

The Sheldon City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. Mayor Katricia Meendering called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Present: Ron Rensink, Randy Fonkert, Brad Hindt, and Greg Geels. Absent: Zach Sawyer. Also present: Scott Wynja, Curt Strouth, Todd Uhl, Micah Schreurs, Lyle Bolkema, and Angela Beckman.

Public Comments: Don Schultz of 1400 Railroad Avenue read a letter to the Mayor and Council that he and his wife Marietta had written. He stated that they would like to be placed on the 10/21/15 agenda, so that they can have the opportunity to address the Council on the issues they have with their property. He added that he expects a letter from the Mayor confirming that they will be on the agenda for 10/21/15, or an explanation of why they are not.

A motion was made by Rensink and seconded by Fonkert to approve the consent agenda with the following items:

- a. Minutes of September 16, 2015.
- b. Summary List of Claims, including additional claims as presented.
- c. Approval of the 2014-2015 Annual Finance Report.

Roll call was taken. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Barry Whitsell with Village Northwest Unlimited presented the Council with a proclamation declaring October Disability Employment Awareness Month. He stated the importance of employment for people with disabilities. There are currently 45 businesses that employ people with disabilities in Sheldon. A motion was made by Geels and seconded by Fonkert to approve the Disability Employment Awareness Month Proclamation for the month of October. Roll call was taken. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

The Council did not receive a request from the Sheldon Community School District, therefore no action was taken.

Jacob Kerr, Sheldon Recreation Director presented the revenue for the outdoor aquatic center this past year, compared to the prior 7 years. He also reported the participant number for the recreation programs.

A motion was made by Rensink and seconded by Hindt to approve a water main easement with the Sheldon Chamber & Development Corporation (SCDC) for their property adjacent to Country Club Road. Roll call was taken. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Geels and seconded by Fonkert to approve a storm sewer easement with the O'Brien County Implement in Runger Addition. Roll call was taken. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

The City has received the results of the Operational & Marketing Study for the Events Center. Wynja reviewed the study. This study was a comparison of the area venues, along with the projected revenue/expense based on population, income, etc... This study projects that the Event Center would operate at a loss of approximately \$103,000 per year. Geels asked how this compares to our Aquatic Center? Wynja stated that our Aquatic Center operates at approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000 loss per year. Fonkert expressed concern over our aging community, and trying to retain the younger generation, also that the median income is considerably low. Rensink stated that he feels the estimates on revenues were conservative on this companies behalf, and also on the expenses. He feels the study is low on the expenditures specifically if the City runs it and hires a full time person with benefits. After discussion it was the consensus of the Council to pursue the Vision Iowa/CAT grant for funds, and continue discussions on the operations of the facility.

Due to a change in the financial information, the Resolution of Support on the Vision Iowa/CAT Grant has been brought back to the City Council. At this time, \$213,250 have been pledged by outside sources. We are applying for \$1,325,000 grant, making the local portion \$3,761,750. If the City should get more money pledged to them after the grant application has been submitted, we can contact Vision Iowa and update them on those dollar amounts. A motion was made by Rensink and seconded by Geels to approve Resolution R15-4186 A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHELDON, IOWA, COMMITTING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE SHELDON CROSSING EVENTS CENTER PROJECT. Roll call was taken. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rensink and seconded by Hindt to approve the proposal from the Institute of Public Affairs to provide goal-setting services for the City of Sheldon and the SCDC in the amount of \$2,250 plus reimbursement of direct costs, split evenly. Roll call was taken. Ayes, all. Motion carried. The goal setting session is tentatively set for December 8, 2015.

Staff Comments: Bolkema stated that they have their new police vehicle, so they will be liquidating a 2009 Crown Victoria with approximately 100,000 miles. Wynja also presented the Community All Star Award that the City and Sheldon School District received from the Iowa League of Cities.

Council Comments: None.

A motion was made by Hindt and seconded by Fonkert to adjourn at 5:17 p.m. Roll call was taken. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Angela Beckman, City Clerk