

The City Council of Gilbertville, Iowa met in Regular Session on Monday, May 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall with Mayor Fischels calling the meeting to order. Council members present: Meinert, Becker, Kavalier and Thome. Savage was absent. Quorum present.

Rita Becker gave the invocation and Mayor Fischels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge
of Allegiance

Motion by Thome, seconded by Meinert to approve the May 20, 2013 regular session agenda. Ayes - Four. Motion carried.

Approve
Agenda

Motion by Becker, seconded by Meinert to approve the following items listed on the consent agenda: 1) Minutes of the May 6, 2013 regular meeting; 2) Resolution 2013-849 authorizing payment of bills; and 3) Clerk/Treasurer report for the month of April, 2013; 4) Cigarette Permit Casey's marketing Co. /DBA Casey's general Store #2900; 5) Class C Beer/Class B Wine License BC29585. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Consent
Agenda

Public Comment: Mary Weber if the city had a plan or timeline for spraying city parks for weeds. Public Works Director (PWD) will get a quote for spraying Schmitt Park, City Park, and the water tower land for the next meeting. Mary Weber questioned what happened to the website and what the quote for GovOffice was. Clerk Adamson explained that GovOffice is used by many cities. They host the web site, provide support and are user friendly.

Public Comment

BUSINESS : Thome commented that he had contacted Sheriff Thompson and asked him to come to the meeting to answer questions and discuss options for contracting with Black Hawk County Sheriff's Department for additional police coverage. At the last meeting several citizens were concerned with suspicious people driving and jogging around town and wanted more police coverage. He explained that since the city has only one officer that works forty (40) hours per week twenty-four (24) hour coverage is not available and people have expressed interest in having an officer on duty more often. He is not looking to replace Chief Northland but for additional coverage. The budget for next year includes funds for part-time help. Becker asked Sheriff Thompson what the options would be. Sheriff Thompson handed out an informational sheet for potential consideration of law enforcement coverage. The information included call volume in the city and which department handles the call. He prepared the information similar to what they do in other cities. They do ad hoc patrolling as opposed to set hour patrolling. Ad hoc is patrol based on citizen complaints and concerns and past history of problems and does not have a set time. Since they are able to dictate the patrol time there is a lot of flexibility in how the expenses are controlled. He explained that if they stop someone for a violation they are treated the same. Thome stated one of the concerns he has heard it that the Sheriff's Department would sit outside the bars to issue DWIs and questioned if this is something they do. Sheriff Thompson stated with their call volume they don't have the luxury of sitting outside of bars anywhere. They triage calls and respond as best they can and do as much proactive and presence patrolling as possible. A staff of twenty (20) patrol officers and maximum of five (5) and minimum of three (3) officers are on duty at any given time. Becker questioned if he knew the breakdown of the sixty seven (67) calls they responded to in the last year were. Sheriff Thompson explained they are calls for service from the dispatch center and guesses 90% are law enforcement and there would be some medical. Meinert stated that they respond to 1st Responder calls and provide assistance. Kavalier stated he had been told that once you get another department in they can tell you any price and you would have to pay it. He asked what the increases have been in the past. Sheriff Thompson explained that every year a contract is done with contract cities and in the five (5) years he has been in office there has been a one (1) time increase of three percent (3%). They only want to offset expenses and aren't out to make money on it. He stated he was confident they could pick up Gilbertville today and not have any problems unless Gilbertville requested set hours. If an officer was needed for activities such as: homecoming or prom that would have to be incorporated into the coverage plan. These would be taken into account in the weekly hours. Currently Elk Run Heights and Raymond contract for twenty (20) hours per week and he believes they get closer to forty (40) hours per week because they are closer and it is easy to cruise through on their way to something else and they have a lot of exposure with Deputies living in those areas. It gives the ability to have exposure that is not counted against. Gilbertville would be similar to this unless they have set times coverage is requested. Gilbertville is already getting emergency coverage for free. Mayor Fischels stated that citizen's pay county taxes which pay for the coverage. He is opposed to having set hours and feels it is a waste of money. There is a lot of traffic before and after school but only for a short period of time. Becker stated the Chief does not have set hours because council wants him to flex his hours and he believes that is the way to do it and if the city contracts with them he would want Ad Hoc hours. Thompson stated there are several unmarked cars so many times citizens will not realize they are in town. Kavalier questioned if overtime hours would be charged. Sheriff Thompson stated no overtime is charged, everything is incorporated into the contract. Kavalier questioned if tickets would be written under city, county or state code. Sheriff Thompson stated it would be city because the city receives eighty five percent (85%) of the fine and in the county they write state only. Kavalier stated when he first took office the city was taking in

Black Hawk
County Sheriff

about \$3,400 a year in ticket revenue and now we are down to \$800 or less and he doesn't know what is going on and just wondered what they would write under. Thompson stated he would caution him because tickets are not about revenue they are written to modify behavior. Kavalier stated in the last nine (9) years we have gotten more traffic especially with the construction on the interstate and if they are speeding they need to be ticketed. Chief Northland questioned if he has a case like a stolen vehicle is that something the investigators would take or would he be primarily on that. A lot of this came up because a few months ago he had a lot of cases and was unable to patrol. Thompson stated they would still encourage you to take what you can like it is now and they will always support you with assistance. When a call for service comes and the Chief is not on duty they respond and primarily take care of the case. Meinert stated she thinks what Chief Northland was questioning if the investigations could be turned over to County so he could patrol. Sheriff Thompson stated normally the first person to respond handles the case. Kavalier questioned if a speeding ticket were written and the person fought it would the court time be deducted from the hours. Sheriff Thompson stated no the city would be paying for coverage hours. The coverage is supplied when statistics show it is most needed. Kavalier asked if a log would be provided. Sheriff Thompson stated three (3) logs are supplied and one is calls for service. Dan Wagner asked why the city would pay for a service they are already being supplied and not hire a part time person to cover some hours. Thome stated it is difficult to hire someone and pay them a reasonable rate. You use to be able to get Hawkeye Community College students but the rules have changed and you can't do that anymore. Mayor Fischels stated the \$13,000 budgeted will not go very far. Chief Northland stated he requested part time help for sixteen (16) hours to include two (2) four (4) hour shifts during the week and one (1) eight (8) hour shift on the weekend. During the winter not as much is going on so we probably wouldn't need them as much. He budgeted for a starting pay of \$12.50 per hour. He talked to Savage and another idea was to offer to put a Hawkeye graduate through the academy and have them sign a five (5) year contract. Thome and Becker stated they think it would be hard to find someone for \$12.50 per hour. Captain Abben stated it would cost approximately \$5,000 to put someone through the Academy. Becker stated we were trying to get some ideas and data and the council will have to look things over and review options. Meinert shared the cost estimates with the people in attendance. Sheriff Thompson stated they are available to support in any way they can and he is happy to supply any other information that is needed.

Clerk Adamson explained a bid opening had been held earlier in the day for the first three (3) projects in the Housing Rehabilitation Program. Motion by Thome, seconded by Meinert to approve Tojo Construction for project one (1). Roll call vote. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Resolution
2013-850 rehab
project 1

Motion by Becker, seconded by Kavalier to approve C & R Construction for project two (2). Roll call vote. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Resolution
2013-851 rehab
project 2

Motion by Meinert, seconded by Thome to approve French Construction for project three (3). Roll call vote. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Resolution
2013-852 rehab
project 3

Motion by Thome, seconded by Becker to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.5 (j) to discuss the purchase of real-estate at 7:49 p.m. Ayes – Four. Motion carried. Closed session was held. Motion by Thome, seconded by Meinert to return to open session at 8:20 p.m. Ayes – Four. Motion carried. No action was taken.

Closed session
real-estate
purchase

Motion by Becker, seconded by Thome to approve Resolution 2013-848 setting pay for city employees to include a 3% increase to take effect July 1, 2013 with the stipulation that reviews must be completed. Roll call vote. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Resolution
2013-848
Setting pay

Discussion was held on Ordinance 272 amending city code chapter 92 water rates and Ordinance 273 amending city code chapter 93 sewer rates. Currently the rate increases ten percent (10%) July 1st of each year. Thome stated that in 2007 the water rate was \$7.66 for minimum usage and July 1st it will be \$11.22 which is a large increase. Over five (5) years it is approximately a sixty percent (60%) increase. Becker stated he is not in favor of an automatic increase but he would like to wait to see if a new well needs to be dug and what other repairs need to be made. Mayor Fischels stated the city has been proactive in keeping utilities maintained and that the TIF has been beneficial in helping to pay for improvements. He is not in favor of an automatic increase and believes Council should review the rates each year. Meinert stated many people are on fixed incomes and can't afford the increases and when a project needs to be completed the city will bond for it. Thome stated he receives complaints all the time about the rates and questioned if anyone else does. Everyone agreed they receive complaints. Motion by Becker, seconded by Kavalier to table Ordinance 272 and Ordinance 273 amending water and sewer rates. Ayes – Four. Motioned carried.

Ord 272 & 273

Clerk Adamson explained that a letter was received from the Election Office with questions regarding what the city plans to do with local option tax. The local option tax will be included on the November 5, 2013 City Elections. Currently the city allocates fifty percent (50%) to property tax relief, twenty-five percent (25%) to street and twenty-five (25%) to sewer. Motion by Becker,

Local
Option tax

seconded by Meinert to approve the current allocations and to remain on the repeal date as Black Hawk County. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Motion by Thome, seconded by Kavalier to approve Resolution 2013-853 setting June 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. as a date for a public hearing on a general obligation corporate purpose and refunding loan agreement in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,100,000. Roll call vote. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Res 2013-853
setting
Public hearing
date

Motion by Becker, seconded by Thome to approve Resolution 2013-854 adopting and approving Tax Compliance Procedures Relating to Tax-Exempt Bonds. Roll call vote. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Res 2013-854
approving tax
compliance
procedures

Department Head Updates:

Police Chief Northland reported he is still working on identity theft case and had an accident that resulted in multiple tickets. He issued a ticket on Fenton Rd. and informed a few residents that live there he will be ticketing speeders and that the Council talked about installing speed bumps or stop signs. The gutters were taken down when the steel was put on the police building and he asked if he should get a bid to have them replaced. Council instructed him to get a bid and proceed with the low bid. PWD Delagardelle reported they have been replacing the street sign names with signs that are reflective and have larger lettering. Miller fencing will be sending him a bid for the fence and backstop at the ball diamonds. Well #3 is back in service. Engineer Claassen is talking to the chemical supplier regarding treating the well. He is working with the DNR on the waste-treatment plant. The rain received in the last few months is supplying the readings the DNR needed. He is reviewing the tapes on the sewer lining project. Thome asked about the curb and gutter installation by Ramakers. PWD Delagardelle stated the Engineer is working on the plans. He will be inspecting sidewalks and if he finds areas that have problems with he will have a few members of the Council inspect it. Letters were sent to remind pool owners they need to ensure they are in compliance before putting their pool in use.

Department
Head update

Motion by Thome, seconded by Meinert to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Adjourn

Harry Fischels, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Teresa Adamson, MMC