

**STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
November 13, 2023**

The Stratford City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 13, 2023, with Mayor Brian Ouverson calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall and leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members answering roll call were: Carol Bergman, Catherine Bergman, Terry Bryan, and Jamie Nielsen. Council member Ht Buie was absent. Also present were Sara Bryan, Toni Larson, Karen Rickey representing the Fitness Center, Kiano Vargas, Brad Larson, Kim Leeds, and Cathy Siefken.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the tentative agenda. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve previous meeting minutes from October 9, 2023. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the consent agenda as follows: Financial Report for October 2023, Current Claims since Previous Council approval for \$31,390.22 and Delinquent Utility Account Report. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen – aye. Motion carried.

Council held a discussion concerning the approval of mailboxes and the future of Stratford Post Office. City Manager Leeds reported that she spoke with the postmaster in Boone and that the mailbox issue is only an issue in the City of Stratford. Council is concerned that approving all these mailboxes will have an impact on the Stratford Post Office and are considering only allowing residents on the mail route to have mailboxes close to their residence. They have directed City Manager to evaluate the ordinance.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Jamie Nielsen to approve request from Tom & Amy Link to place a mailbox on their property at 1725 Tennyson Avenue. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen -aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Jamie Nielsen, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve request from Joshua Constant to place a mailbox in the cluster on the east side of Teneyck Avenue at the northeast corner of Dryden and Teneyck Avenue . Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – nay, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Catherine Bergman to deny the building permit from Clark Piebe at 924 Teneyck Avenue to put up a carport. The City Council will reconsider the building permit if the homeowner provides a survey of his property. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

The Council discussed the current 28E agreement with the Hamilton County Sheriff Department. City Manager Kim Leeds presented information she received from other towns and costs for additional services from the Sheriff's Department. At this time council decided to wait and see what budget numbers look like for next year before making any additional financial commitments.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Catherine Bergman to continue the current 28E agreement with the Hamilton County Sheriff Department. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the invoices from Central Iowa Televising (CIT) for \$1,706.88 using Local Option Sales and Service Tax funds allocated for the Pool for investigating a water leak. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Jamie Nielsen to approve the renewal of five-year contract with Central Iowa Televising (CIT) for \$5,000 per year for televising and cleaning the City sewer. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Jaime Nielsen, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the invoice from JB Concrete for \$1,500.00 using Local Options Sales and Service Tax funds allocated for Infrastructure for repairs to east Commercial Street manhole. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Jaime Nielsen, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the invoice from Hill's Backhoe & Tiling for \$6,000.00 using Local Option Sales and Service Tax funds allocated for Infrastructure for repairs to manholes on Dryden Street. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Jamie Nielsen to approve the quote from Acme Contracting for \$2,400.00 to haul rock and grade west Tennyson Ave from Bellville Road 450 feet to the west. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Jamie Nielsen to approve the quote from KT&T Landscape for \$1,600.00 to take down a tree in the power lines at the property located at 1107 Shakespeare. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Jamie Nielsen, seconded by Terry Bryan to table the discussion regarding the quote from KT&T Landscape for \$9,250.00 for lines clearance for the east side of Stratford until a specific list of trees is provided. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Jamie Nielsen, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve United Cooperative's request to mount lights on our utility poles on north side of Commercial Street east of Shakespeare Ave. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the Stratford Fitness Center's request for the Turkey Trot Fun Run/Walk to be held November 23, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the nomination of Kim Leeds for Iowa Rural Water Association Board of Directors. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Jamie Nielsen to approve the City of Stratford Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2023. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve the insurance renewal for volunteer firefighter accidental death & dismemberment coverage for: annual fee of \$13.30 for single coverage, \$19.00 for employee/spouse and employee/family coverage; total of \$587.10. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Jamie Nielsen to approve the health/dental insurance renewal for full-time City of Stratford employees. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Jaime Nielsen, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the vision insurance renewal for full-time City of Stratford employees. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the City of Stratford Tree Plan. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Jamie Nielsen, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve the request to roll over all vacation hours for Kim Leeds due to hire of new employee. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve Resolution 2023-30, a Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Funds for the Payment of Debt Fees and Interest. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Jamie Nielsen - aye. Motion carried.