

**Minutes of the Walker City Council  
Monday, March 14, 2022  
Walker City Council Chambers**

Mayor Bamrick called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Council Present: Paul Nielsen, John Pint, Jessica Hammerand, and Rob Dunn. Absent: Dianna Thorp.

Others Present: Mona Blair, Kathryn Joyce, Jim Meisheid, Cindy Schmitz, Vernon Schmitz, Louie Zumbach, Cody Voss, Becky Shoop, Gayle Reiersen, Greg Reiersen, Rozena McVey, Mike Becker, Will Sherbon, and Kevin Shoop.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Bamrick.

Motion/Second by Pint/Nielsen to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the following: 3-14-22 agenda, 2-14-22 minutes, accounts payable, February payroll reports, and Kula's liquor license renewal. 4 ayes, 1 absent, motion carried.

Public Hearing – FY23 Budget: Opened at 7:05 pm. The clerk did not receive any verbal or written comments. No citizens present with questions or comments. Closed at 7:06 pm.

Linn County Sheriff's Report: We contract for 14 hours per week. They have exceeded the required hours for the last month.

Mayor: One building permit was issued.

Clerk: Written report is available at City Hall. The February gross payroll was \$10,702.54. The balance on February 28, 2022, was \$1,363,424.63.

Public Works Technician: Written report is available at City Hall.

Fire Dept: There were 4 calls for service last month. They are updating the department by-laws and they will refer to council for approval when complete. Truck #300 had an air brake issue and has been repaired. The firefighter one class is still in progress with 12 students, and they are continuing to work on the memorial building.

Council/Committee Reports: Council member Pint presented the "Best Tasting Water in Iowa" award to the council. Thank you to public works technician Kevin Shoop for all of the excellent work he does with our water and wastewater systems.

Lou Zumbach, Linn County Supervisor: Supervisor Zumbach congratulated Kevin Shoop and the town on the "Best Tasting Water in Iowa" award. Also, congratulations were extended to Connie Helms as being named the "2021 City Clerk of the year". He provided updates on the grant money that will soon be available from the Derecho grant the county is getting as well as the American Rescue Plan grant program though Linn County. Another item of mention is that Linn County has the second lowest tax rate of the highest populated counties in Iowa.

Open Forum: Rozena McVey wanted to express her congratulations as well on the awards recently won at the Iowa Rural Water Conference by Kevin and Connie. They are both exceptionally good employees, and we are lucky to have them. Mike Becker from East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative explained to the council that we will soon be able to contest the internet speeds we are getting in Walker. We would need citizens of Walker to do speed tests and relay that information to him. He provided a copy of a letter we could use as a sample to send to citizens asking them to do this for us. This would help East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative to obtain grants from the state that are available to bring fiber-to-the-home in Walker. If they can get assistance with grants, there would be no cost to the citizens for the installation. They would only pay if they chose to contract with them for internet services.

New Business:

Motion/Second by Dunn/Nielsen to approve Resolution 2022-7 – Resolution Approving the City of Walker FY23 Budget. Roll call vote: ayes: Hammerand, Pint, Nielsen, Dunn. Absent: Thorp. Motion carried.

Motion/Second by Dunn/Pint to waive the water and sewer connection requirements for the building at 119 Greene St. The building will house equipment and electronic components only. 4 ayes, 1 vacant, motion carried. Connie was instructed to work on updating Chapter 90 & 95 to make them clearer on this as they are very vague.

Abbie Wells has expressed an interest in filling the vacant position on the Board of Adjustments. Mayor Bamrick appointed Abbie Wells to fill the position for a 5-year term.

Greg and Gayle Reiersen from the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary submitted a proposal for a used flag receptacle memorial for Evelyn Oldridge. Council and Mayor Barrick like the idea and this will be referred to the Planning and Zoning Commission for their review and recommendation.

The Hustler rear discharge mower is 6 years old and has 700 hours on it. We try to keep the equipment updated and maintained, and because of the amount of mowing the city does, it is time to update that mower. Two quotes for lawn mowers were presented and discussed. Connie was instructed to put the Hustler mower on the public surplus website for sale and then we can look at bids for approval at the next meeting.

Motion/Second by Nielsen/Hammerand to go into closed session per Code of Iowa Section 21.5(i) – Considerations of sale of property at 408 Rowley St. 4 ayes, 1 vacant, motion carried.

Motion/Second by Dunn/Nielsen to come out of closed session. 4 ayes, 1 vacant, motion carried.

Motion/Second by Hammerand/Pint to adjourn at 8:04

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 11, 2022, at 7 pm at the Walker City Council Chambers.

Bills Approved:

Bank of America, software fees,  
supplies.....\$1,277.89  
Casey's Business MasterCard,  
gasoline.....\$287.48  
Coleman Welding, snowplow  
brackets.....\$132.18  
HR Green, engineering.....\$1,000.00  
Linn Co-op Oil, diesel.....\$760.50  
Simmering-Cory, codification.....\$105.00  
Alliant Energy, utilities.....\$7,705.23  
Connie Helms, reimburse for hotel  
room/conference.....\$523.89  
Fire Service Training Bureau,  
training.....\$250.00  
Hawkeye Electric CR, wi-fi for  
generator.....\$69.00  
Hawkins, chlorine.....\$205.20  
Office of Auditor of State, periodic exam  
fee.....\$1,500.00  
IMFOA, annual membership.....\$50.00  
IRS, February federal payroll withholding  
tax.....\$2,657.44  
IPERS, February contributions.....\$1,581.87  
Treasurer, State of Iowa, February water  
excise tax payment.....\$761.72  
Computer Troubleshooters, IT  
agreement & website.....\$445.00  
Badger Meter, BEACON Mobile Hosting  
services.....\$20.16  
Builder's FirstSource, supplies for  
concession stand roof.....\$513.98  
Eurofins dba Test America, water  
testing.....\$1,038.45  
Gazette Communications,  
publications.....\$300.46  
HR Green, engineering.....\$2,080.50  
Iowa Prison Industries, 2022 Golf  
cart stickers.....\$48.16  
McDowell Truck & Auto Repair,  
repair/service.....\$756.75  
Menards, push broom, wall mount  
opener.....\$426.48

Office Depot, supplies.....\$20.29  
Woodward Community Media,  
Intern ad.....\$9.01  
Michael Moore, refund deposit.....\$75.00  
Rudd Sanitation, February 2022  
garbage contract.....\$3,813.50  
Sherbon Construction, concession stand  
roof.....\$3,537.00  
Lease Consultants Corp., April copier  
lease.....\$98.10  
McCright Agency, bond on 1950  
Fire truck.....\$100.00  
Windstream, telephone/internet.....\$670.52  
Hygienic Lab, water testing.....\$13.50  
Menards, hook & eye, supplies for  
concession stand roof.....\$206.58  
McCright Agency, annual renewal property insurance  
and worker's compensation.....\$42,367.00  
TOTAL: \$75,407.84

Revenues for February 2022: General Fund \$6,839.40; Fire Equipment Fund \$1.29; Road Use Fund \$7,569.87; RE Taxes – Employee Benefits Fund \$27.07; RE Taxes – Emergency Levy Fund \$15.02; American Rescue Plan Funds \$2.10; Local Option Sales Tax Fund \$17.51; Debt Service Fund \$98,941.30; Water Projects – Restricted Fund \$25,003.50; Sewer Projects – Restricted Fund \$.12; Streets Project – Restricted Fund \$2.94; Water Fund \$14,064.12; W/S Deposits Fund \$300.48; Water Sinking Fund \$4,847.60; Sewer Fund \$23,174.49; Sewer Sinking Fund \$9,964.77; Garbage Fund \$3,670.23. TOTAL \$194,441.81.

Expenditures for February 2022: General Fund \$21,372.69; Road Use Fund \$7,086.54; Local Option Sales Tax \$64,221.00; Water Fund \$43,590.82; Sewer Fund \$37,372.58; Garbage Fund \$3,799.00. TOTAL \$177,442.63.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Helms, Finance Director, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved by:

Cole Bamrick, Mayor