

City of Preston
Regular City Council Meeting
May 27, 2025
Mayor, Tyler Sieverding called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

ROLL CALL: Present: Leesa Budde, Dylan Meyer, Matt Petersen, Adam Reuter, Matt Gerardy

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheryl Ganzer, City Administrator/Clerk, Police Chief Chad Gruver, Officer Adam McPherson, Tom Westhoff, Tom Paque, Marla Quinn, Ray Ernst, Nancy Kieffer, Ken Schoon, Lynn Schmidt, Dennis Driscoll, Marshall Driscoll and Megan Driscoll.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented by Gerardy, seconded by Meyer. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: Including minutes of last meeting, Retail Tobacco Licenses: Dollar General, Preston Country Store, Oly's Garage, Sidewalk Replacement – D. Meyer \$796.09, Gas Water Heater Rebate, S. Schmidt \$25, Class C Retail Alcohol License, Downtown Pub and Building permit – Fence, W. Cox. A motion to approve the consent agenda made by M. Petersen, seconded by A. Reuter. Motion carried.

WPPI Energy Review: Tom Paque, Sr. VP Business Strategy with WPPI Energy gave a member focused power point presentation. Information on generation, transmission and the joint agency with its 51 member utilities. Highlighted topics that were explained included, Wholesale Costs, Primary power supply resources, Transmission ownership and their efforts in keeping costs down for WPPI members. Preston has been a member since 2008. Tom Westhoff, Preston's territory representative, was also here.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT PROGRAM PRESENTATION: Marla Quinn with ECIA gave a presentation on who ECIA is and the services they can provide to help our community as our C.O.G. (Council of Government). Programs include funding sources, grant writing, housing needs, transportation needs, vacant building code assessment and nuisance abatement. The Nuisance Abatement program assists cities with nuisance property enforcement according to the adopted city ordinances. There are different levels of service that the city could utilize ranging from Tier I – Informal process for minor violations to Tier IV – Awarding title to Abandoned property. The city will work with Marla on developing a plan and communicating with the residents its strategies to assist property owners in addressing nuisance conditions. The goal is to develop a fair and supportive nuisance abatement process that encourages voluntary compliance and provides resources where possible. Marla will draft a contract and meet with the nuisance committee.

SKID LOADER: Council member Petersen updated the council on his and Jason Geerts efforts on working on options and costs with Kunau Imp for purchase of a skid loader. Petersen explained the differences, pros and cons on 3 different models along with extended warranty and maintenance contracts. New 2023 New Holland - \$48,800, New 2024 Kubota - \$44,200 and a used 2020 New Holland - \$38,000. The additional cost for the grapple bucket is \$4,650. He recommended not purchasing a hydraulic hammer as Kunau has a rental option. Ganzer confirmed that it was budgeted 15,000 each out of 4 utilities. The price could be locked in now with payment after July 1 or we can decide to go with the 0% financing. Petersen recommended going with the 2024 Kubota with a 2-year maintenance package for \$2,350- and 2-year extended warranty for \$2,000. Meyer made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2024 Kubota with a 2-year maintenance package and extended warranty for \$53,200 total. Motion seconded by Budde. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Food Truck Policy and Permit discussion was held. Lynn Scott, VP Chair of Preston Farmers Market, shared thoughts on Food Truck permits. She would like to see the city hold off requiring permits until after the first of the year, as her current vendors were told that separate permits were not required and there wasn't any costs. Council was in agreement that a permit policy should be adopted after Jan. 1 without requiring a fee to insure proper licensing is in place.

Westside Park Project Update – Nancy Kieffer informed council that the 13 trees have been planted. She also explained that it was determined and recommended to extend the width of the parking lot to 23ft to allow room for a curb stop bumpers that are needed to prevent parking on the walking path. This additional cost would leave funding short by approx. 5,500. The city will still support the project with funding of \$5000.

Electric Grid Grant Update - Ray and Sheryl had a meeting with the Engineering team (SHE) that will lead this project and Amanda with ECIA. SEH prepared a proposal for a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER). The cost for the Full report is \$19,200 which is beneficial but not 100% needed for the grant writing. Since this isn't needed for the grant writing, we recommend holding off until we see if we get the grant where the cost of engineering would be covered under that funding.

Sidewalks update – Ganzer reported that the 2nd notice letters had been mailed out and the office is getting good response from residents making plans to comply with the sidewalk replacement. Ganzer also said they received a quote for Curb and Gutter on a section West Gillet Street for \$4000 that will be needed when the sidewalk is replaced.

Sr. Housing Development update – Ganzer reported that the contractor reached out to inform up that the original agreement included that the sewer would need to be extended to his property at the city expense. City crew is working with Eastern Iowa Plumbing on the plan and they would like to see a pre-construction meeting where pre-planning is made so we can meet expectations on both ends. Ganzer will continue to try and make this happen.

ADJOURNMENT: With no other business to be discussed, Sieverding asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Meyer, seconded by Reuter. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.



Tyler Sieverding, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sheryl Ganzer, City Administrator/Clerk.