 2021
Mayor Tyler Sieverding called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.
ROLL CALL Present: R. Peterson, M. Gerardy, A. Reuter, M. Petersen,

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheriff Kilburg, Chief Deputy Kraker, Chief Stephen Thayer, City Administrator Teresa Weinschenk. Via Zoom: David Harris with Altorfer.

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

CITIZEN/PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion was made by M. Gerardy to approve the consent agenda as presented. R. Petersen seconded. Ayes: AR, MP, MG RP. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

GUEST SHERIFF BRENT KILBURG AND CHIEF DEPUTY JAMES KRAKER: Introductions were made by the Sheriff, Chief Deputy and City Council. Discussion regarding the Jail Referendum which is on the ballot for the March 2, 2021 special election. City Council and Chief Thayer stated their support of the new jail and the advantages of approving a new jail now rather than later.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON LOAN AGREEMENT FOR THE MARVIN ADDITION: M. Petersen made a motion to open the Public Hearing on the Proposed action to institute proceedings to enter into a loan agreement and to borrow money thereunder in a Principal amount not to exceed \$1,400,000. A. Reuter seconded the motion. Aye: MG, RP, AR, MP. Nay: 0. Motion carried. T. Weinschenk stated there were no comments from the public.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: A motion was made by A. Reuter to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by M. Gerardy. Ayes: RP, AR, MP, MG. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2021-20 TO TAKE ADDITIONAL ACTION ON PROPOSAL TO ENTER INTO A GENERAL OBLIGATION CORPORATE PURPOSE LOAN AGREEMENT. M. Gerardy made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-20, seconded by M. Petersen. Ayes: AR, MP, MG, RP. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON ENTERING INTO A SEWER REVENUE LOAN AND DISBURSEMENT AGREEMENT: M. Petersen made a motion to open the Public Hearing on the proposal to enter into a Sewer Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement and to borrow money thereunder in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,016,000. Seconded by A. Reuter. Ayes: MP, MG, RP, AR. Nays: 0. Motion carried. T. Weinschenk stated that there were no comments from the Public.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: A motion was made by A. Reuter to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by M. Gerardy. Ayes: MP, MG, RP, AR. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2021-21 TAKING ADDITIONAL ACTION ON PROPOSAL TO ENTER INTO A SEWER REVENUE LOAN AND DISBURSEMENT AGREEMENT. M. Petersen made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-21, seconded by A. Reuter. Ayes: MG, RP, AR, MP. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

PAY REQUEST NO. 1 FOR STAAB CONSTRUCTION FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY: A motion was made by R. Petersen to approve Pay Request No. 1 for the amount of \$23,750 to Staab Construction. Seconded by M. Gerardy. Ayes: RP, AR, MP, MG. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE MAXIMUM LEVY: M. Petersen made a motion to open the Public Hearing for the Max Levy. Seconded by A. Reuter. Ayes: AR, MP, MG, RP. Nays: 0. Motion carried. M. Petersen stated that the levy is needed. Mayor and the rest of Council agreed.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: R. Petersen made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by M. Gerardy. Ayes: MP, MG, RP, AR. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2021-22 APPROVING THE MAX LEVY: A motion was made by A. Reuter to approve Resolution 2021-22 as presented. M. Petersen seconded the motion. Ayes: MP, MG, RP, AR. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

ALTORFER INVOICE: T. Weinschenk explained to Mayor and Council that there is an outstanding invoice with Altorfer for the amount of \$32,408. There are three options: don't pay the invoice, pay the invoice or make a partial payment and hold retainage until there is a hot day to run the generator and be sure the radiator is cooling. Weinschenk went onto explain that the generator run at full capacity and stayed cool, but the outdoor temperatures were cool. D. Harris did not disagree with holding back money and suggested \$5,000. M. Petersen disagreed with Harris and suggested \$10,000. R. Petersen stated that the cooling issue should have been resolved before now. M. Petersen suggested to D. Harris that the City hold back \$7500 and Altorfer waive the late fees. Also, Altorfer will be on-site when the generator is tested on a hot day. D. Harris agreed to this. M. Petersen made a motion to pay Alderfer's invoice minus the \$7500, with Altorfer waiving the late fees. M. Gerardy seconded the motion. Ayes: MP, MG, AR. Nays: RP. Motion carried.

REQUEST FROM JACKSON COUNTY CONSERVATION: Jackson County Conservation is requesting the use of TwoGood Park during the week of July 12th. They would like to offer a one day, 3-hour camp experience. Mayor Sieverding stated he thinks this has been done in the past. M. Petersen stated this is a great opportunity for the youth. T. Weinschenk stated it may have been done in the past, but since it is a City Park, Council should approve an event like this. R. Petersen made a motion to approve the Jackson County Conservation one day 3-hour camp experience at TwoGood Park on July 12th. Seconded by A. Reuter. Ayes: MG, RP, AR, MP. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF PRESTON: Mayor Sieverding informed Council that T. Weinschenk met with ECIA in regards to initiating a Comprehensive Plan for Preston. This was one of the goals from the goal setting session. Preston has a visioning plan from 2014 which has worked well, but we need an updated plan. T. Weinschenk went onto explain that the Comp Plan helps with the Iowa Great Places designation. ECIA stated to Weinschenk that the planning takes a year and a planning committee which will be a mixture of community members and council. The cost of a Comp plan is usually around \$10,000. There are grants available to help with the cost, which will leave the cost to the City, approximately \$3,300. The City Council agreed to move forward with the Comprehensive Plan.

ORDINANCE 2021-01 APPROVING A GAS SURCHARGE: T. Weinschenk discussed the "5 critical days" that Northern Natural Gas called on. When the temperatures were critically cold between the dates of February 13-17. The City Council had signed a hedging agreement with Clayton Energy which saved the

residents of Preston approximately \$321,536. Preston is still responsible for an estimated \$143,815.61 for the 5 critical days. A plan to re-coop this cost is being proposed to divide the amount by the number of gas meters and charged over a 6-month period of time. This will be less of an impact to the residents of Preston. M. Petersen made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-01 waiving the second and third readings. Seconded by M. Gerardy. Ayes: MG, RP, AR, MP. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

BUDGET MEETING/WORKSHOP: There will be a Budget Meeting on March 1, 2021 at 6 p.m. to finalize budget numbers and set the Public Hearing for the Budget on March 22, 2021.

EASTON VALLEY BOOSTER CLUB: The booster club is requesting a donation in lieu of a cake this year. The cake auction is being canceled due to Covid-19. City Council agreed to donate the cost of a cake \$50.

With no other business Mayor Sieverding requested a motion to adjourn. Motion made by R. Petersen. Seconded by M. Gerardy. Ayes: RP, MG, AR, MP. Nays: 0. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.



Mayor Tyler Sieverding

ATTEST:


Teresa Weinschenk, City Clerk/Administrator