

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 7, 2021

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

PRESENT: C. Bolen, Willrich & Eichenberger

ABSENT: Boughton & Watts

ALSO, PRESENT: Abby Hubbard, Erik Kriegel, Bret Warden, Jim Kivi, Nick O'Halloran, Kay Eiler & Keith Hudnut

Dave Schmitt Construction Co., Inc. submitted Pay App #9 in the amount of \$170,846.82. A motion to approve pay app #9 was made by Councilmember Willrich and seconded by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none. Sanger was asked to follow-up with the engineer to find out when the seeding along South 3rd Street will be finished up.

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

- Minutes from August 16th & August 18th, 2021 meetings
- Claims
- Liquor License – Montezuma Floral, LLC

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

Library Board President, Jim Kivi, was in attendance to review a policy regarding the sale of books and/or merchandise between the City of Montezuma, the Montezuma Library and the Friends of the Library group. Kivi asked if the policy could be written so that it allows the books to be sold for \$1 and have this policy will stand until it is deemed necessary to be changed. Mayor J. Bolen agreed that having the verbiage be used to have this be a standing policy. Councilmember Willrich made a motion to approve the policy with the discussed changed. A second was made by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

Resolution #21-09-01: A Resolution Authorizing the Director of Finance to make the Attached Adjustments and Transfers to the Appropriate Funds for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022 for the City of Montezuma, Iowa. Hubbard explained that the first transfers is for the 3rd Street Project and the other moves money to the sewer account for a loan payment. A motion to approve Resolution #21-09-01 was made by Councilmember C. Bolen and seconded by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

Resolution #21-09-02: A Resolution Authorizing the Two Parcels Listed Below, be Legally Tied Together to Prevent Future Sale of Either Parcel Independent from the other for the City of Montezuma, Iowa. The resolution pertains to the lots located at 114 and 116 S 12th Street. A motion to approve Resolution #21-09-02 was made by Councilmember Eichenberger and a second was made by Councilmember C. Bolen. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

Last winter, there was damage to the curb in front of Montezuma State Bank. Since then, during a heavy rain event, water will flood the bank's basement. Sanger has received several calls requesting that the curb be repaired in order to eliminate the water issue. Warden stated that he has been waiting until the weather cooled off to make the repairs as there are several others around the square that need addressed as well.

The storm that blew through a couple of weeks ago left a damaged tree in the front yard of the residence located at 206 S 4th Street. Part of the tree had fallen into the street the night of the storm and has been cleaned up. The O'Halloran's were curious to see if it is the City's responsibility to take the remainder of the tree down due to where the tree is located. They have received two verbal estimates totaling \$1500-2000/each. An application for assistance due the storm has been filed with Poweshiek County Emergency Services, but O'Halloran explained that he hadn't received any correspondence regarding if they qualified or not at the time of the meeting. Mayor J. Bolen stated that she would get the contact information for Brian Paul to follow up on the application. Councilmember C. Bolen said that after reading the ordinance, the council would need to make sure they are understanding it correctly in order to make the correct decision moving forward. A motion to table the decision until more information could be gathered was made by Councilmember C. Bolen and seconded by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

A service agreement was provided by Safe Building, the company the city uses for zoning administration, property maintenance inspections and other code enforcement and/or consulting. Councilmember C. Bolen motioned to approve the agreement. A second was made by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

Kriegel reported that the MCG quote to run an ethernet cable for the camera at the brush pile was around \$500. Hubbard stated that the camera system will auto-override camera footage after thirty days unless it had been saved. Signs stating the cameras are in use have already been posted. This topic will be revisited in the spring to determine if the ethernet service is needed.

Chris Hudnut previously approached the Council about purchasing 33 feet of a platted street that runs along the lot he purchased at 405 W Main Street. Hudnut plans to build a new house there, but needs the extra space to abide by the city's zoning code set-back rules. Keith Hudnut objects to the sale of the street as he is afraid the structure will cause water to back up onto his property during a big rain event. He is also upset because he tried purchasing the street several years ago, but at that time, the sitting mayor and council would not allow the street to be sold. Mayor J. Bolen asked Sanger to look into the possibility of filing for a variance. Councilmember C. Bolen made a motion to table until more information can be brought to the council for review. A second was made by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

Hubbard explained that the Poweshiek County Alliance group is holding funds on behalf of the Montezuma Library. The Montezuma Community Group provided the funds for the PCA to invest. There are no fees incurred as long as the PCA group gets to keep the interest. Hubbard is participating in a zoom meeting with the PCA group to discuss what options are available to move these funds into an account that will incur interest for the library. Mayor J. Bolen instructed Hubbard to forward any and all correspondence pertaining to this account to the council so they are aware of the situation.

Sanger provided the council with a letter from Olivia Patton, the engineer from Veenstra & Kimm in charge of the sewer upgrade project. It explained the continuing issue with UV flooding that keeps occurring at the new and unfinished sewer plant. It was explained that there appears to be several issues with the elevations compared to what the plans had shown. She states that her crew would be working with Warden to see what alternatives can be derived to eliminate this back-up from occurring in the future.

Warden explained the issue involving the sewer backup near the property located at 202 E Liberty St. He stated that the manholes were full due to an old clay tile and inappropriate items being flushed down the toilets. The issue had to be dug up and is now repaired. Warden plans on going door to door to explain the importance of not flushing certain items down the sewer system.

At 7:05 p.m., Councilmember C. Bolen made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Councilmember Eichenberger. Ayes: all, Nays: none.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR