

**STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
September 9, 2024**

The Stratford City Council met in regular session on Monday, September 9, 2024, 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, Clark Conklin and Chase Haman. Also present were Tanner Jensen with KT&T Landscaping, Toni Larson, Kenneth Paugh, Doug Timmons, Dale Thompson, Jr Ubben with Ubben Tiling, Rick Woodard, Brad Larson, and Kim Leeds.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the tentative agenda. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Chase Haman to approve previous meeting minutes from regular meeting on August 12, 2024. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman - aye Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the consent agenda as follows: Financial Report for August 2024, Current Claims since Previous Council approval for \$76,853.55, and Delinquent Utility Account Report. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Council discussed drainage issues in the north part of Stratford. Jr Ubben was present to discuss his findings. Jr was doing a job and came across a field drain tile that is hooked to the City of Stratford storm sewer. Jr explained that he would be tiling the field north of Dryden Street this fall and that it would be the opportune time to unhook field drain tiles from the cities storm sewer and relive resident on the north end of Stratford from some of the excess water. This topic will be put back on next month's agenda for approval for Jr Ubben to unhook the current field tiles that are hooked into the City storm sewer.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Carol Bergman approve setting Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 - 7:00 pm for Halloween Trick or Treat night. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Vendor Agreement for electric for Fiscal Year 2025 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program with Upper Des Moines Opportunity. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve request from Team Iowa Snowmobilers for 2024-2025 Winter Season Snowmobile Route in incorporated limits of

Stratford. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman- aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve quote from KT&T Landscaping for \$12,980.00 for line clearance for map 2 south end of Stratford with the exception of Teneyck Ave and the additional work to check with Midland Power and the county to see who is responsible for line clearance in those areas. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman- aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Chase Haman to approve quote from KT&T Landscaping for \$1800.00 for removal of Ash trees in trees in right-of-way located in front of 603 Tennyson Avenue. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman- aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

City Manager Leeds had a short discussion on the Housing Committee recommendations for the Rural Housing Assessment Grant. Grant was submitted on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. The Housing Committee addresses two options: One being using the \$30,000 to apply for the Homes for Iowa which is a grant that has prisoner build a bare bones home and with delivery in twelve months. Option two is using the \$30,000 grant funding to provide two down payment assistance of \$4,500 and two appliance credit of \$500 to two home buyers in Stratford. Provide two down payment assistance of \$4500 to purchase two existing properties in Stratford and use \$10,000 for the city to buy a vacant lot to put up Homes for Iowa house. Currently the City has applied for grants for the ten percent match.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve \$2000 match to Rural Housing Assessment Grant. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman- aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Catherine Bergman to table Annual Financial Report to until next regular council meeting on October 14, 2024 for City Manager to get clarification on beginning and ending balances. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman- aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Clark Conklin to approve quote from Echo vision for \$2310.00 for an eight-inch snow bucket for the skid loader. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman- aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Clark Conklin, seconded by Carol Bergman to table discuss/approval for quotes on dump trailer at this time. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman- aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

City Manager reviewed the Stratford Municipal Pool 2024 season report with council. It was noted that attendance was down from the previous year due to the pool closed 15 days early due to leak and pump motor issue. There was a total of 66 days this season. The pool was closed 6 full days and 4 partial days for weather and were closed most nights at 7:00 P.M. Payroll expenses were

down this year due to early closure. Lesson revenues were down from the previous year. There was a week of group lesson and a few sets of private and buddy lessons. Management thoughts were that this pool season was difficult with only five lifeguards.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to adjourn at 8:44 P.M. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

  
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Brian Ouverson, Mayor

**Attest:**

  
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Kim Leeds, City Manager/ Clerk