

January 12, 2023

The city council of the City of Sioux Center met on the above date in a regular session at 4:00 p.m. in the city offices. Members present were Mayor David Kraehling and the following councilmembers: Dale Vander Berg, Jenn Vermeer, John Brantsen, and by phone: Eric Moerman and Randy Vreugdenhil. Staff present: Scott Wynja, Murray Hulstein, Darryl Ten Pas, Dennis Dokter, Adam Fedders, Brian Van Engen, Maggie Landegent, Mike Halma, Kelli Willett, 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 the minutes of December 21, 2022, bills, finance reports, approval of the Sioux Center News and N'West Iowa Review as official newspapers for publication, and a liquor license renewal for Hy-Vee. It was moved by Councilmember Vander Berg and supported by Councilmember Brantsen to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Whereupon Mayor Kraehling declared the motion approved.

The City Manager, Scott Wynja, reported that a new term of office for administrative officers began Jan. 1, 2023, for a number of Sioux Center officers. Mayor Kraehling administered the Oath of Office to the following administrative officers: Mayor Pro-Tem Eric Moerman, City Attorney Brian Van Engen, City Manager/City Clerk Scott Wynja, Utilities Manager Murray Hulstein, Treasurer Darryl Ten Pas, and Police Chief Mike Halma.

The city manager presented a list of new members and members who agree to be reappointed to several city boards/commissions for council consideration: Doug Van Meeteren, Brad Van Berkel, Dave Goslinga, Joshua Dorhout (Planning & Zoning), Lee Mellema, Jim Harskamp, Kristi Hoogendoorn, Darren Raih (Low Rent Housing), Jamie Van Ravenswaay, Jessica Mulder, Nate Bullock (Rec & Arts) and Scott Wynja, Harold Schiebout, Paul Clousing (Airport Representatives). It was moved by Councilmember Vermeer and supported by Councilmember Vander Berg to approve the appointments and reappointments to the boards and commissions. Upon voice vote, all councilmen voted Aye. Nays: none. Whereupon Mayor Kraehling declared the motion approved. He shared that those interested in serving on these committees can contact the city office.

The city manager and the Chief of Police, Mike Halma, shared that staff and the council had previously discussed police staffing and a School Resource Officer position, and they recommended hiring 1-2 additional officers and creating an SRO position internally. The city manager and police chief have had conversations with Sioux Center Community and Christian Schools about the SRO position and the schools' interest in participating financially.

The Utilities Manager, Murray Hulstein, and city manager also shared that the City would like to make the current part-time Human Resources position a full-time position and incorporate the safety program under this position, including this and the police staffing in the 2023-24 fiscal year budgets. It was moved by Councilmember Vermeer and supported by Councilmember Moerman to approve appointing Josh Mork to a full-time Human Resources and Safety Manager position. Upon voice vote, all councilmen voted Aye. Nays: none. Whereupon Mayor Kraehling declared the motion approved.

The utilities manager reported that, after advertising for a Natural Gas Department opening, staff has offered Tom Draayer a position within that department, pending council ratification. The city manager reported that, after advertising a maintenance/grounds opening, staff has offered Clayton Schoellerman a position within that department, pending council ratification. It was moved by Councilmember Vander Berg and supported by Councilmember Brantsen to ratify the appointing of Tom Draayer as a Natural Gas employee and Clayton Schoellerman as a Maintenance/Grounds employee. Upon voice vote, all the councilmembers voted Aye. Nays: none. Whereupon Mayor Kraehling declared the motion approved.

In other business the council:

- reviewed upcoming council meetings, including Feb. 2, Feb. 20, and March 13 all at 4 p.m. at the City Office,
- heard a report on a five-year natural gas purchase contract coming to a close with the potential to enter a new five-year purchase contract for a portion of the city's natural gas,

- heard that city staff will work with DGR Engineering to design infrastructure for a new housing development in northeast Sioux Center with potential for both single-family and multi-family residential options,
- heard that the city's Moody's bond credit rating has raised from A2 to A1.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

David Krahling, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Scott Wynja, City Clerk