

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
June 7, 2021

The Montezuma City Council met in regular session at Montezuma City Hall on June 7, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor J. Bolen presiding.

PRESENT: C. Bolen, Boughton & Eichenberger

ABSENT: Willrich & Watts

ALSO, PRESENT: Erik Kriegel, Bill & Wanda Schultz, John Breniman, Tim Minner, Harry Meek, Al Rabenold, Mike Cox, Christine Grimm, Joe & Betty Current, Abby Hubbard, Dylan Fantazia, Greg Roth & Olivia Patton (via phone)

Councilmember C. Bolen made the motion to approve payment to Boomerang Corporation for their work on the Wastewater Treatment Facility in the amount of \$11,970. A second was made by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

Mayor J. Bolen informed the WWTF plan engineer, Oliva Patton, that the city is not interested in signing the certificate of completion on the project until more information regarding liquidated damages can be discussed. Patton said she would be in touch with Warden, Hubbard and Sanger to get this process in motion.

Councilmember C. Bolen made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the following:

- Minutes from May 24th and June 1st. 2021 meetings
- Claims
- Liquor License – Monte Spirits

A second was made by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

Tim Minner spoke to the Council concerning his notice to begin construction on the lots he purchased in the South Diamond Addition. According to the covenants, the land owner must begin building no later than 24 months after the purchase and complete the construction process within 36 months. Minner's closing deadline isn't until November 2021. Sanger said she would check back with him later in the year to see how things are progressing.

John Breniman inquired about an extension for the lot he owns located at 111 South Diamond Drive. He had originally asked permission to construct a shed on this lot in order to store the supplies needed to build a spec home at 113 South Diamond Drive. Breniman cited COVID and the lack of help as factors for the construction taking longer than he expected. Mayor J. Bolen reminded him that the closing date for the shed was December 2020. He explained he has hired more help to finish the spec home first so the new owners can move in. He will then finish up the shed. Breniman asked Council for a fifteen (15) day extension on the shed moving the completion date to July 15, 2021. Councilmember Eichenberger made the motion to grant the fifteen-day extension for the lot located at 111 South Diamond Drive to July 15, 2021. A second was made by Councilmember Boughton. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

Gas Superintendent, Mike Cox, explained that the city purchases their natural gas from Symmetry Energy Solutions. Their statements are emailed later in the month and they only allow ten (10) business days to receive payment. Depending on how the council meetings fall, the payment could be considered late and interest fees are then incurred. Cox requests permission to have Sanger go ahead and process the payments when they are received to make sure the payment is posted by the due date. Cox would then include the claim at the next meeting. Councilmember Boughton made the motion to go ahead and pay the natural gas claims in a timely manner in order to reduce any interest for late payments. Councilmember C. Bolen seconded the motion. Ayes: all, nays: none.

Veenstra & Kimm engineer, Greg Roth, joined the meeting via phone conversation, to discuss the sidewalk options available to finish up the 3rd Street Project. He explained that the further south you travel down the newly paved street, the worse the sidewalks become. Some have been completely covered with growth. The disrepair these

sidewalks has resulted in the need for newly constructed sidewalks. Hubbard explained that none of the contingency money for this project has been allocated at this time. Councilmember C. Bolen stated that if the funding is available, he would like to see the sidewalks completed with the rest of the project. A connection from downtown to the South Diamond Addition would then be established. A motion to approve the full application of work for the remaining sidewalks for the 3rd Street Project was made by Councilmember C. Bolen and seconded by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, nays: none.

Resolution #21-06-01: Resolution Setting Time and Place for a Public Hearing for Rezoning Property in Montezuma, Iowa – 106 East Dallas Street. Councilmember C. Bolen made a motion to approve Resolution #21-06-01. A second was made by Councilmember Boughton. With only a 2-1 approval vote, this motion died with the lack of enough votes. This item will be placed on the agenda for the next council meeting on, Monday, June 21, 2021

Bill and Wanda Schultz explained how their neighbor's dog came into their yard on May 30th, 2021 and attacked the dog they were caring for. Bill tried to protect the dog and ended with injuries himself. The emergency room physician called the Poweshiek County Sheriff's office to report the dog attack. Upon further discussion, although not reported to the city, this particular dog has prior incidences of being allowed off its leash or and it has attacked other animals because of this. According to the specifics spelled out in the city's code book, the owner must prevent any dog from running or being at large and it is unlawful to harbor, keep, or possess any animal that is defined as a nuisance or vicious animal. Sanger stated she would write a letter to the owners of the dog and inform them that according to the animal protection and control ordinance, the dog must be removed from the city limits.

During a previous meeting, holiday pay for EMS volunteers and drivers was discussed. A motion to pay one EMS member and one driver \$100 each to be on-call for the following holidays: New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day was made by Councilmember Eichenberger. Councilmember Boughton seconded the motion. Councilmember C. Bolen abstained from the vote due to being an EMS member, so there weren't enough members present to hold a vote. This item will be placed on the agenda for the June 21st, 2021 meeting.

Other items discussed:

- Prepare for a closed session at the next regular meeting in order to discuss an employee's 90-day review.
- Street paint is currently unavailable, but Kriegel will check on the upcoming availability.
- Spraying/weed control on Bonham Trail.
- Library receives grant funds for new work computers and cyber security.
- Hubbard will advertise for the upcoming gas employee vacancy.

Councilmember C. Bolen made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. with a second from Councilmember Boughton. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR