

August 21, 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 Krahlings and Councilmembers John Brantsen, Eric Moerman, Dale Vander Berg, Jenn Vermeer, Randy Vreugdenhil. Staff present: Scott Wynja, Murray Hulstein, Darryl Ten Pas, Dennis Dokter, Brian Van Engen, Maggie Landegent, Josh Koedam, Steve Topete, Jack Brundell.

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 August 1, 2023, bills, and a liquor license for Taste of NISO. 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.

The City Manager Scott Wynja reported that, after interviews, staff has offered the position of School Resource Officer to Kyle Munneke. It was moved by Councilmember Vander Berg and supported by Councilmember Brantsen to approve Kyle Munneke as the School Resource Officer. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Motion carried. Mayor David Krahlings administered the oath of office to School Resource Officer Kyle Munneke.

The city manager introduced Trent Bruce and Justin Christensen to share an update on the Highway 75 construction, including the current work and the upcoming Phase 2, which includes construction in 2024 and 2025 and will stretch from 13th St. S to 12th St. N. Following the presentation, the council reviewed the agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation related Phase 2. It was then moved by Councilmember Vander Berg and supported by Councilmember Vermeer to approve the agreement with the Iowa DOT for Phase 2 of the Highway 75 project. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The city manager and mayor reported that they recently met with members of the organization Whispers of Love, Hope & Joy, which is purchasing the former Kosgrove properties on the south side of Sioux Center to support their mission. As part of that process, they are applying for a Rural Innovation Grant and are seeking a letter of support from the City Council. It was moved by Councilmember Brantsen and supported by Councilmember Moerman to approve sending a letter of support with Whispers of Love, Hope & Joy's application to the Rural Innovation. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Utilities Manager Murray Hulstein presented a recommendation to purchase a new pickup for the electric department due to the addition of staff. The existing electric department pickup will be moved to the new locator. It was moved by Councilmember Vreugdenhil and supported by Councilmember Moerman to authorize staff to purchase a new pickup for the electric department. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The city manager reported that in past council meetings and strategic planning sessions, the council and city staff have discussed changing the hotel/motel sales tax from 5% to 7%, and in order for this question to be on the November election ballot, the council must approve a resolution calling for the election and stating the question. It was moved by Councilmember Vander Berg and supported by Councilmember Brantsen to approve **RESOLUTION NO. SC-R-37-23, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SIOUX CENTER CALLING FOR A PROPOSITION TO BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT OF A SPECIAL ELECTION ON A PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE HOTEL AND MOTEL TAX WITHIN THE CITY OF SIOUX CENTER.** Upon roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Ayes Brantsen, Moerman, Vander Berg, Vermeer. Abstain: Vreugdenhil. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The city manager reported that, with the recent retirement of full-time mall manager Dean Gabhart from Centre Mall, the Assistant City Manager, Dennis Dokter, is taking on more of an active role with the mall. He shared the recommendation to hire a full-time community development director to seek and recruit commercial and industrial development. It was moved by Councilmember Brantsen and supported by Councilmember Vermeer to approve opening a position for a full-time community development director. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Motion carried.

In other business the council:

- discussed the recent heavy rainfall and thanked emergency and utility responders.
- heard that future council meetings are set for Sept. 11 and Oct. 2, all at 4 p.m. at the City Office.
- discussed the Nov. 7 election which will include Sioux Center mayor and two council seats.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

David Krahlings, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Scott Wynja, City Clerk