

City of Melbourne  
Regular City Council Meeting  
June 13, 2022  
7:00 at Library basement

Melbourne City Council met in regular session on May 13, 2022. Council members present were Gaege Bracy, Carrie White and Beth Smith. Also present were Mayor Cynthia Mansager, Clerk Mary Pothast, PW Superintendent Jim Pfantz, Chief Mike Ball, Beth Opperman, Clinton Dare, Rich and Shannon Peters, and Chad Andrews. Mayor Mansager called the meeting to order at 7:00 and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion to approve the consent agenda made by White, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Smith. Vote was all ayes. There were no public comments. In building permits, an application for Tony Reitano of 212 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to erect a 30 x 40 building and lean to behind his house and garage was presented. There was no need for a variance and all boundaries were sufficient. Motion to approve by White, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bracy. Vote was all ayes.

First in new business, Clint Dare of 201 Main Street had been asked to return regarding drainage on his property caused by being level or lower than the street. Mike Needham had been consulted. Ditching had been considered previously, but Needham didn't feel this would be a good solution due to the depth and distance the ditching would need to go and the obstacles, including a concrete driveway and sidewalks. It would need to be 4" deep in the alley and 1'8" by 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to accomplish a 1% fall and then continue a couple more blocks to reach an outlet. The second option, which he felt would work better is to put in a storm sewer that would go east and then turn and go north and drop into the intakes on 1<sup>st</sup> Street. There was no quote for the work, as if the city is not able to accept the bid right away, prices are changing so rapidly it would not be valid after 30 days. For a rough idea, the drainage on Ketchum was \$15,812 with a French drain and rock. This would likely go twice as far and be more complex. Funding was discussed and Dare was told that the fiscal year ends June 30. The budget and projects for the new year starting in July were set in January when budget work is required and would not likely happen this year. After much discussion, Clerk stated that the project will be put on a list of items and will be considered at that time. If extra funding is available before that time, it could be looked at again. Mayor Mansager stated that although it was not a solution to his problem, it was on the council's radar. Rich Peters of 301 Main Street also spoke about a drainage issue by his garage, east and north of the house that causes standing water and ice. PW had already moved some rock from the adjoining alley back onto Lane's property next door, but Peters was hoping for more action. The large maple tree to the east will impede ditching at that point. Taking down the tree would likely help the drainage, but is another added cost when there are dead and diseased trees that need to be removed in town. After much discussion, PW Pfantz asked about them removing some hostas to further ditch the area. Peters agreed to do that and PW will do some more ditching on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street north of Main. Mayor Mansager stated there is no easy or cheap answer to either property and explained how each department has funding that legally is kept separate.

PW had received a quote for sealcoating ¼ of the town (30,160 square yards requiring 45 tons of product) according to a map approved by Council by Resolution 20-09-03. The quote was \$91,087.80, considerably more than expected. Pfantz contacted the rep and asked that he break it down further to see which streets he felt would benefit most from the sealcoating. He was unable to get the information back in time for the meeting but would be contacting Pfantz again asap. Pfantz asked that the council give approval to spend up to \$50,000 of the street fund's two year budget on the project without having

to call a special meeting for approval. Motion to approve the request by White, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bracy. Vote was all ayes. That will leave some money in the fund in case there are emergency repairs this coming year.

Next on the agenda was the sewer lining previously approved at May's council meeting. Clerk explained that ARPA expenditures will require Resolutions, so this is a formality to what was already approved by the Council. Motion to approve Resolution 22-06-01 made by White, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Smith. Vote was all ayes.

Clerk requested that Deputy Clerk Theresa Daters be given a cell phone stipend to cover her phone usage checking the pool, cameras, etc. She has done so for many years without compensation. The stipend currently given to PW, Police Chief and Clerk is \$65. Motion to approve the phone stipend made by Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bracy. Vote was all ayes.

Clerk relayed information about a water issue at a residence on College that has caused the main floor to flood, and the basement to have about 1.5 feet of water. The damage to the home is extensive. MidWestOne had been contacted, as they are dealing with the property as well. They are working with an insurance company that will likely pay off the loan. If the family is not interested in the property, they wanted to know if the City would be interested in acquiring the property for free. Mayor Mansager said there were many things to be considered in terms of expense and value. Clerk mentioned contacting the Iowa Economic Development Assn at the State level to see if there would be any remediation assistance. She and White will get more information.

Chief Ball briefed the Council on some weapons that the City has on loan from the Federal Government and some of the special rules to possessing them. Since he will be retiring next February, he has looked into what could be done with them. There are certain requirements that need to be met and they need to remain double locked when he is not on duty. It is not an urgent matter, but will likely need to be taken care of before his retirement.

In old business, the Street Committee had turned over an alley map to PW and asked them to select the top 5 to rock. PW Pfantz said they had chosen two to work on and put more rock into at the current time, and try to use a blade and skid loader to rework the rest. The alley behind the water tower and the alley between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Street on the east side of Main Street are the two needing the most work. Council felt it was reasonable and to start work on them when able.

Parking in front of the pool was the next issue. After much discussion, Council felt that not allowing parking in front of the pool on the east side of Main Street during pool hours was the first idea they wanted to try. PW was directed to work on a plan and either use signage or some other method to alleviate the issue. Chief Ball noted that limiting parking on the west side of the street would require a change in Ordinance. There is still one handicapped spot that may be utilized by the pool/rec center entrance. Results will be revisited next month.

Mayor Mansager stated she has contacted a company to do a survey of the property at 102 Main Street for about \$1400-\$1700 to ascertain who the wall belongs to. It has not been completed yet. Clerk has received two job applications for the library director's position so far. The current director is on staff until the end of June. Clerk will be attending the Municipal Professional's Academy July 22-24 in Ames for CEU's. It is a Wednesday afternoon, Thursday all day and Friday until 1. The office will work to cover some of the hours, and will post when the office will be closed ahead of time.

Motion to adjourn made by White, with 2<sup>nd</sup> by Smith. Vote was all ayes to approve. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

EXPENSES: GENERAL \$24,084.93, ROAD USE \$3759.39, EMP BENEFITS \$2029.27, LOST 1<sup>ST</sup> RESP \$126.25, WATER \$12,411.16, SEWER \$9274.58. TOTAL: \$51,685.58.

REVENUE: GENERAL \$33,499.88, ROAD USE \$4513.90, EMP BENEFITS \$3299.77, EMERGENCY \$564.51, LOST FIRE \$1120.10, LOST 1<sup>ST</sup> RESP \$1126.29, LOST REC CENTER \$1141.59, WATER \$14,284.77, SEWER \$17,193.65. TOTAL: \$77,865.56.

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