

July 10, 2023

The city council of the City of Sioux Center met on the above date in regular session at 4:00 p.m. in the city offices. Members present were Mayor David Kraehling and Councilmembers John Brantsen, Eric Moerman, Dale Vander Berg, Jenn Vermeer, Randy Vreugdenhil. Staff present: Scott Wynja, Murray Hulstein, Darryl Ten Pas, Dennis Dokter, Maggie Landegent, Brian Van Engen.

Opportunity was given for public input/communication. Having no one present, the Finance Director Darryl Ten Pas submitted the consent agenda consisting of minutes of June 26, 2023, bills, finance reports, appointment of Josh Dorhout and Travis Anderson to the Zoning Board, and liquor license renewals for Sioux Center Health and the Fruited Plain Café. It was moved by Councilmember Vreugdenhil and supported by Councilmember Moerman to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Mayor David Kraehling administered the oath of office to Chief of Police Josh Koedam.

The City Manager Scott Wynja introduced Amy McAlpine and Kara Acevedo, of Promise Community Health, to present on their \$5.1 million health care center expansion plans and a request for City support in their fundraising campaign. It was moved by Councilmember Vreugdenhil and supported by Councilmember Vander Berg to commit \$75,000 over three years from utility funds toward the expansion project. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Assistant City Manager Dennis Dokter reported that Sioux Center Land Development representatives have asked the City to consider selling 7.36 acres of property for the development of residential lots to help meet housing needs by creating an addition with 20 new lots north of the existing Country View North and that several public hearings were needed to proceed. The council also discussed potential recreation trail routes in the area. It was moved by Councilmember Moerman and supported by Councilmember Brantsen to set a public hearing to consider sale of property and a second public hearing to consider a zoning change for Country View North – Second Addition, both for the 4 p.m. council meeting on Aug. 1. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Utilities Manager Murray Hulstein shared that MidAmerican Energy is looking to construct a substation near northeast Sioux Center and is asking the City to update relay settings in its north substation to accommodate it, with terms of this construction outlined in an agreement. It was moved by Councilmember Vander Berg and supported by Councilmember Moerman to authorize staff to finalize and execute the Facilities Construction Agreement with MidAmerican Energy. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The utilities manager and city manager shared that two new employees have completed their review period: Tom Draayer in the natural gas department and Clayton Schoellerman in the maintenance department. It was moved by Councilmember Vreugdenhil and supported by Councilmember Brantsen to approve Tom Draayer and Clayton Schoellerman for permanent employment status with appropriate commensurate pay increase. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Motion carried.

In other business the council heard:

- Sioux Center Municipal Utilities is launching the option for utility customers to review their hourly usage and receive utility alerts regarding leaks or other issues.
- the utilities manager is working on a 5-10 year natural gas purchase which would help lock in prices for a portion of Sioux Center's natural gas for that time.
- decreased use of softener salt is having a positive impact on the chloride levels in Sioux Center's wastewater.
- future council meetings are set for Aug. 1, and Aug. 21, all at 4 p.m. at the City Office.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

David Kraehling, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Scott Wynja, City Clerk