

The Eldon City Council met in regular session on January 16, 2024 at Eldon City Hall with Mayor Potts presiding. Council members answering roll call were Tom Bedford, Carl Culp, Stacey Doree, Brandon Potts, and David Showman. The meeting was called to order at 4:30pm.

Motion by Showman to authorize the amended agenda by adding James Craig with Cardinal Community School District, second by Potts, all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Bedford to authorize regular meeting minutes December 12, 2023 and special meeting minutes December 19, 2023, second by Showman, all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Potts to authorize the bills, second by Bedford, all aye, motion carried.

#### PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS –

Motion by Bedford to authorize building permit for 302 Cornell Street, second by Potts, all aye, motion carried.

Wendi Livingston and Eric Livingston were present to ask the city council to reconsider their vote regarding the catalyst grant. Mayor Potts explained that the city has limited resources and the council's priorities are for all citizens in Eldon. The city council did vote December 19, 2023 to not proceed with the grant. The vote will stand. The city will not apply for the grant.

Donna Jeffrey was present to discuss the previous catalyst grant.

Jason Bonner was not present. The city council tabled discussion on placing storage units on Des Moines Street.

City Clerk – Carrie Teninty updated the council on city hall. The completed project is under the state allowed budget of \$81,000.00.

Public Works – Derick Clark was present. Motion by Showman to authorize Derick Clark attending water distribution class on January 25, 2024, second by Potts, all aye, motion carried.

James Craig with Cardinal Community School District was present to give an update on the waste water project for the school. Their lagoons are dredged. The ventilation issue has been repaired. A flow meter will be installed, weather permitting. The school will pay for the flow meter and the city will own the flow meter.

Eldon's lagoons are dredged. Once the city gets the results from testing the lagoons, the school may activate their waste water system. The school will notify city hall once the system is active.

Cemetery – No report.

Law Enforcement – A written report was received.

Library – A written report was received.

Engineer – No report.

Gothic Visitors Center – A written report was received. Cari Nicely was present to update the council on projects.

Fire Department – A written report was received. Motion by Potts to authorize fire school on March 16<sup>th</sup> for 8-10 members, second by Bedford, all aye, motion carried.

Trails/Parks – Snow removal on the trails will be complete next week.

Eldon Athletics – No report.

Old Business – Motion by Bedford to authorize final change order for the sludge removal contract, second by Potts, all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Doree to authorize pay estimate in the amount of \$99141.54 for sludge removal, second by Bedford, all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Potts to authorize final pay in the amount of \$5217.97 to be paid in February, contingent all required documentation, second by Culp, all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Showman to authorize revised policy for grant writing, second by Bedford, all aye, motion carried. The city will accept grant applications from a 501 [c] [3] organization for city owned property and city projects only. Eldon shall not accept grant applications from private residents or private entities.

Motion by Potts to authorize policy for garbage service with dumpsters, second by Culp, all aye, motion carried.

A policy for reimbursement of call out pay is tabled until the regular meeting in February.

Discussion was held on equipment for sale. A complete list will be provided for the February meeting. All items will be sold on Govdeals.com.

New Business – Motion by Potts to authorize LL Pelling quote for 2024 street work, second by Culp, all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Potts to authorize Stacey Doree and Jerry Potts to the AGHC board, second by Showman, all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Bedford to authorize citation for 107 Hearn Street in the amount of \$1000.00, second by Culp, all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Bedford to authorize artwork for city hall sign, second by Doree, all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Potts to authorize vacation and sick time for Derick Clark, second by Culp, all aye, motion carried. Derick will receive one-week paid vacation effective immediately and nine sick days effective January 1, 2024. The employee handbook will be changed at the February meeting.

Carrie Teninty requested to go into closed session. Motion by Doree to go into closed session under Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(i) to evaluate the professional competency of Carrie Teninty whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session, second by Culp, Tom Bedford yes, Carl Culp yes, Stacey Doree yes, Brandon Potts yes, and David Showman yes, motion carried.

Motion by Doree to come out of closed session, second by Potts, roll call vote taken, Tom Bedford yes, Carl Culp yes, Stacey Doree yes, Brandon Potts yes, and David Showman yes, motion carried.

Motion by Doree to authorize pay and benefits for FY26 and FY27, second by Potts, all aye, motion carried. Carrie Teninty will receive full health insurance and flex benefits back effective January 2024. Carrie Teninty

and Derick Clark will receive \$90.00 each month for a cell phone allowance effective January 2024. All employees will receive a 4% pay increase for both fiscal years.

Mayor Potts made the appointment of positions:

Mayor Pro tem: Carl Culp

Fire Chief: Linda Manley

Deputy City Clerk: Patty Robertson

City Attorney: Ryan Mitchell

City Engineer:

Mayor Potts made the appointments of committees:

{1} Ways, Means and Supplies: Tom Bedford and Stacy Doree

{2} Streets, alleys and sewers: Carl Culp and Brandon Potts

{3} Buildings, grounds, claims and parks: Carl Culp and David Showman

{4} Judiciary, officers and accounts: Stacey Doree and David Showman

{5} Health and Sanitation: Tom Bedford and David Showman

{6} Waterworks, electric lights, fire departments: Carl Culp and Brandon Potts

Stacey Doree will remain as a designated bank signee.

Public Forum – None.

Council Discussion – Tom Bedford asked why four employees are working the garbage route. It was explained that three are on the garbage truck and one employee is collecting recycling. The route is done on Mondays. The garbage truck and recycling are taken to Ottumwa Monday.

Tom Bedford asked why Eldon was contracting all the digging in town. The public works director should be doing all the digging. Once the employee is trained, he will be doing the work.

Discussion was held on trading equipment and contract work.

The time sheets will be provided in the council packets.

David Showman asked about the camera work that was done. Carrie Teninty will contact Jim Warner. Discussion was held on snow removal.

Motion by Bedford to adjourn, second by Showman, all aye, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:42pm.

Attest: Carrie Teninty