

The City Council of the City of Princeton, Iowa met for a regular meeting on Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Kevin Kernan presided. Roll Call: Present: Phares, Stutting, McDonough, Woomert, and Wolfe. Motion to approve consent agenda made by Wolfe and seconded by Woomert. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC.

MAYORS COMMENTS:

Mayor Kernan stated Canadian Pacific and Kansas City Southern offered the city \$100,000 to close one of the railroad crossings, Mayor Kernan asked if they would be able to reopen the private crossing on the north end of town, no official response has been made. Mayor Kernan asked Planning and Zoning board member Ann Geiger to provide an update on the rezoning of the Rogers property at 428 5th St. Geiger shared that Planning and Zoning saw no issues and requests council to put the matter on the next regularly scheduled council agenda. Mayor Kernan also shared there has been rumor of a new pipeline coming through town, however he has no official details, he will be in touch with the local news paper to get more information.

Pending Business:

Mayor Kernan asked Council Phares and Council Stutting to share an update on what they would like to do going forward with the open Public Works Laborer position. Council asked Public Works Foreman Rindler to share information he put together on the open position for the meeting. Foreman Rindler presented water and sewer savings and updates that have been done and his suggestions for the open position. Council Phares asked Foreman Rindler if he was suggesting a person for 40 hours per week. Rindler responded with yes if they are qualified. Council Stutting asked Rindler if he was stating that he was wanting to pay someone what they are worth, and he stated yes, he believes that \$25-27/hour for 40 hours per week for a well-rounded individual is where the city needs to be. Council Woomert stated she has always agreed that the city needed two full time employees. Council Stutting stated she still thinks Foreman Rindler should be paid more. Woomert stated the city needed to stick to the original letter of intent that would allow Rindler a \$2.50/hour raise per certificate obtained. Council Wolfe stated once Rindler receives his certificates we can revisit it then. Council McDonough stated that she would like to keep the original wage for the Laborer Position and if there is a qualified candidate then we can discuss raising the wage. Woomert stated that she thinks \$20/hour is too low. Council Phares stated we can be the people to make a change in this city for our residents and our employees. All council members agreed on changing the laborer position to 40 hours per week at \$25/hour and extending the deadline till 10/31/2022. Rindler immediately asked for a closed session. Mayor Kernan asked Attorney Pastrnak if he could have one. Pastrnak stated in accordance with Iowa Code 21.5 and 21.9 Council was okay to approve his request with a 2/3 vote. All council agreed to a closed session however, Mayor Kernan asked council to complete the remainder of the agenda before entering closed session.

New Business:

Mayor Kernan introduced Denise Bulat with Bi-State. Bulat explained the process of the mitigation planning. Council looked over the proposed mitigation plan. Motion to approve proposed mitigation plan made by Stutting and seconded by Wolfe. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC.

Mayor Kernan introduced Larry Hand with Associated Insurance. Hand shared the current ICAP renewal plan. Council discussed the plan and had some questions. Motion to approve ICAP renewal with adjustments made to plan by removing the emergency siren, and well #2 the city no longer has and to reevaluate the Mack Fire Truck made by Stutting and seconded by Woomert. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC.

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion was made by Stutting to approve RESOLUTION 2022-17, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO MAKE THE APPROPRIATE INTERFUND TRANSFERS OF SUMS FOR FY 2022/23 FOR THE CITY OF PRINCETON, IOWA and seconded by Phares. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC

A motion was made by Stutting to approve RESOLUTION 2022-1, A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE RAISING SALARIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022/23 and seconded by Woomert. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC

A motion was made by Wolfe to approve RESOLUTION 2022-19, A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AMENDING THE CURRENT BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023 and seconded by Stutting. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC

A motion was made by Stutting to approve RESOLUTION 2022-20, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLOSING OF LOST GROVE ACRES ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2022 FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M and seconded by Phares. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Trails – Council McDonough stated the Princeton 5k raised over \$3,000 this year and she thanked the Princeton Fire Department and Police Department for their help keeping all runners safe. McDonough also shared there will be a meeting with the IDOT, Scott County engineers and Bi-State Regional Commission to discuss the TASA grant on November 16, 2022

Summerfest – Phares shared that the annual Summerfest poker run will be on 10/15/22. More information regarding the event is located on the Summerfest Facebook page.

Park – Wolfe shared Trick-or-Treat will be October 29, 2022, from 5-7 and there will be a costume contest and parade held at Old School Park sign ups start at 3:30. Wolfe also shared that Public Works Foreman Rindler planted a tree at Woomert Park that was donated by ICAP for being a long-time customer.

Community Protection – Woomert shared that the Princeton Fire Department had an open house on Tuesday. She shared that State Patrol Officer Runge, Princeton Police Chief Heyvaert, and Local DNR Officer Vanderbeek were all in attendance. Woomert also shared that State Patrol Officer also will be added to the emergency response team. The Princeton Fire Department and Princeton Police Department will be attending Virgil Grissom Elementary on Friday October 14 for fire prevention and safety week.

CLOSED SESSION:

At this time council Stutting made a motion to go into closed session at the request of Public Works Foreman Rindler PER IOWA STATE CODE 21.5 (1)(i). To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session.) and PER IOWA STATE CODE 21.9 A meeting of a governmental body to discuss strategy in matters relating to employment conditions of employees of the governmental body who are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement under chapter 20 is exempt from this chapter. For the purpose of this section, "employment conditions" mean areas included in the scope of negotiations listed in section 20.9. the motion was seconded by Wolfe. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC

Motion to reconvene into regular session was made by Stutting and seconded by Woomert. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC

At this time Mayor Kernan allowed participants back in, the only participant was Chief Heyvaert who then asked for a closed session of his own.

At this time council Stutting made a motion to go into closed session at the request of Princeton Police Chief Heyvaert PER IOWA STATE CODE 21.5 (1)(i). To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session.) and PER IOWA STATE CODE 21.9 A meeting of a governmental body to discuss strategy in matters relating to employment conditions of employees of the governmental body who are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement under chapter 20 is exempt from this chapter. For the purpose of this section, "employment conditions" mean areas included in the scope of negotiations listed in section 20.9. the motion was seconded by Woomert. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC

Motion to reconvene into regular session was made by Stutting and seconded by Woomert. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC

MAYOR AND COUNCIL CLOSING COMMENTS:

With nothing further to discuss Mayor Kernan adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Approved:

Kevin Kernan, Mayor

Attest:

Kisa Tweed, City Clerk/Treasurer