

OTTUMWA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING NO. 1
Bridge View Center, 102 Church St.

January 2, 2024
5:30 O'Clock P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M.

Present were Council Member Galloway, Hoffman, McAntire and Mayor Johnson.
Pope Vacant Council Seat.

Galloway moved, seconded by McAntire to appoint Cyan Bossou to fill Pope Vacant Council Seat.
Motion carried 3-2.

Judge Daily provided Oath of Office to Keith Caviness and Cyan Bossou.

Present were Council Member Galloway, Hoffman, McAntire, Caviness, Bossou and Mayor Johnson.

Galloway moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve consent agenda items with removal of Item B-7, Res. No. 9-2024, setting Jan. 16, 2024 as date of public hearing on SSMID renewal. Mins. from Special Mtg. No. 32 on Dec. 12, 2023, Special Mtg. No. 33 on Dec. 18, 2023, Regular Mtg. No. 34 on Dec. 19, 2023 and Special Mtg. No. 35 on Dec. 21, 2023 as presented; appointment of Council Member Galloway to serve as Mayor Pro Tem for calendar year 2024; Civil Service Elig. Lists for Dec. 27, 2023: Engineering Aide Ent.; Approving purchase of 2024 2 ½ Ton Truck from O'Halloran for Streets Dept., totaling \$221,971; Res. No. 1-2024, setting Jan. 16, 2024 as date of public hearing on consideration of ten-yr. municipal lease and operating agt. between City of Ottumwa and A.A.W. Golf Group, LLC; Res. No. 4-2024, approving contract, bonds, and cert. of ins. for Elm St. & Fellows Ave. Reconstruction Project; Beer and/or liquor applications for: Iowa Liquor & Tobacco, 1021 E. Main; Dollar General Store #7179, 721 N. Quincy Ave.; all applications pending final inspections. All ayes.

Caviness moved, seconded by McAntire to approve agenda as presented. All ayes.

Interim Finance Dir. Kinser updated council on finance items. Auditors from Bergan KDV started today; identified quite a few entries for FY23 that doesn't change cash balance but corrects fund types; looking to bring a Fixed Asset Policy to council for ratification along with transfers to consider through Dec. 31, 2023.

Mayor Johnson inquired if anyone from the audience wished to address an item on the agenda. There were none.

Report on Bird E-Scooter Program. Planning & Zoning Coordinator Rusch reported, Bird filed Chp. 11 bankruptcy on Dec. 20, 2023; company assured the City that operations are continuing as the company is up for potential sale or acquisition. What direction does Council want to go? Renew Agt. with Bird and work with successor company; release RFQ to identify any other parties seeking the e-scooter license or stop the e-scooter program indefinitely? Hoffman stated he is not on board to encourage bad business decisions; after reading about their business practices, I don't think we should cont. with them. Caviness thinks we should put out RFQ. Hoffman moved, seconded by Galloway to release RFQ for E-Scooter Program and work with legal to identify any potential termination of current contract with Bird and review of Agt. to see if Bird provides grounds for termination. All ayes.

Hoffman moved, seconded by Galloway to auth. purchase of Fire Apparatus from Sutphen Corp. in the Amt. \$869,400.34. Interim Fire Chief Short reported this purchase was approved through Fleet

Committee on Oct. 18, 2023; Sutphen has given us through Jan. 3, 2024 to accept this price or it will be released; the price will immediately increase by \$60,000 and cont. to increase quarterly after. This purchase will replace a ladder truck that has a rusted frame and inoperable aerial ladder; if the truck stationed at south side would ever go down, we would not have a replacement for that location. By agreeing to purchase this apparatus, we will have it sooner (10 months instead of 48 months) and at a discounted price. Rath reported we currently do not have funds in the bank to purchase; however, if wishing to move forward with this purchase, will need to potentially bond for it and add to our debt service levy. Motion carried 4-1. Ayes: Galloway, Hoffman, McAntire, Bossou. Nays: Caviness.

Caviness moved, seconded by Bossou that Res. No. 2-2024, est. Electrical Permit Fees for Wiring Statement Inspections in the City of Ottumwa, be passed and adopted. All ayes.

McAntire moved, seconded by Hoffman that Res. No. 3-2024, awarding contract for Blake's Branch Ph. 8, Div. II, Sewer Separation project to J&K Contracting, LLC, of Urbandale, IA, in the amt. \$5,716,345, be passed and adopted. PW Dir/City Engineer Burgmeier reported four bids rec'd. \$2.5 Million STAG Grant, \$2.6 Million Sewer Fund Balance with \$250,000 reimbursed by OWW for water main construction. All ayes.

Galloway moved, seconded by McAntire that Res. No. 5-2024, accept Proposed Extension from Ahlers and Cooney, PC for Provision of General Legal Services, be passed and adopted. All ayes.

Hoffman moved, seconded by McAntire that Res. No. 6-2024, removing special assessment applied to 121 S. Iowa Ave. on Res. No. 41-2023, be passed and adopted. All ayes.

McAntire moved, seconded by Hoffman that Res. No. 7-2024, auth. release and satisfaction for judgements against the property at 130 S. Iowa Ave., be passed and adopted. All ayes.

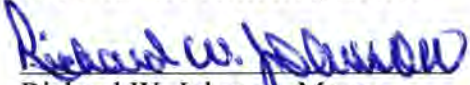
Galloway moved, seconded by McAntire that Res. No. 8-2024, approving and auth. execution of agt. for private development and off-site improvements by and between the City of Ottumwa and Christner Properties, LLC, be passed and adopted. Rusch explained the development of four single family homes in this area requires an extension of the sewer. Christner has asked the city to pay 75% of this amt. up to \$52,000; est. sewer work \$81,000. Much discussion was had; council doesn't want to appear not willing to work with developers, but, do not feel obligated to provide financial assistance on an issue they were already aware of when they decided to build in this area. The city is also providing \$10,000 per unit incentive (total \$40,000). Caviness moved, seconded by Hoffman to table this item until more information is provided (sewer fund balance) and request someone from Christner present to discuss. All ayes.

Mayor Johnson inquired if anyone from the audience wished to address an item not on the agenda. There were none.

There being no further business, Galloway moved, seconded by McAntire that the mtg. adjourn. All ayes.

Adjournment was at 6:42 P.M.

CITY OF OTTUMWA, IOWA


Richard W. Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Christina Reinhard

Christina Reinhard, iaCMC, City Clerk

Published in the Ottumwa Courier on 1/11/2024.