

CITY OF MISSOURI VALLEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
RAND COMMUNITY CENTER
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Mayor Pro-Tem Struble presided over the meeting and called it to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following Council Members present: Stueve, Keizer, Tuttle, and Taylor. Mayor Kelly was absent. Citizens attending were Jake Zimmerer, Jeannie Wortman, Evelyn Marshall, John Harrison, Mary Jo Buckley, Dakoda Tish, Shelby Keare, Shawn Olson, Jerry Keizer, Dekker Pfah, Brandie Bechen, Chelsey Buman, Jason Babcock, and Bruce Kocher.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion to approve Agenda for September 19, 2023, made by Tuttle, second by Keizer. Motion passes.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda a) Minutes from September 5, 2023, Council Meeting, b) Minutes from September 6, 2023, Park Board Meeting, c) Claims List, d) Financial Report for August 2023, e) Utility Reconciliation Report for August 2023, f) Department Reports, and g) Approval of Liquor License for Family Dollar 22740 made by Tuttle, second by Stueve. Motion passes.

There were no citizen inquiries.

Zimmerer updated the council on the 2022 Street Project. The goal is to get all the segments done this year.

Motion to approve Change Order #2 for a decrease of \$87,412.72 for a final contract price of \$557,594.78 made by Taylor, second by Tuttle. Motion passes.

Motion to approve Application for Payment #7 of \$9,662.12 made by Stueve, second by Tuttle. Motion passes.

Motion to approve and hold for 30 days Application for Payment #8 (Final) in the amount of \$27,879.74 made by Taylor, second by Stueve. Motion passes.

Motion to Accept Certificate of Substantial Completion made by Stueve, second by Taylor. Motion passes.

Motion to approve Resolution 23-35 awarding contract for the 2023 Water System Control Improvements Project made by Taylor, second by Tuttle. Motion passes.

Park Board Update: Buckley updated the Council on the picnic tables, new trash receptacles, tree donations, park brochures, and the humane society microchipping on October 1st.

People Service Update: Tish addressed the Council regarding the completion of the Sanitary Survey with DNR, change out of meters, water pressure issues at John Deere, completion of monthly sampling, and the monitoring of the lagoon.

Motion to allow Harrison County Public Health to use the City Park Access Road for the Drive-Thru Shot Clinic on October 11, 2023, from 10 a.m. to noon made by Taylor, second by Tuttle. Motion passes.

Motion to pass Resolution 23-34 Approving the Placement of the question “Shall the City of Missouri Valley, Iowa adopt proposed changes to its Library Board to require at least two trustees to be a resident of the city?” on the November 7, 2023, Ballot made by Stueve, second by Tuttle. Motion passes.

Motion to adopt 2nd reading of Ordinance 606 Amending Provisions Pertaining to Fiscal Management made by Stueve, second by Taylor. Motion passes.

Motion to adopt 2nd reading of Ordinance 607 Amending Provisions Pertaining to Liquor Licenses and Cigarette and Tobacco Permits made by Taylor, second by Tuttle. Motion passes.

Discussion was had on the lease of the soccer fields.

Pfah spoke on behalf of AYSO and the consequences of not re-signing the lease.

Bechen spoke as a parent and previous coach, about how difficult the AYSO system is. There is a fee to volunteer, payment is only accepted with cards, and again how difficult the site is to follow. She stated the past volunteers who ran the AYSO did a fantastic job and went above and beyond for the kids. She has never seen anyone from the actual AYSO foundation down at the field. Parents have never had a say in who oversees running the soccer program.

Keizer asked about the email Pfah sent out. It states “That an abrupt cancellation of the lease agreement would likely result in a civil dispute between AYSO and the City of Missouri Valley.” Pfah stated that AYSO recognizes the lease as a binding lease agreement, and abruptly canceling the lease with no notice would be a violation of the lease agreement and come with consequences.

Jerry Keizer spoke up and would like to know where the fiscal oversight is over AYSO. Where did the \$20,000 come from and what is it going to be used for?

Tuttle stated that there is now a third party interested, The YEA, in the soccer fields.

Taylor questioned Pfah, “If you received this email, would you take this as strong-arming or threats?” Pfah stated, “I felt like I had to cut through the chatter a little bit because this is not healthy, going back and forth.” Taylor stated that it was unprofessional. Pfah stated, “I thought it was important for the city to have a record of what the next steps will be if the lease was abruptly canceled. And that is not what I want.” Taylor feels like he is threatening the city.

Keizer questioned, “The city has to pay for a new building structure in a new location. Would you still be in Missouri Valley without the lease?” Pfah stated, “I want the kids to have soccer in Missouri Valley. So, if there is an interruption in soccer, we are going to open more soccer fields.”

Stueve questioned, “Where would you open more soccer fields?” Pfah replied, “I am hoping not to look. That is not what I want. I want to retain a positive relationship with the city.”

Taylor asked, “Is threatening the city the best way to do that? Threats and intimidation, I would say grab your stuff and good day. I do not like this.” Pfah replied, “I apologize if you saw it that way. We felt it was important for the City Council to be aware before making any drastic decisions.” Taylor responded, “Sometimes when you push someone into a corner, you may not

get the results you wanted.”

Babcock spoke up saying, “That since Pfah has been in charge, he has strong-armed everyone in the region. The only reason anyone ever looked to get away from AYSO is strictly because of the leadership of Pfah. He has been belligerent the entire time he has been involved with our region. That is all I have.” Tuttle stated he would like to hear from more parents and would like to invite them to the next meeting.

Harrison stated, “I am a bit confused by the AYSO response. I was under the impression at the last Council meeting, that when we set this meeting, we were going to discuss the lease and make a decision on how to move forward with the lease, or whatever the lease is. I assumed that Pfah and AYSO would be okay with whatever decision the Council decided to make.”

Babcock stated, “I have a U14 soccer team here in Missouri Valley. I am really proud of these girls and they do a great job. But, right now we have no place to even practice soccer. They won’t even let us on our fields. They told us through their lawyer that we can’t be down there. We practice wherever we can.”

“Is that true?” questioned Taylor. Pfah replied, “No we never told them that.” Taylor questioned if they would be okay with them going down there to practice then. Pfah said yes, it is considered a public park when they are not using it. Taylor stated that he doesn’t think a decision can be made at this point with the current lease in place.

Tuttle wants to hear from parents with kids enrolled in AYSO and would like to hear from YEA on their proposal.

Stueve motioned to table the lease of soccer fields until the October 3rd meeting, second by Taylor. Motion passes.

Tuttle asked how Bonham was doing at the cemetery. Colglazier stated that she has received no complaints. She did receive several compliments over Memorial Day weekend for his work.

Keizer questioned how long the dumpster would be there on Main Street.

Stueve stated that the citizens of Missouri Valley need to pay attention to the mowing of their yards. She feels after two notices they should receive a fine if they still do not mow. Tuttle questioned Harrison if there was a list of city-owned properties and houses that we mow. Harrison has a list of vacant properties in the city.

There were no City Administrator comments.

Motion to adjourn made by Taylor, second by Stueve. Motion passes.

Sherman Struble, Mayor Pro-Tem

Attest: _____
Turri Colglazier, City Administrator