

Study Session Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2020
Ivan “Ike” Ackerman Council Chambers

A Study Session Meeting of the Waverly City Council was held on April 27, 2020 at 7:00 P. M. at City Hall. Mayor Hoffman presided.

The Governor of Iowa has declared a Public Emergency because of the COVID-19 outbreak. The Mayor determined that an in-person meeting of the City Council is impossible or impractical without violating the Governor’s mandates.

When an in-person meeting is "impossible or impractical," Iowa Code Section 21.8 permits a governmental body to conduct a meeting by electronic means.

The meeting was conducted by video conference using ZOOM from the Council Chambers. The Mayor and necessary City staff (City Clerk, Carla Guyer and Deputy City Clerk Valorie Northrup) were in the Council Chambers. The 7 Council members were not be in the chambers, but participated via ZOOM conferencing.

The video/audio conference of the meeting was broadcasted on the normal public access channels. We strived to maintain the quality of the video and audio during that broadcast. Public access was available through this broadcast.

Comments for items that are on the agenda or for the Public Hearing could have been made by submitting them prior to the meeting to the City Clerk, Mayor or any of the Council members or by calling 319-596-0179 during the meeting.

Meeting minutes were still kept and include a statement explaining why an in-person meeting was impossible or impractical.

- A. Mayor Hoffman called the meeting to order.
- B. Roll Call
 - Present: Beaufore, Birgen, Drenkow, Glaser, Kangas, Rathe, and Schneider. Absent: None.
- C. Moved by Schneider, seconded by Birgen to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion passed. Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0
 - Councilmember Birgen introduced the Guest Council for the month of April, Yusra Malik.
- D. Public Hearing
During this public hearing, individuals were allowed to make comments by submitting them prior to the meeting to the City Clerk, Mayor or any of the Council members or by calling 319-596-0179 during the meeting.
 - 1. This was the date, time and place for a public hearing on participation in a Small Business Administration Forgivable Loan for Waverly Health Center in an amount not to exceed \$5,600,000.00.
 - **There were no oral or written public comments.**
 - **The public hearing was then closed.**Moved by Schneider, seconded by Birgen to approve Resolution 20-64, determining to proceed with participation in the Small Business Administration’s Paycheck Protection Program and obtain a forgivable loan for the benefit of Waverly Health Center in an amount not to exceed \$5,600,000.
Motion passed. Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0

- There have been general concerns at hospitals regarding low census and sending people home on furloughs. The Waverly Health Center has tried to keep employees there and working. They are doing their best to keep people working. They are hopeful to receive this loan. Now that Governor Reynolds has said that elective surgeries may resume, the hospital is working on plans to achieve that prudently and safely. There is no liability for this loan.

- Waverly Health Center CEO Jim Atty communicated via telephone that the majority of the loan funds will be used for payroll. No employees have been furloughed. It is anticipated that the hospital will qualify to convert the loan to a grant. It will help mitigate some of the losses experienced due to the pandemic. There is no impact to the City of Waverly.

E. Regular Business

1. Moved by Birgen, seconded by Glaser to approve Resolution 20-65, a Resolution approving a Pro Shop Lease Agreement with the Waverly Country Club for 2020 – 2022 with annual rent of \$11,000 in two payments of \$5,500 due on February 15 and October 1 of each of the three years.

Motion passed. Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0

- City Administrator James Bronner informed Council that he was not sure how the \$11,000 per year compared to other retail space in the area. This is more of a functionality lease vs. dollars per square foot. This is \$1,000 more per year than before. Going forward, the Pro Shop is expected to remain open year-round which will present higher utilities bills, and the restroom supplies will be purchased by the Golf Club now.

2. Moved by Glaser, seconded by Birgen to approve Resolution 20-66, a Resolution approving a Beverage Lease Agreement with the Waverly Country Club for 2020 – 2022 and receiving from the Waverly Country Club \$500 in June and September for a total of \$1,000 for each of the three years.

Motion passed. Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0

- This is the same rate as in past years.

F. Study Session Calendar.

1. Waverly-Shell Rock Senior Recognition Discussion

- There are parents of WSR high school seniors working with the student senate, health department, and the State Education Department to come up with ideas for commencement activities. The students are expected to decide what they want to do. In the near future, they may ask for support within the community and from the City once they have decided on what they want to do. They are working with KWAY Radio and the Waverly Newspapers to see if they can do some recognition for them. If families have ideas, they are asked to reach out to the student senate to share their ideas. The class has currently decided to go with yard signs with pictures. Teachers are doing a tremendous job working behind the scenes, learning new things, and supporting parents. There are 170+ seniors in the 2020 graduating class. Different possibilities were touched on such as banners on main street, pictures, and use of electronic signs. There are some businesses that have electronic marquis already. Slideshows are another way to recognize the seniors. The senior class is hoping to have this scheduled within the month of May. Councilmember Beaufore will contact the high school regarding the discussed ideas and about contacting the Chamber.

2. Local Food Donations and Community Gardens Discussion

- Needs grow much more when the economy is closed. Food sources have been impacted by 25 – 30%. We need to approach this issue in a serious manner. Places in the City that people can turn to are: Waverly Shell Rock United Way put together a list of different food resources through Northeast Iowa Food Bank, Northeast Community Action Corporation, Redeemer Lutheran Church, the 2-1-1 number at United Way as the hub for already mentioned resources. There are community meals still taking place at Peace United Church of Christ (every Thursday),

Waverly Saints Café, Grace Baptist (every Wednesday). People in need are urged to contact the Waverly-Shell Rock United Way for assistance or any of the other mentioned entities. There is also a need for food contributions, monetary support, volunteers, and people to educate others in need on who they can contact. The City is hoping for a bumper crop in the Community Gardens this summer. There will be a planting day on May 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., and volunteers are encouraged and social distancing should not be a problem. If you are interested, give Leisure Services a call at 319-352-6263. The things that add to the success of the community gardens the most are: the weather, volunteers, quality of seeds, and luck. Please do not be too proud or shy to ask for assistance whether it be for diapers, food, utility help, or mental help. It is ok to ask if someone could use some assistance. The Meals on Wheels program is another alternative for assistance for senior citizens. They are temporarily delivering one-week supply of frozen dinners. The resource for this is the Northeast Iowa Area on Aging or reach out to the Senior Center for information on that. Financial donations are always a resource that the organizations can use.

G. Staff Updates

- Leisure Services Director Garret Riordan commented on the Farmers' Market. The first few weeks will be started with pre-orders at the Embassy Vineyard Church beginning May 2, 2020.

H. City Council Comments

- Councilmember Drenkow reminded those people that are throwing parties, even with the Covid-19 Virus, to be considerate of their neighbors. City Engineer/Public Works Director Mike Cherry informed him that there have been no changes in construction schedules, and they are expected to begin June 1.
- Councilmember Birgen requested that all citizens be patient and allow this virus to run its course. Go slow, be patient.
- Councilmember Rathe informed Council and the public that the Heritage Days Committee has determined to post-pone the celebration for 2020. They will move forward with planning the event for 2021.
- Councilmember Kangas echoed the comments of Councilmember Birgen. Please allow the ease of opening everything back up. Please practice caution and patience.

I. Mayor's Comments

- Mayor Hoffman thanked Deputy City Clerk Valorie Northrup for assisting us with the Zoom programming of this meeting. He also extended a thank you to the Wartburg T.V. crew. Hoffman thanked Kangas for taking his place on KWAY radio this morning. If businesses have needs, please reach out to us, and we will try to redirect you to necessary people. Hoffman thanked Guest Council person Yusra Malik for her participation.

J. Moved by Birgen, seconded by Kangas to adjourn. Motion passed and Council meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0



Adam P. Hoffman, Mayor

ATTEST:



Carla Guyer, City Clerk