

## OTTUMWA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING NO. 20  
Council Chambers, City Hall

July 18, 2023  
5:30 O'Clock P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M.

Present were Council Member Hull, Pope, Roe, Galloway, McAntire and Mayor Johnson.

McAntire moved, seconded by Galloway to approve consent agenda items: Mins. from Regular Mtg. No. 18 on July 11, 2023 as presented; Civil Service Comm. Elig. Lists for July 6, 2023: PW Equip. Operator Ent. All ayes.

Roe moved, seconded by McAntire to approve agenda as presented with removal of both items from the table. Res No. 114-2023 and Res No. 115-2023 will be presented at the end of the mtg. All ayes.

City Admin. Rath reported a special work session was last night in Room 108 to provide an opportunity for council and staff to work through some items up for action, where we don't normally include public comment; special mtgs. follow the same structure as our regular mtgs. and will be more focused on one or two topics. Council will not take any action during a work session.

Mayor Johnson inquired if anyone from the audience wished to address an item on the agenda. There were none.

Roe moved, seconded by Galloway to approve applications to Wapello County Found. for funding for an automatic pool vacuum for the Beach (\$6,600) and (\$60,000) for playground equip. for Ottumwa Park campground. All ayes.

Galloway moved, seconded by McAntire to receive presentation from Ottumwa Comm. School District (OCSD) regarding construction of tennis court alternatives.

Mike McGrory, Superintendent; Landon Allen, Dir. of Tech. and Dave Harper, Exec. Dir. of HR & Operations/Principal all presented for OCSD. Recommend alternate location (Center Ave.) with OCSD taking over responsibility of managing bidding process and overseeing construction of tennis courts. OCSD is willing to take on the responsibility of maintaining the tennis courts. Create a campus like atmosphere that ties locations together – Schafer, Tennis Courts, OHS, Competition Gym. Neighborhood revitalization as tennis courts will contribute to improving public facilities and enhancing aesthetics of the lot. Expand parking area and installation of lighting to ensure safety and security. Aggressive timeline looks at starting now with hopes of completion Spring 2024. Still looking at partnership for funding: City \$750,000, OCSD \$750,000 and Friends of Ottumwa Parks \$650-750,000.

Members of Friends of Ottumwa Parks: Bob Kramer, Blaire Siems, Marc Hanson and Mark Garner shared thoughts on fundraising and how installation of the courts will allow the City to host events and bring business to the City.

Rath reported due to change in the law, the City would need to hold a public hearing on the auth. of a Loan Agt. and issuance of Gen. Obligation Capital Loan Notes, to the amt. of not to exceed \$700,000 as Auth. by Sections 384.24A and 384.26 of the Code of IA, for the purpose of providing funds to pay costs of carrying out general corporate purpose projects. This would be a change from the original ask of \$750,000 as we would need to reclassify the bonds.

Galloway moved, seconded by Roe to hold a public hearing Aug. 1, 2023 to keep the process moving and allow some time to consider the request from OCSD. All ayes.

Roe moved, seconded by Galloway that Res. No. 108-2023, approving Change Order No. 2 for Pawnee Dr. Reconstruction Project, be passed and adopted. Interim PW Dir. Burgmeier reported CO#2 increases contract by \$51,632.03; total contract sum \$1,291,143.03. All ayes.

Roe moved, seconded by McAntire that Res. No. 114-2023, approving Compensation Handbook as presented and make it a part of current employee handbook, be passed and adopted. HR Dir. Codjoe reported we factored in percentages to our FY23/24 budget to act as a placeholder for this finalized data. We will have to incorporate some of the increases in a phased approach. Anyone that receives an increase of \$5,000 or less; his/her pay rate will be adjusted on 7/1/2023. Anyone that receives an increase over \$5,000 will see a phased approach; s/he will receive 25% of the total increase 7/1/2023; another 25% on January 1, 2024 and then the remaining 50% on 7/1/2024 in order to spread the changes over multiple budgets. Council agrees to move forward with this; however, there are several components of policies that need to become priority in creating and getting implemented as they are a part of this new Compensation Handbook and Guidelines. All ayes.

Galloway moved, seconded by McAntire that Res. No. 115-2023, approving updates to Personnel Policy, be passed and adopted. Codjoe explained the changes outlined in this update include holiday, vacation and incentive accrual for Police Sgt. due to working 2184 hrs. annually. All ayes.

Mayor Johnson inquired if anyone from the audience wished to address an item not on the agenda. There were none.

Galloway reminded citizens State Auditor Rob Sand will host townhall mtg. July 25, 2023 at Jimmy Jones Shelter (Greater Ottumwa Park).

Council recessed at 6:51 P.M.

\*\*\*\*\*

Regular Meeting No. 20  
Room 108, City Hall

July 18, 2023  
6:00 O'Clock P.M.

Council reconvened at 7:00 P.M. in Room 108 for closed session proceedings.

Present were Council Member Hull, Pope, Roe, Galloway, McAntire and Mayor Johnson.

Galloway moved, seconded by Hull to enter closed session in accordance with IA Code Section 21.5(1)(a). ("To review or discuss records which are required or auth. by state or federal law to be kept confidential or to be kept confidential as a condition for that government body's possession or continued receipt of federal funds.") for the purpose of reviewing "personal information in confidential personnel records of governmental bodies relating to identified or identifiable individuals who are officials, officers, or employees of the government bodies" in accordance with IA Code Section 22.7(11)(a). All ayes.

The meeting entered closed session at 7:02 P.M.

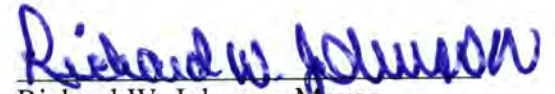
\*\*\*\*\*

Roe moved, seconded by Hull to return to open session at 8:52 P.M. All ayes.


There being no further business, McAntire moved, seconded by Galloway that the mtg. adjourn. All ayes.

Adjournment was at 8:52 P.M.

CITY OF OTTUMWA, IOWA

  
Richard W. Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Christina Reinhard, CMC, City Clerk

Published in the Ottumwa Courier on 7/27/2023.