

Belle Plaine, Iowa
November 4, 2020

The Belle Plaine City Council met on November 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the council chambers with Mayor Dave Fish presiding. Present: Mary Pech, Judy Schlesselman, Mitch Malcolm and Garrett Landuyt. Absent: Mark Tegeler. Also, present: City Administrator Stephen Beck, City Attorney Jennifer Zahradnik, and City Clerk Jacki McDermott.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Landuyt to approve the consent agenda consisting of the council minutes of October 21, 2020, receiving and filing of the minutes from the Variance Board Meeting of October 14, 2020, receiving and filing of the minutes of the October 27, 2020 Belle Plaine Community Library Board of Trustees Meeting, and receiving and filing the minutes of the October 27, 2020 Belle Plaine Planning and Zoning Board Meeting and bills received, seconded by Malcolm. On roll call, all voted aye. Motion carried.

Residents Comments: None.

The mayor opened the Public Hearing concerning the change of zoning from R-1 to R-4 for the property locally known as 1540 15th Street (Hill Top Apartments). Curtis Brown from 1536 Sunset Drive was present to ask if there were also plans for a Phase 2 of the project to also add another building to the north of the existing apartments after those are renovated. The City Administrator and City Attorney said they were in negotiations for further development but that this is still in the planning stages. The mayor then closed the public hearing. Motion by Schlesselman, seconded by Pech to approve Resolution #20-11-01, a resolution changing the zoning of Hilltop Apartments from R-1 to R-4. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

Casey Neuhaus and Mindy Atkinson from Belle Plaine Community Development were present to discuss plans for the Home for the Holidays event for November 28, 2020. There will be a lighting of the city tree that will be live streamed so there is no gathering downtown, a lighted parade and a house decorating contest. Motion by Malcolm, seconded by Landuyt to approve the closing of Main Street from 7th to 9th Avenue from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on November 28, 2020. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried. The tree will be by Grand Central Station and will be up before November 22nd so the group can decorate it. The parade will use the graduation parade route and will have maps printed out ahead of time. The mayor will sound the sirens to mark the beginning of the parade. They will parade all around town just as the graduates did at graduation time.

Motion by Malcolm, seconded by Pech to approve a Class C Liquor License (LC) (Commercial) with Sunday Sales for O'Leary's Office Tap LLC at 825 12th Street, Belle Plaine. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

Motion by Pech, seconded by Schlesselman to approve a Class C Liquor License (LC) (Commercial) with Sunday Sales for The Oasis at 728 12th Street, Belle Plaine. On roll call vote, all voted aye, motion carried.

The City Administrator, Stephen Beck, notified the council that he is working on a development agreement for Hilltop Apartments. He is waiting on Ardent Lighting for an estimate on the sports complex by Friday. He also still needs a scope of work (damages) from EMC concerning city property. There are still variables like at Wellhouse 6 where the scope of work is still not clear.

Mayor Dave Fish reported that he had been to a meeting of Benton Development Group where the group went to the Benton County Board of Supervisors with a Highway 30 land use survey.

He also attended a Zoom meeting of East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECICOG).

He also mentioned that the DOT arrived to paint markings on the Highway 21, especially at the school crossing and the railroad crossing. The city painting on streets was delayed because of the canceling of the 4th of July celebration and then canceled because of the derecho. It will return next June as normally scheduled.

Resident Comments: None.

Old Business: None.

Correspondence: The City of Belle Plaine received a letter from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs that Preston's Station has been named to the National Register of Historic Places. Mary Helen Preston was present to thank the Council for all of their support to Preston's Station. The City also received a thank you from the school for donated snacks.

Motion by Landuyt to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Pech. On roll call, all voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Dave Fish, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jacki McDermott, City Clerk