

Study Session Meeting Minutes

April 26, 2004 ~ 7:00 p.m.

A. **CALL TO ORDER.**

A Study Session of the Waverly City Council was held on April 26, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Ackerman presided. Council members present were: Connie Rasmussen, Mel Kramer, Cyndi Ecker, Fred Ribich, Darrel Steege, Gary Grace and Gary Boorum. Absent: None

1. **Approve Agenda as Printed or Add Items for Discussion Only.**

Moved By: Rasmussen

Seconded By: Grace

That the agenda for this Council Meeting as prepared is hereby approved.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

B. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

C. **TABLED ITEMS.**

D. **REGULAR SESSION.**

1. **Outdoor Service Application for Hy-Vee, Inc.**

Moved By: Boorum

Seconded By: Kramer

The Outdoor Service Application for Hy-Vee, Inc. is hereby approved.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

2. **Mayor Appointments.**

Moved By: Ribich

Seconded By: Kramer

The Appointment of Hank Bagelmann to Planning & Zoning Commission, and reappointment of Steve Palmquist and Travis Krueger to Airport Commission are hereby approved.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

E. **STUDY SESSION.**

1. **Review of Waverly Light and Power Audit.**

Glenn Cannon and Waverly Light and Power Representatives were present to review December 31, 2003 and 2002 audit. Mr. Cannon informed the Council that Waverly Light and Power was celebrating its 100th year of service anniversary. The City purchased the plant from the Healy Brothers for \$13,500 and presently has a net asset of \$28,000,000. The Future Generation Fund currently has a balance of \$3.08 Million for the purpose of funding the development of future generation projects including the new Council Bluffs Generating Plant now under construction. Mr. Cannon also stated that WLP were in negotiations with Mid American Energy regarding a future Wind Turbine. WLP also implemented rate increases of 12% over a 3-year period and is in its 2nd phase of that increase. WLP has also entered into cycle billing operations with the City. As of 12/31/03, WLP has transferred \$686,847 an amount determined per policy established by the Board. Mr. Cannon also introduced Curt Atkins, the new Energy Advisor. Waverly Light and Power does not charge for new construction as part of an economic development effort. WLP entered into a contract with MidAmerican to sell firm power and associated energy, term energy, and excess energy exclusively to Mid American and said contract ends in 2010. Mr. Cannon also stated that buying into the new Council

Bluffs Generating Plant now will help lower future costs. The utilities' investment in Council Bluffs Unit No. 4 requires changes to the MidAmerican Energy contract agreement and the changes are still being negotiated. Mr. Cannon also expressed that Waverly Light and Power has Energy Conservation Programs that have really paid off. One of those is the Good Cents Program.

2. **Bremer County Recycling Update and Composting Education Project.**

Tami Turner reviewed the recycling weights and numbers of participants in the Bremer County Recycling Program. Ms. Turner stated that recycling of the four main materials by the cities decreased countywide by 2.5% and the waste to the Bremer County Landfill has increased. In order to reduce the amount of waste headed to the landfill, cities should contact recycling vendors. Companies may be able and willing to have equipment on site or may have difficulty bringing bales and may consider using a Gaylord box at the City Recycling Center. Bremer County had received a SWAM grant to replace current recycling bins with 30 yard 4-section containers. Public Services Superintendent Sullivan informed the Council that the County's new containers will not fit in the City's Recycling Center. The City has taken over the County's old roll-off containers and the City will haul their own materials. Ms. Turner also stated that hazardous materials can be disposed at the landfill by appointment only. Bremer County and the City are introducing a backyard composter called the "Earth Machine." The composter is designed to keep moisture in and unwanted critters out. It also has a convenient door for harvesting compost. The composter can turn kitchen waste into a valuable resource. The bins can be purchased at the City Recycling Center or at the Bremer County Conservation Board.

3. **Review of Draft Open Burning Ordinance and Staff Recommendations.**

City Administrator Crayne reviewed staff recommendations regarding the open burning ordinance. He asked the Council to ban burn barrels as outlined in the Burning Restrictions Committee recommendations. The City would notify the property owners and will remove the barrels at no cost to the property owner. The City would also expand yard waste site hours and add two weeks in the spring for yard waste pickup. In the spring of 2005, biodegradable bags will be the only bags the City will pick-up at the curbside free. The bags will be sold at City Hall, Public Services office, yard waste site and designated retail outlets. A vacuum leaf service will be offered this fall during the curbside leaf pickup. The leaves will have to be piled up between the sidewalk and the curb adjacent to a City street. The service is provided only by appointment at a cost of \$30.00 and \$15.00 per subsequent half hour. The City will issue a permit to property owners who own lots over one (1) acre annually and the estimated fee is \$35.00 to be set by resolution of the City Council. Recreational fires for cooking, heating, camping, recreation or bonfires using clean dry wood or charcoal shall be permitted. Public burning by government shall be supervised by the Fire Department. The Fire Chief, county, or state may prohibit any or all open burning when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous. Upon receipt of a complaint regarding smoke or odors, the fires shall be extinguished. Open burning may only be performed between the hours of 12:00 P. M. and sundown and fires may be no greater than 4 feet in diameter. Open burning of materials shall not be conducted on City streets, alleys, or any other City property. Open burning permits may be denied or revoked based on a civil citation for violation of ordinance. Duane Liddle voiced concern with permit fee.

Staff informed Duane Liddle that the ordinance and permit fees will be reviewed annually. The permit for open burning on a 1 acre lot was recommended by the Burning Restrictions Task Force to eliminate burning in densely populated areas. Scott Whitcome voiced his concern with the one acre limitation and asked the Council to reconsider said limitation. Council asked staff to consider footage or no-occupancy within 250 feet. Discussion followed on offensive smoke standards, recreational fires and enforcement issues. Lake Lambert reviewed the Task Force's recreational fire recommendations. Dick Magnall questioned staff on extended yard waste site hours. A committee of Connie Rasmussen, Lake Lambert, Gary Grace, City staff, Gerry Carney, and Public Services Superintendent Sullivan to chair will review the recommendations and restrictions of an open burning ordinance. Staff informed Council that a burning ban has not been issued by the DNR.

F. **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.**

1. Boards and Commissions.
2. Reports.
3. Communications.

Staff informed Council that utilities have to be examined before the northwest dry run reconstruction can begin.

Council thanked Elaine Main for her participation as the guest councilperson for April.

G. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Moved By: Boorum

Seconded By: Ribich

That the City Council Meeting be adjourned.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

Council adjourned at 8:15 P. M.

Ivan J. Ackerman, Mayor

Attest:

Richard J. Crayne , City Clerk