

OTTUMWA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING NO. 2
Council Chambers, City Hall

January 11, 2022
5:30 O'Clock P.M.

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

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

Pope moved, seconded by Hull to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes.

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

Roe moved, seconded by Hull that Res. No. 2-2022, setting Jan. 18, 2022 as the date of a public hearing on an application to the IA Economic Development Auth. for a CDBG Grant from the CV-19 Program, be passed and adopted. Comm. Development Dir. Simonson reported this project will convert the unused second floor at 311 E. Main St. All ayes.

Hull moved, seconded by Galloway to auth. Mayor to sign City/County Election Precinct Agt. with the Wapello County Brd. of Supervisors and submit corrected City Reprecincting Worksheet Precinct Population Cert. to the SOS. Clerk Reinhard stated this Agt. combines Ottumwa Precincts #1, 3, and 7 with adjacent Unincorporated Center Township areas. All ayes.

Roe moved, seconded by Pope to allow the City to participate in Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG), as drafted by Tim Richmond, Wapello County EMA Coord. to equip all fire dept. in Wapello County with new radio system. Richmond stated Council already approved funds to purchase dispatch system from Central Square which is the first piece of this process. Evolving tech. and limitations with bandwidth are reasons we need to update/upgrade our current radio system. Wapello County Rural Fire Agency will be the host organization of the Regional 2021 AFG application, with all other parties responsible for 10% match of awarded equip. All ayes.

Simonson presented on Housing, Development and Code Enforcement. Much discussion was had; topics being discussed Nuisance, Housing and Bldg. Code Enforcement; Code Enforcement Plan. Also discussed housing study and recommendations. Our current housing stock does not meet the needs of residents in most categories. Projected need for housing a little under 500 units over the next 10 yrs. We currently have 45 vacant lots in our infill lot inventory. Ramp-up a non-profit developer (like Rippling Waters); Provide incentives for medium-density infill; gap financing; neighborhood/community campaign to help build a sense of pride and ownership in neighborhoods. Staff has identified opportunities in the next yr. to begin addressing these recommendations; programs could leverage ARPA funds, CIP bonding, and grant opportunities. Make Ottumwa Home program; Ottumwa Block Challenge; Upper-Story Housing Grant; House America. Economic Development/Planning – Greater Ottumwa Park Master Plan, Railport Relocation, Airport Study, Church Street Historic Survey, Bonita Housing Development, Wildwood Commercial Development, Low-to-Moderate Income Housing Development with CDC, Downtown Development and Vogel Development, Bridge View Hotel are just a few.

There being no further business, Roe moved, seconded by Hull that the meeting adjourn. All ayes.

Adjournment was at 7:15 P.M.

CITY OF OTTUMWA, IOWA

Richard W. Johnson
Richard W. Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Christina Reinhard

Christina Reinhard, CMC, City Clerk

