

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
Earlham City Council Meeting
August 9, 2021

The Earlham City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 9, 2021, at Earlham City Hall. Mayor Lillie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the following answered roll: Baskin, Frederickson, Payne, Petersen. Absent: Swalla. Also present: Clerk Hibbs, Public Works Supervision Coffman, Officer Stringham.

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Frederickson, second by Baskin, to approve the agenda.

Roll: Ayes - unanimous. Motion passes

2. Public Forum

- Tom Lenner from the Madison County Development Association presented information to the council on the internet speed study which was recently done. He also spoke briefly on the revolving fund loans available.
- Nancy Cassidy, 340 NW 3rd Street, explained she does not have a drivers license due to medical condition. She cannot use Golf Cart, ATV or UTV since they require a drivers license. She requested to be able to have a horse in town. Mayor explained livestock are not allowed per Code. Officer Stringham suggested a mobility scooter. She then asked about battery powered vehicle that does not require license. Stringham told her to bring in information on this vehicle so he can see what it is.
- Bruce Kolbert, 325 NE Plum, spoke regarding upcoming sidewalk work. He explained the old sidewalk project, where only about half of the sidewalks were put in. He feels this should be restarted and completed, and mentioned “trippers” should be repaired. He also spoke about weeds in the alleys downtown.
- Carlie Cassidy requested more stop signs in town.

3. Consent Agenda:

- a. Council meeting minutes for 7-12-21
- b. Treasurer’s Report for 8-9-21
- c. Claims and Receipts Report for 8-9-21
- d. Consider approval to appoint Russell Dobbins to the Earlham Planning & Zoning Commission, term ending 6-30-26.
- e. Consider approval to appoint Tim Nelsen to the Earlham Planning & Zoning Commission, filling a vacant term which ends 6-30-23.
- f. Consider approval to appoint Sue Ramsey to the Earlham Planning & Zoning Commission, filling a vacant term which ends 6-30-25.
- g. Consider approval of Resolution No. 21-35 Authorizing Transfer of Funds to Correct FY21 Accounting Errors.
- h. Consider approval of Resolution No. 21-36 Amending Resolution No 19-24 Approving Building Permit Fees in the City of Earlham, Iowa

Motion by Petersen, second by Baskin, to approve the consent agenda, with Resolution No. 21-36, item h, being amended to state “sheds not exceeding 144 sq. ft.”

Roll: Ayes - unanimous. Motion passes.

4. Boards, Commission, Committee Report

a. Street Committee

Chairperson Baskin report the Committee met on July 28th, and discussed removal of dead or dying trees due to emerald ash bore. He stated Hibbs and Coffman looked for grants to help with the financing of this project, but none were found. There are roughly 90 trees to be removed at approximately \$1,000 per tree. He mentioned we still need to keep up on other trees. He said we will try to take down the most risky trees first. Mayor said we should just go ahead and take them down, and do a budget amendment later. Consensus of Council agreed. Coffman will walk the sidewalks to mark the heaving sidewalks and trippers by December 2021. Baskin mentioned two sides of City Park do not have sidewalks. The sidewalk program needs to be revived. Madison County Hospital has requested to reserve parking space(s) in front of the Earlham Medical Clinic. After a lengthy discussion, no action was taken.

5. Department Reports

a. Public Works - Gary Coffman, Public Works Supervisor

Normal monthly pool, mowing, etc. While mowing Gendler, the back-wing broke. Beavers are blocking the up the west pond again. Fixed the Community Building floor cleaner. Adel Tree has been in town cutting trees and grinding stumps. Columbarium has been placed and the light is working. Discussion on rates. Will have a Finance Committee meeting Monday August 16th at 7:00 p.m. to discuss further. The oodle swing has been installed in the park including 5 truckloads of wood chips.

b. Police Department

Officer Stringham stated there were no issues at the Street Dance or Freedom Fest. Chief Heimdal led the softball team out of town for the state tournament. Purchased new batteries for their AED. Matt's car has been to Stivers two times because it is shifting hard. Still having problems. Reported there were no fireworks complaints. He stated he made a note about the weeds.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. Consider approval of Resolution No 21-34 Adopting the Marketing Agreement Between Utility Service Partners Private Label, Inc. d/b/a/Service Line Warranties of America and the City of Earlham, Iowa.

Motion by Petersen, second by Payne, to approve Resolution No 21-34 Adopting the Marketing Agreement Between Utility Service Partners Private Label, Inc. d/b/a/Service Line Warranties of America and the City of Earlham, Iowa.

Roll: Ayes - unanimous. Motion passes.

b. Consider approval of signage for new school bus pick up proposal - Jason Hamann, Principal, ECSD
ECSD Principal Jason Hamann presented diagram with proposed plan show parent flow and bus parking. Asking for No Parking signs for the north side of NW 4th from NW Locust to N Chestnut stating no parking during school hours.

Motion by Fredericksen, second by Baskin, to recommend drafting of a resolution to approve placement of no parking signs on the north side of NW 4th Street from NW Locust to N Chestnut.

Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Consider approval of motion for bike ride event fundraiser for children's bike helmets - Amy Hopkins
Created a non-profit, Lidz for Kidz. Want to setup an free event on Sept 18, 2021, to raise money through facebook, friends, word of mouth for donation to buy bike helmets for all children in town. At the events they will give helmets away, get them fitted, talk about bike safety and go on ride. Chicks with Check sponsoring the first \$500. Will finalize route with Chief Heimdal. It will not be long route. Event will be 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. Consensus of council was to approve event.

b. Discussion on Lagoon Project funding - Travis Squires with Piper Sandler

Squires gave a quick briefing funding before bidding process begins. This project split into two parts. Now is a difficult bidding environment. The budget has increased from 2018 from \$3.8M to \$4.5M. Three financing components: SW Revenue debt; General Obligation bond debt; and State Revolving Fund (SRF), for part 2 disinfection phase. Will use TIF, transitioning back into TIF (currently using zero TIF). Sewer Fund is in good shape. Should not anticipate raising sewer rates more than we have originally set up to do. Debt limit will be around 80% (\$4.4M). Actions council took in Sept of 2018 are still good for now. Upcoming dates: Bid letting - Thursday, August 12th; Pre-Bid meeting - Thursday, September 2nd; Open bids - Thursday, September 16th; Special Session Council meeting to Accept Bid, Monday, September 27th.

8. Mayor's Report – No report.

9. Clerk's Report – Hibbs gave council information on ARP money and what it can be used for. Talked about the computers we can get from state. Got an email about the storm siren grant we applied for. Auditors were here this month. Have not heard anything official from Dollar General.

10. Council comments/discussion - None

11. Adjourn

Motion by Baskin, second by Petersen, to adjourn.

Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.

Being there was no further business, meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Jeff Lillie, Mayor

Attest: _____
Mary Sue Hibbs, Clerk/Treasurer