

**MARSHALLTOWN CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
January 19, 2009  
MINUTES**

Mayor Beach called the session to order at 5:30 p.m. Members present were: Backoff, Grabenbauer, Hoop, Schubert, Wenner and Wirin. Absent: Maxwell. Mayor Beach, Parks Director Terry Gray and the Council thanked Charles Bogner for twenty five years of service as Municipal Band Leader. Bogner has retired and the search for his replacement is underway.

The clerk read the consent items: January 12 Council Minutes; January 26 public hearings: Cash Rent Farm Lease, Ron Burns; Ordinance & Conveyance of portion of East Nevada Street to Fisher Controls; Receipt of Building Reports: December 2008 and 2008 Annual; Receipt of Senior Citizen Center Reports, January 9, 2009 Treasurer and 2008 Revenue and Expense detail; Appoint Darrell Templeton to E911 Commission, replacing Denny Grabenbauer, term expires: 12/31/2011; Declare 1985 Chevy Astro Van Surplus equipment, used by Parks Department; Alcohol Licenses: New: Class B Beer: Kruse Motorsports (Marshalltown Speedway) with Outdoor Service and Sunday Sales privileges. There was no discussion on the items.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Kenn Vinson reviewed the progress of the new Alliant plant. The air permits are being considered by the DNR with a public comment period for the technical aspect of the permits of 32 days, with the DNR fixing the time period. Two meetings will be held. Alliant expects to have the final air permits by mid April. Alliant contractors plan additional meetings with city and county staff to coordinate the community impact. ISU Extension Service is educating area farmers about biomass fuel production.

MCC requested to dedicate twelve parking spaces in the East Main Street public parking lot west of Hammer Medical for displaced hospital employees. Twelve spaces east of the Orpheum in the lot owned by MMSC are needed for construction staging for the renovation project. Area business owners objected to the dedication of twelve spaces within the 42 space lot. Hierstein informed the council the request is unique, related to improvement within the downtown area. The council will make a decision at the next business meeting.

Parks and Recreation Director Terry Gray recommended the council approve the bid from SL Baumeier for the FEMA-reimbursed Recreational Trail Culvert Repair project. Bids came in less the second time for concrete less than \$25,000. FEMA should fund \$10,000, with the balance funded by programmed CIP.

Public Works Director Lynn Couch recommended the council approve an Ordinance for Post Construction Storm Water Management Plans. The new requirements will affect subdivisions and large commercial developments.

Two configurations were presented to improve the Lot J Parking, which currently has three entrances, directional parking and 62 parking spots. Both plans include storm water detention basins and green space. The council discussed delivery truck passage and semi trailer accessibility. The lot can be signed to prohibit truck passage to save wear on the pavement. Configuration A (estimated cost of \$224,324) allows for 68 spots but has curbs. Configuration B (\$207,887) allows for straight in parking for 63 stalls but cuts one entrance to the lot and creates two additional parking spots on State Street. There are no parking curbs in configuration B allowing for easier snow removal. The proposed Meeker lot improvements were \$100,000 less than the budgeted amount, due to increased green space, and the council intends to roll that budgeted amount to the Parking Lot J project. Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is an eligible funding source.

Housing and Community Development Director Michelle Spohnheimer reviewed the proposed Property Maintenance Assistance Program Administrative Plan. The established guidelines target low income homeowners. Eligible properties are owner occupied and maximum assistance is \$1,000. The plan is to use a

five year lien, similar to the lead program and require the properties remain in compliance with the property maintenance code.

Housing and Community Development Director Michelle Spohnheimer informed the council the city should apply for the IDED Grant Application for Neighborhood Stabilization program. The application is due January 31. The purpose of the program is to assist in the demolition or rehabilitation of foreclosed properties reducing blight in a neighborhood.

Spohnheimer presented the Housing and Community Development Annual Report.

Applications for the Residential and Commercial Tax Abatement will be accepted at the city clerk's office until 5 PM Monday, February 2. Council will formally approve applications at the February 9 business meeting for transmittal to the County Assessor.

Collection activity includes assessment to taxes for unpaid bills, nuisance, illegal burning, sewer connection, etc. The last day for past due accounts to avoid assessment is February 13, with assessment on February 20.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Beach thanked the Library for hosting the open house on January 18. Bill Egleston, 509 Brentwood, said he was encouraged by the progress Alliant was making on their project and asked the council to include the Madison / Nevada Street east-west through connection in the road improvement plan.

**BUDGET:**

Finance Director Cindy Kendall began the preliminary operating budget discussion and asked the council to review the presented material and consider designation of the Local Option Sales Tax and Hotel/Motel Tax revenues.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Coughenour, CMC, City Clerk