

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES**  
**Earlham City Council Meeting**  
**November 8, 2021**

The Earlham City Council met in regular session on Monday November 8, 2021, at Earlham City Hall. Mayor Lillie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the following answered roll: Baskin, Fredericksen, Payne, Petersen, Swalla. Also present: Clerk Hibbs, Chief Jason Heimdal and councilmembers-elect Deena Mudge and Tim Nelsen

1. Approval of Agenda

**Motion by Fredericksen, second by Payne, to approve the consent agenda.**

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

2. Public Forum – Heather Stancil, 525 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, addressed council with information about the grinding of old windmill blades on city property (Gendler Park land that is leased by J Pettiecord Inc). She feels this activity will result in environmental hazard and feels it is illegal dumping. She presented timeline of events which she says shows Pettiecord did not inform city until after the fact. She is concerned as she says Dallas County did not know about this and DNR did not know about this. She presented exhibits including: a Conditional Use Application from Dallas County; the proof of publication for the Notice of Public Hearing for rezoning of the property from agricultural to light industrial; Earlham City Council Meeting Minutes from 10-11-21; Dallas County Planning & Zoning Commission Minutes from 10-1-21; and emails between Dallas County and J Pettiecord Inc. She said Altoona Properties is not J Pettiecord, who is named on the lease. Said there are too many companies listed. Who is responsible? Said she has been in conversation with Dallas County, DNR, and state attorney general's office. She does not want city holding the bag if this project is abandoned. She asked about city liability insurance as well as bond from company. She doesn't believe Gender contract allows for industrial. Has filed complaint with DNR.

3. Consent Agenda:

- a. Council meeting minutes for 10-11-21 meeting
- b. Treasurer's Report for 11-08-21
- c. Claims and Receipts Report for 11-08-21
- d. Consider approval of liquor license # BB0039171 w/Outdoor Service for West Side Bar & Grille Inc
- e. Consider approval of FY2021 Annual Financial Report.

**Motion by Baskin, second by Petersen, to approve the consent agenda.**

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

4. Department Reports

- a. Public Works - Gary Coffman, Public Works Supervisor  
Hibbs reported for Coffman stating he is still working on tower lighting solution with engineer. Closed and winterized parks and picked up leaves. Corrected 10-11-21 minutes stating they removed ash trees from Rec Park, not Gendler Park.
- b. Police Department  
Homecoming, Matt led parade. Serviced Matt's car. Changed batteries in LEDs in squad cars.
  - i. Madison County dispatch - police department.  
County will begin billing for civil calls to 911 – anything other than emergency calls. It will be approximately \$10,000 a year, based on the number of calls. Will have to add to FY23 budget. Mayor said he thought there would have ready been some type of agreement for that. 2.24% of the non-emergent calls going into dispatch come from Earlham residents.
  - ii. Update on condemnation proceedings on 235 SE 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Owner said he will have it ready to rent at the end of the year. Chief said he has been doing painting, and put on some type of roof cap. Said Mayor is okay with waiting until the end of the year for repairs to be completed. Needs permit for interior remodeling. Check with V&K on permit. After permit, V&K would take over inspection, etc. Mayor said he believes work is being done, since he has seen vehicles there.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Consider approval to take Resolution No 21-44 off the Table, and consider approval of Resolution No 21-44 Rejecting Both Bids Received and Opened on September 26, 2021, for the 2021 Sewer Lagoon Project, per Recommendation from City Engineer.

Mayor said he had conversation with Earlham Bank owner, Bill Hunter, who said if we can get SRF at 2% for 30 years, to go with that. The bank can only go for a 20-year loan. If we go with the SRF, there will not be a need for the large sewer rate increases. Vote to reject bids would open the procedure for the SRF loan and rebid.

**Motion by Payne, second by Basin, to approve taking Resolution No 21-44 off the Table, and consider approval of Resolution No. 21-44 Rejecting Both Bids Received and Opened on September 26, 2021, for the 2021 Sewer Lagoon Project, per Recommendation from City Engineer.**

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

- b. Discussion Sewer Lagoon Project financing – SRF.  
See discussion under 5a.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider approval of Resolution No. 21-46, Setting Correct Wage for Part-Time Library Worker. Hibbs stated this was her error, as her payroll spreadsheet was not for correct for this employee.

**Motion by Baskin, second by Swalla, to approve Resolution No. 21-46, Setting Correct Wage for Part-Time Library Worker.**

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

- b. Consider approval of Resolution No. 21-47, Approving the Application for Tax Abatement for 170 S Chestnut Avenue, Earlham, Iowa.

**Motion by Fredericksen, second by Petersen, to approve Resolution No. 21-47, Approving the Application for Tax Abatement for 170 S Chestnut Avenue, Earlham, Iowa**

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

- c. Consider approval of Resolution No. 21-48 Approving the Mayor's Appointment of Andrew Baskin to Serve as Representative to the Central Iowa Regional Housing Authority, and Brock Fredericksen to Serve as Alternate Representative.

**Motion by Swalla, second by Payne, to approve Resolution No. 21-48, Approving the Mayor's Appointment of Andrew Baskin to Serve as Representative to the Central Iowa Regional Housing Authority, and Brock Fredericksen, to Serve as Alternate Representative.**

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

7. Mayor's Report

Stated he has attended several meetings. Wanted to put on record a mention of Madison County Emergency Management Coordinator Diogenes Ayala. Dio has been present at many city and school events, talking to groups about security, and helping the city obtain grants and equipment. He wants to thank him for his service to Madison County and in particular the City of Earlham.

8. Clerk's Report

Dollar General Store – preliminary plat was sent to Russell Schroeder at Shire Hattery for review. His notes were sent to Rusty Doss on behalf of DG. We have not heard from Mr. Doss since. She mentioned the upcoming Municipal Leadership Academy to council and in particular to newly elected members Mutchler and Nelson. Stated we have received the two computer cameras and eight laptop computer made available through the State of Iowa Covid Recovery. Board of Adjustment met 11-1-21 per request of Eric Wilson, requesting a variance for denial of a permit for an accessory building. The variance was denied. He will submit a permit for garage addition to Veenstra & Kimm.

9. Council comments/discussion - none

10. Adjourn

Motion by Fredericksen, second by Swalla, to adjourn.

Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.

Being there was no further business, meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

---

Jeff Lillie, Mayor

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