

The regular meeting of the Baxter City Council was called to order on Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall by Mayor Bryan DeJong. Council members present were Josh Meckley, Tootie Samson, Jason Robinson, Dan Kunkel, and Josh Lokenvitz by electronic Zoom meeting.

Mayor DeJong amended the Agenda to move Other Business up the Agenda to allow newly hired Police Chief Bill Daggett to address the Council. Samson moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Meckley seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

Members of the Baxter Garden Club were in attendance to receive a certificate of appreciation from the City recognizing their 70 years of service to the community. Mayor DeJong presented the certificate and thanked members for their many years of service to the community through the various projects they have undertaken. Council members expressed their appreciation to the group for all they do to make Baxter a community to be proud of.

Maintenance Update – Public Works Director, Bryce Halter, reported that Mainline Construction has begun installation of the new storm water intake on the S. West Avenue Street Project.

Approval of Pay Application #7; South West Avenue Phase I Redesign 2020 Street Reconstruction Project – Meckley moved to approve. Robinson seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

Resolution 03-23; Resolution Adopting the Jasper County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022-2027; Samson moved to approve. Meckley seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes; Lokenvitz, Kunkel, Robinson, Samson, Meckley. Nays; None. Absent; None. Resolution #03-23 adopted.

Review/Selection of Sealed Proposals – Sale of Real Property Located at 8978 Daisy Avenue, Jasper County, Iowa – The Clerk noted one proposal was received for the property. Mayor DeJong opened the proposal which was submitted by Tim Dee in the amount of \$5,010.00.

Review/Approval of Nursing Home Contract – Council discussion was held on amended contract. Upon completion of discussion, Kunkel moved to approve. Robinson seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

Mayor DeJong noted it was now the time and place set for a Public Hearing on a Proposal to Sell Real Property Located at 8978 Daisy Avenue, Jasper County, Iowa – Meckley moved to open the public hearing at 6:15 p.m. Samson seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes: Lokenvitz, Kunkel, Robinson, Samson, Meckley. Nays; None. Mayor DeJong called for public comments or concerns regarding the sale of property. With no public comments or concerns, Mayor DeJong called for a motion to close the public hearing. Meckley moved to close the public hearing at 6:17 p.m. Samson seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes; Lokenvitz, Robinson, Kunkel, Samson, Meckley. Nays; None.

Resolution #07-23; A Resolution Approving Sale of Real Property – Mayor DeJong presented Resolution #07-23. Samson moved to approve. Meckley seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes; Lokenvitz, Kunkel, Robinson, Samson, Meckley. Nays; None. Absent; None. Resolution #07-23 adopted.

Other Business – Newly hired Police Chief Bill Daggett was present to review and address department changes and recruitment requests previously submitted to the Council by email. Upon completion of discussion, Council supported Chief Daggett in his requested changes and recruitment and retention plan. Daggett presented applications and a recommendation for the hiring of Robert Nguyen and Kevin Reisetter to the department as reserve officers and Michael Brown as a part-time officer. Discussion was held with Council agreeing to Daggett's recommendation. Daggett introduced reserve officer Robert Nguyen who was also in attendance.

Resolution #04-23; Resolution Setting Salaries for the Appointed Officers and Employees of the City of Baxter, Iowa for the Fiscal Year 2022/23 – The Clerk requested Resolution #04-23 be tabled until the August meeting to allow for necessary updates to be made. Samson moved to table to the August 8th Council meeting. Robinson seconded. Motion carried, all ayes. Mayor DeJong addressed the Council with salary and retitling recommendations for the Utility Clerk and City Clerk. Upon completion of discussion the Council agreed to proceed with the Mayor's recommendations.

ORDINANCE #612; AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF BAXTER, IOWA, PERTAINING TO R-2 AND C-1 PERMITTED PRINCIPAL USES – Samson moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance #612. Meckley seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes; Kunkel, Robinson, Lokenvitz, Samson, Meckley. Nays; None. Absent; None. Meckley moved to waive the third reading of Ordinance #612. Robinson seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes; Kunkel, Robinson, Lokenvitz, Samson, Meckley. Nays; None. Absent; None. Meckley moved to approve Ordinance #612 on its final reading. Samson seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes; Kunkel, Lokenvitz, Robinson, Samson, Meckley. Nays; None. Absent; None. Ordinance #612 adopted.

Verizon Request/Tower Construction Geise Park – An email submitted by Steve Fester on behalf of Verizon Wireless regarding construction of a Verizon tower in Geise Park was reviewed. The Clerk noted permits for the tower construction filed in 2018 have expired. When Verizon contacted the County to renew the permits, they were informed they would need a letter from the City stating it still agrees to construction of the tower within Geise Park. Discussion was held with Council members recommending changes to the previous lease agreement along with requesting further details as to the actual appearance of the tower and access requirements for further consideration. The Clerk will contact Fester accordingly.

Discussion City Clerk Position – A revised job description having been approved by the Selection Committee was reviewed. Upon completion of discussion the Council agreed with the amended description and instructed the Clerk to proceed with necessary postings.

Consent Agenda – Kunkel moved to approve. Samson seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

Bills Payable – Samson moved to approve. Meckley seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

Mayor's Report – Mayor DeJong requested Council permission to be allowed access to Outlook and all services provided through the City employee email service. Council agreed. Mayor DeJong further requested Council be allowed to take laptops provided by the City home for City business use. Council agreed with the request. Laptops will be checked out by serial number to each Council member that wishes to utilize them at home for City use.

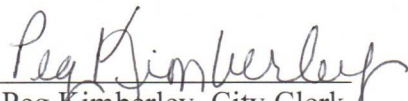
Further Other Business –

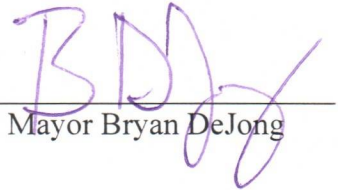
Discussion was held on kennels for dog breeding within the City limits. Zoning districts were discussed for the purpose of kennels. The Clerk was instructed to research other area communities on their requirements for further consideration.

Meckley advised he was contacted by a member of the BELC board regarding reinstallation of two memorial benches previously located within Geise Park. With installation of the new playground, they would like to see two benches reinstalled along the west side of the immediate area. Meckley further suggested a trash receptacle be placed at the location. Council agreed.

Samson moved to adjourn. Meckley seconded. Motion carried, all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Attest:


Peg Kimberley, City Clerk


Mayor Bryan DeJong