

Regular Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2008 ~ 7:00 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER.

The regular meeting of the Waverly City Council was held on June 16, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at Neumann Auditorium at Wartburg College. Mayor Ackerman presided. Council members present: Duane Liddle, Gene Lieb, Jim Vowels, Gary Grace, Fred Ribich, Gary Boorum and Cyndi Ecker. Absent: None

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

Moved By: Ecker

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

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

2. **Minutes.**

Moved By: Ribich

The June 2, 2008 Council Meeting Minutes are hereby approved.

Yes: 7

No:

Absent:

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

1. This was the date, time and place for a public hearing on Ordinance 899, An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance of Waverly, Iowa, Providing for Rezoning of Certain Area from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-3 (Multiple Family Residential District) of Said City in Northwest Waverly along 5th Street NW. The Mayor called for any oral or written comments and there were none. The hearing was declared closed and the following action was taken.

Moved By: Grace

Second Reading of Ordinance 899, An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance of Waverly, Iowa, Providing for Rezoning of Certain Area from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-3 (Multiple Family Residential District) of Said City in Northwest Waverly along 5th Street NW is hereby approved.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

C. VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Concerns expressed:

- No shelters on east side – no contingency plan
- Vaccines – none for the east side
- The Red Cross did not arrive until 4 days later
- The sirens were not used as a warning
- A Northeast resident was informed Sunday night by Police of the floods
- Police Department is looking into a Code Red system that would place calls to residents warning of impending flood waters. The Bremer County Law Board will be looking at implementing said system.
- Where were evacuation orders for northeast residents
- Northwest residents had backup before flood – stormwater infiltrated and flooded the 6th Avenue Lift Station.
- Split level homes along 7th Avenue SE have no lower level access and should not be allowed in the 100 year flood plain – City staff stated that homes were built according to City Code and the lower level was to be engineered as flood-proof
- 500 year floods are not addressed by DNR or the City's code
- 4th Street NW by 3rd Avenue NW floods all the time – water and sewer coming up and street was not blocked off and has to be addressed for area residents – City stated that area was tied to outlet from Cedar River

- The City has to address a contingency plan to forward reliable information on to residents
- The City must develop a comprehensive communication plan
- The FEMA Representative stated that the base flood elevation cannot be raised and the City manages the Flood Plain ordinance

Economic Development Director informed audience members that homes substantially damaged over 50% of their market value have to be rebuilt to comply with Flood Plain ordinances.

- Gather a Task Force to look at an emergency plan for the east side residents
- No warning on the City's website and no warning system
- Quit issuing building permits on the river
- Have residents in the flood plain on the task force
- City crews removing debris first before sandbags – City waiting for a DNR decision on where the City can take contaminated sandbags
- Why didn't the Police Department use the siren/PA system
- Police officers were patrolling
- Questioned why the Crestwood pump station was not working – Public Services Superintendent Sullivan stated that a former employee got the pump working so other City staff could work on other pump stations
- Why doesn't the City spend more money on public infrastructure
- Why do we have pump stations that don't work in floods
- The Crestwood manhole doesn't work
- If the residents knew that the flood waters were going to be 2 to 3 feet above the 99 flood they would have acted differently
- Why didn't the police use their Police car microphones
- Police and Fire distributed flyers to residents
- When will the Crestwood lift station and manhole be repaired -
- Take care and put more resources toward infrastructure – City staff stated that the sewer camera will help identify infiltration and possible breaks in the storm water system
- Residents questioned whether the chain link fence weakened bridge and caused block
- A new 3rd Street SE bridge in the same area would require longer approaches and could cause more flooding – City Engineer Cherry stated that debris on the bridge would be removed tomorrow and structural engineer would examine all the bridges in Waverly next week
- So many sightseers – can they be deterred – can National Guard patrol for sightseers
- Southeast residents no lighting and are vulnerable to theft
- The 3rd Street SE Bridge will survive per Butch Kehe
- Plan for new bridge and not in the same place
- Can pumps be stored in southeast Waverly for flooding
- Citizens Review Committee and Ron Camarata would like to volunteer
- Concern for dry run floods
- Is FEMA going to make this another Louisiana with trailers – no trailers at this time
- Chief Pursell voiced his concern with using sirens for flooding when residents might think it is a tornado – Memorial Day the sirens did not sound because Waverly was still under a tornado watch not a warning

- How much of the local option sales tax revenues have been spent on drainage and streets
- What happened with the Flood Study and the inflatable dam and levies – City Engineer Cherry stated that the Army Corp of Engineers reported the costs would outweigh the benefits due to flooding from dry run areas – levies would just create more flooding downstream to southeast residents
- Culverts were taken out on 4th Street SE
- Need more emergency planning and emergency communication
- Communication –hit and miss with radio and TV
- More discussion on sirens for warnings
- Did the City contact Charles City to find out what levels were there
- Does the City have a sandbag machine – the City handed out 200,000 sandbags
- Proactive communication needed
- City Engineer Cherry informed audience members that Waverly receives information from the National Weather Service, Charles City and Little Cedar levels and tries to make determinations for Waverly – it is not perfect and predicting flood levels is a judgment call
- Public Services Superintendent Sullivan reviewed the FEMA evaluation process that he personally underwent to apply for FEMA funding. He applied and FEMA assigned him a case number. When the FEMA Representative came to his home Brian asked for identification. The FEMA Representative asked a series of questions and Brian provided insurance information to him. They looked over the damage and asked Brian questions. The FEMA Representative said that they would get in touch with Brian within 10 days.
- Discussion followed on American Legion and SBA
- Audience members why all other City residents didn't volunteer to help flood victims
- Leisure Services Director Ray informed audience members that the sun acts as a disinfectant along with rain to remove contaminants
- Waverly Light & Power turned off 1,012 customers, 546 homes are on and 466 are still off. To get power turned on property owners need to contact a contractor to inspect structures and the contractor contacts Bremer County and WLP for inspection and then residents can have utilities restored

Diane Johnson stated that Waverly Light and Power is adjusting rates on their inverted rate structure. Residential customers may be forced to use more electricity this summer than Waverly Light and Power expected due to widespread flooding. Residential rate riders such as the Water Heating (Marathon Water Heater) discount and the Energy Efficiency (Good Cents) discount will remain in effect.

Dan Kiddle from Wartburg's Center for Community Involvement stated that there were 80 requests for volunteers, 180 volunteers and 275 hours logged.

- FEMA Disaster Center setup is coming.
- Red Cross Service Shelter is setup at Players Theatre to provide immediate financial assistance.
- The Homeless Shelter is still at "The W."
- Downtown Businesses can contact SBA.
- Red Cross will be in Waverly as long as the City needs them
- Food and water needs to get to the handicapped residents

H. **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS ON POLICY ISSUES.**

I. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Moved By: Boorum

That the City Council Meeting be adjourned.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

Council adjourned at 10:00 P. M.

Ivan J. Ackerman, Mayor

Attest:

Jo-Ellen Raap, City Clerk