

**Earlham City Council Meeting  
October 12, 2020**

The Earlham City Council met in regular session, held electronically via Zoom, on Monday, October 12, 2020. Mayor Lillie called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and the following answered roll: Baskin, Fredericksen, Payne, Petersen. Absent: Swalla. Also present: Police Chief Heimdal, Public Works Supervisor Coffman, and Clerk Hibbs.

1. Approval of Agenda

**Motion by Fredericksen, second by Baskin, to approve agenda.**

**Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.**

2. Public Forum – none.

3. Consent Agenda:

- a. Council meeting minutes for September 14, & October 7, 2020
- b. Treasurer's Report as of September 30, 2020
- c. Claims and Receipts Report for October 10, 2020
- d. Liquor license for West Side Bar & Grille
- e. Approve FY20 Annual Urban Renewal Report
- f. Consider approval of Pay App #6 for Water Tower Project
- g. Consider approval of Resolution No. 20-38 Approving Wages for New Earlham Police Officer.
- h. Consider approval of Resolution No. 20-41 Approving Application for Tax Abatement on 300 NE Oak Avenue, Earlham, Iowa.
- i. Consider approval of Resolution No 20-42 Removing Chris Swalla From the List of Signatories at the Earlham Savings Bank for the City of Earlham.
- j. Consider approval of Resolution No. 20-43 Naming Mayor ProTem Scott Petersen as a Signatory at the Earlham Savings Bank for the City of Earlham, Iowa.

**Motion by Baskin, second by Payne, to approve consent agenda.**

**Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.**

4. Boards, Commission, Committee Reports

Public Safety Committee: Reserve Officer Program. Chairperson Payne said Chris Reha, a reserve officer, from Stuart, was present at the meeting and spoke about the program. Reha said reserve officers can do anything a certified officer can do except implied consent for OWI, in which case a certified officer must be called. The reserve office must be able to be in phone contact with certified officer at all times. Payne explained the city may have to purchase some equipment. If we obtain our own reserve officer, the City is responsible for training expenses. Training is basically the same as for a certified officer, except it is held in night courses and over a longer period of time. According to state code, the reserve officer must work at least one 8-hour shift a month. Council discussed paying the same as we currently pay for a part-time officer. Consensus of council is to approve this concept. Council directed Hibbs to hash out details in either a resolution, or ordinance, whichever is needed, and have it ready for next regularly scheduled council meeting.

Golf carts, ATVs, UTVs. Payne said at the last Public Safety Committee meeting, a discussion was held on possible loopholes in the ordinance. Committee wanted to make sure there was substance to stand on. Also discussed penalty. Was decided to leave penalty at \$50 for permit holders with subsequent consequences for each violation. Non-permit violators will also pay \$50 plus court costs, plus possible impoundment following Magistrate Court. At officer discretion, vehicle with no permit must be parked where it was pulled over and must be towed home, until a permit is purchased. Payne said some form of notification to vehicle owners will be used to make them aware of ordinance. He also mentioned when they register for the permit, they must sign a copy of the ordinance to acknowledge they have read the regulations. The annual permit will run from March 1 to February 28. Since the ordinance would be passed prior to March 1, 2021, the first year permit will cover January 1, 2021 to February 28, 2022.

5. Department Reports

- a. Public Works - Gary Coffman, Public Works Supervisor  
Regular mowing, trimming, spraying at cemetery. Starting to pick up leaves. Crane came in to assist in tree storm damage. Took longer than they thought and had to order crane for another day. Had to order two new front tires for the street sweeper. Took 4-man hours to clean up the park after Homecoming. Went and looked at DeSoto's lagoons. They installed heaters to get rid of ammonia, but haven't had to use them yet due to their set up. We will consider this when we do our lagoon project. Water tower painting is complete. Electric will be hooked up next week, and asphalt grinding and work in the next two weeks, then fence, and done. Should be done about 2-3 weeks ahead of schedule.
- b. Police Department – Chief Jason Heimdahl  
Sesquicentennial parade and street dance had no issues. Crowds were not as big, possibly due to change of date and/or Covid. Purchased new tires for Explorer. Chief said the other certified officer who applied for our last job opening, would like to work part-time as needed. Consensus of council was to okay this. Mayor agreed.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Consider approval of First Reading of Ordinance No. 423 Amending The Earlham Code Of Ordinances By Removing Chapter 75 All-Terrain Vehicles And Snowmobiles, And Replacing It With Chapter 75 Golf Carts, ATVs, UTVs, And Snowmobiles  
**Motion by Payne, second by Baskin, to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 423 Amending The Earlham Code Of Ordinances By Removing Chapter 75 All-Terrain Vehicles And Snowmobiles, And Replacing It With Chapter 75 Golf Carts, ATVs, UTVs, And Snowmobiles.**  
**Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.**

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider approval of Reserve Officer Program  
**Motion by Petersen, second by Baskin to approve a instituting a Reserve Officer Program, with particulars to be worked out for next month's meeting.**  
**Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.**
- b. Fire Chief Boyle - Discussion noon whistle repair; introduction of 3 new nationally certified firefighters – Chief Boyle unable to join virtual meeting. Hibbs explained he was able to find someone to fix the noon whistle. She though the price was under \$100. Consensus of Council is to approve repair. If the actual estimate is higher, and if they so desire, the Public Safety Committee can set up a meeting to discuss the cost.
- c. Consider approval of request for sewer credit for 550 NE Cherry Avenue,  
Coffman said resident called him when they realized they had left hose on. UB Clerk Amsden said the sewer credit, based on average usage, would be \$73.12.  
**Motion by Fredericksen, second by Baskin, to approve request for sewer credit for 550 NE Cherry Avenue, in the amount of \$73.12.**  
**Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.**
- d. Consider approval of request for sewer credit for 550 NW 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Coffman said he spoke with resident who said they did not use 30,700 gallons and felt it was a faulty meter. Coffman took a new meter and hooked it up side-by-side with the old one for several days and they both registered the same amount of usage. Resident said they did not water grass, etc. Coffman stated resident cannot prove water did not go down sewer. Council wanted some more information – last read, new read, approximate monthly average, and based on averages, what the amount of possible sewer credit would be. Council will defer to Mayor and UB Clerk recommendation after reviewing this information.  
**Motion by Fredericksen, second by Petersen, to approve request for sewer credit for 550 NW 5<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.**

- e. Alissa Johnson – Madison County Heart & Soul - unable to return. Will plan to be at November council meeting.
- 8. Mayor’s Report – none. The commission meetings he usually attends, have been virtual.
- 9. Clerk’s Report – none.
- 10. Council comments/discussion - none
- 11. Adjourn  
**Motion by Payne, second by Fredericksen, to adjourn.**  
**Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.**

Being there is no further business, meeting was adjourned at 8.01 p.m.

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Jeff Lillie, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Sue Hibbs, Clerk/Treasurer