City of Melbourne

Regular City Council Meeting

May 13, 2024

7:00 at Library basement

Melbourne City Council met in regular session on May 13, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Melbourne Library basement. Council members present were Gary Fricke, Gaege Bracy, Beth Smith, Lucas Hauser and Beth Opperman. Also present were Mayor Mansager, City Clerk Mary Pothast and Cookie Purdy. Mayor Mansager called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion to approve the agenda by Bracy, 2nd by Fricke. Vote was all ayes. There was no public comment. The deputy was not on site yet, so will be on the agenda when he arrives.

First was a building permit for a storage building for Al Cripps at 2821 Hart Avenue. There were no issues with the installation. Motion to approve the permit by Bracy, 2nd by Opperman. Vote was all ayes. There was a liquor license request from Lucky Wife Wine Slushies for the weekend of Mousehole Days. It is a 5 day license, as is offered by the state. It will be located near the ball diamonds. Motion to approve by Bracy, 2nd by Smith. Vote was all ayes. Deputy Cecak arrived and gave the sheriff’s report for April. There were no questions.

Mayor Mansager opened the public hearing for the budget amendment. It was published in the April 25 issue of the Mid-Iowa Enterprise. No comments were received. Explanation of changes included: 41% increase in property/liability insurance, codification fees of ordinances, legal fees, removal of wall and dead trees on ROW and engineering fees for sewer project. Motin to close the public hearing by Bracy, 2nd by Opperman. Vote was all ayes. The vote on approval of the budget amendment for Resolution 24-05-01 was by roll call. Results were 5 ayes, none against. Budget amendment was approved.

In new business there was discussion on the water line installation information from V&K. Not all the specifications were what PW wanted on the drawing submitted for a DNR for a permit. It has been discussed with the engineer and they stated it can be amended before the project starts. Clerk requested that Fricke speak with PW regarding his questions.

The Consumer Confidence Report was published May 9 and will be submitted to the DNR at the end of the month when the publication affidavit is delivered. It is due in July. It is available on the city website, Melbourne Happenings FB page and also at [www.iowaccr.org](http://www.iowaccr.org). It will not be mailed to residents. It is also available on paper at City Hall.

Fricke had questions about the pool and what needed to still be done before opening in two weeks. ACCO has been contacted and PW is waiting for a call back. Plans are to open the pool on May 25. We are still looking for a few more lifeguards.

Matt Meling provided information about the car show for Mousehole Days. It will begin right after the parade and last until 2. The parking around the fire station will need to be left open in case of emergencies.

IMWCA requires a seatbelt policy for all city vehicles. Resolution 24-05-02 outlined approval for the policy. Motion to approve the Resolution made by Bracy, 2nd by Opperman. Vote was all ayes.

Clerk requested to make an appointment with PFM (Public Financial Management), regarding sewer funds and the upcoming project. They were the company the City met with when the sewer project was started. The providers of the SRF planning and design loan suggested they be contacted again. Motion to approve the request by Bracy, 2nd by Smith. Vote was all ayes. Clerk explained the buy down on insurance deductible inquiry that was made by the city’s insurance agent. It is basically a policy to cover the deductible in case of a catastrophic claim. So far, no action has been taken. Clerk mentioned she had received a message from the ordinance codification company, but were playing phone tag. Updates will be made at the next meeting.

In nuisances, Council was updated on the ongoing issues. Clerk had issued a letter and a fine as directed, regarding chickens in town. Poultry are not allowed in the city limits. First warning is a letter, 2nd instance is a $100 fine, per City ordinance. Three residences were cited that need to mow and the Clerk was directed to contact them, then proceed with having the City mow and charge according to the Resolution published. $100 per hour per person, with a minimum of $200. There were questions whether or not the ordinances addresses leaving pets in an empty home. Clerk will check. Opperman will be attending a Handling Nuisances workshop by the Iowa League of Cities.

The safety meeting recap with IMWCA included a decrease in the MOD multiplier for fees charged, which is a positive step. They are very happy with the direction the City is taking regarding work comp injury claims with time off.

In general information, Clerk was advised to post a part time seasonal mowing position. It will be posted on Melbourne Happenings, at [www.melbourneiowa.com](http://www.melbourneiowa.com) and on the door of City Hall, post office, bank and library for 10 days. Applications may be filled out and dropped off at City Hall.

Motion to adjourn by Bracy, 2nd by Opperman. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.

EXPENSES: GENERAL $38,959.18, ROAD USE $1670.32, EMP BENEFITS $1469.70, WATER $5262.91, SEWER $9990.48, SANITARY SEWER LAGOON $1273.50. TOTAL EXPENSES $58,626.09.

REVENUES: GENERAL $91,406.81, ROAD USE $8991.48, EMP BENEFITS $9921.62, EMERGENCY $2118.57, LOST FIRE $1153.88, LOST 1ST RESPONDERS $1153.88, POOL $1160.91, LOST REC $3667.46, WATER $17,031.91, SEWER $19,810.33. TOTAL $156,416.85.

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