

City Council  
March 15, 2023  
5:30 pm

The Atlantic City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall with Mayor Garrett presiding. Council members present were: Otte, Behrens, Sisco, McCurdy, Hartkopf, Halder and Brink. Absent: None. Also present was Student Representative Edria Brummer.

Motion by McCurdy; second by Brink to approve agenda as posted. All ayes. Motion carried.

Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Hartkopf; second by Behrens to approve consent agenda as follows: Minutes of the March 1, 2023 City Council meeting; Solid Waste Collector Permit for Gaines Sanitation & Hauling; Tree Trimmer Permit for CTS, LLC; Class E Liquor License for WalMart; and bills totaling \$122,500.97. All ayes. Motion carried.

Jody Allumbaugh was recognized for ten years of service to the Atlantic Public Library.

Mike Kennon, Cass County Emergency Management Coordinator gave a presentation regarding Weather Week and the Emergency Alerts Sign-Up System.

Motion by Behrens; second by McCurdy to approve Resolution #06-23 SETTING THE DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSAL TO ENTER INTO A GENERAL OBLIGATION SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LOAN AGREEMENT AND TO BORROW MONEY THEREUNDER IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$90,000." Ayes: Behrens, Sisco, McCurdy, Hartkopf, Halder, Brink, Otte. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by McCurdy; second by Sisco to approve Resolution #07-23 "RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A JOB DESCRIPTION FOR AN ANIMAL SHELTER ASSISTANT, OPENING A POSITION, AND SETTING COMPENSATION FOR FY 2023." Ayes: McCurdy, Hartkopf, Halder, Brink, Otte, Behrens, Sisco. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Brink; second by Halder to approve Resolution #08-23 "RESOLUTION UPDATING COMPENSATION FOR THE WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT FOR FY 2023." Ayes: Brink, Otte, Behrens, Sisco, McCurdy, Hartkopf, Halder. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by McCurdy; second by Brink to approve the first reading of Ordinance #1030 "AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ATLANTIC, IOWA, BY REMOVING PORTION OF CHAPTER 22 OF THE 'PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, MOBILE FOOD VENDORS AND TRANSIENT MERCHANTS' AND ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER 130 'MOBILE FOOD VENDORS.'" Ayes: McCurdy, Hartkopf, Halder, Brink, Otte, Behrens, Sisco. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by McCurdy; second by Halder to set the date of the Public Hearing on Maximum Tax Dollars for April 5, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

City Council reviewed bid received for 1310 Chestnut. Following discussion, motion was made by McCurdy with second by Halder to accept bid from Jay & Kelsey Eden for \$1 and proceed with sale. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brink; second by Sisco to adopt Policy and Notice of Nondiscrimination. All ayes. Motion carried.

City Administrator Lund :

- Met with several legislators past week and advised them that Senate File 356 would not address the property tax burden, but rather make it worse. The Senate's bill regarding Local Option Tax is dead in the house. Rep Kauffman advised that the house would not let the Senate call all of the shots on property tax reform; he wants to craft an alternative HF 1 – the representatives are not interested in messing with levies but rather want to provide predictability and control growth. Lund offered to craft legislation with the themes of HF1; submitted his proposal late Monday night and is waiting to hear if the house would like additional information.
- The corrected taxable valuations have been released, and the city was hit hard, but Lund is determined to make the numbers work. Key features of the FY2024 budget. The total city levy will be increasing in order to protect the city from any repercussions if Senate File 356 passes. Key projects include library elevator, city hall tuckpointing, website update, and improvements to Sunnyside Pool. Would like to give good raises in FY 2024 as property tax reform could freeze wages or limit 1.5% to 2.75% wage growth. Therefore, he is releasing the unions from the 2.4% wage growth a year early and projecting a 7% across the board wage hike. He wants to send the message to the employees "You are valued."
- FY 2025 may be the beginning of a heavy capital improvement budget, but it will more likely be FY 2027. He will be on total lockdown Friday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in order to finish the budget and would like to have budget books to council on April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Engineer Dave Sturm has inquired about the next phase of Bull Creek. Public Works Superintendent Knudsen and Park & Recreation Director Adderton will meet with Sturm and involve Council Member Otte as well as any other Council Members that are interested.
- Would like to meet with Personnel & Finance next Wednesday to discuss a few odds & ends of the budget.

Mayor Garrett announced that the Iowa League is holding an Emergency Management Symposium in April. Several officials from Atlantic are attending.

City Council Reports: Otte - Several Emergency Management meetings; Behrens-Fire Department; Sisco-Retail Coach meeting, Community Protection; McCurdy-CADCO Site & New Business; Hartkopf-Board of Adjustment, Airport; Halder-Landfill, Library; Brink-Community Protection

Student Representative Report: AHS hosted midnight madness; student council service project submitted; spring break next week; new playground at Washington Elementary.

Alice Brown read a letter she wrote to the newspapers, asking the city to address and help the homeless situation in Atlantic.

Council Member Halder asked if any Council Members would consider moving the meetings to 5:00 instead of 5:30? Consensus was that 5:30 seems to work better.

Council Member Behrens commended the street department for a great job in keeping up with snow removal during the last two snowstorms.

Motion by Behrens; second by Sisco to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

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Grace N. Garrett, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barb Barrick, City Clerk