

**MCGREGOR CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 18, 2020, 6:30 P.M.**

The MCGREGOR CITY COUNCIL met in Regular Session at 6:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, March 18, 2020** at City Hall with Mayor Lyle Troester presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Troester led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members present: Scott, Echard, Carroll, Halvorson, and Hallberg. Due to COVID 19 guidelines released by the CDC, and federal and state government the meeting to help combat the spread of the virus gatherings must be limited to a maximum of 10 people. No in-person attendance was allowed. The meeting was recorded and a call in number was also posted to be able to listen to the meeting. That system is likely to be continued over the next several months. Additional information will be made available for public access to the meeting as the system is put in place. Minutes of the meeting will be available at city hall, on the city website and published as required in the North Iowa Times. The recording of the meeting is available at city hall. There were no attendees on the conference call.

Mayor Troester read a proclamation regarding the COVID 19 pandemic. The city offices and library are closed to public access until further notice to help with social distancing to curb the spread of the disease. City and library personnel will be working normal hours and are available to address matters by mail, email, and phone. In the coming weeks and months additional changes may be required to the manner in which business is conducted. Additional information will be posted or announced as it becomes available. Mayor Troester recognized the many emotions residents and business owners are experiencing but encouraged council members to help people understand why such urgent measures were chosen by federal and state agencies. He encouraged those that are able to find ways in which they can volunteer, yet keep themselves and other safe, to help the community and its residents.

Scott moved, seconded by Carroll to approve the Consent Agenda by one motion a) Agenda as listed b) Regular Meeting minutes February 19, 2020, Joint Special Meeting with MMU Minutes February 26, 2020 and Special Meeting Minutes February 26, 2020 c) Bills and Claims as presented for period February 20, 2020 through March 18, 2020 - City- \$75,168.40, Library - \$732.95, February 2020 Revenues - \$214,718.79, February 2020 Expenses - \$109,201.15 d) Treasurer's Report for February 2020 e) Liquor License Renewals – Beer & Brats, Boatels, McGregor Marina, By the Spoonful f) Board Appointments – Board of Adjustment – Tom Sinclair – Term Ending 03-06-2025, Historic Preservation – Joe Brooks – Term Ending 09-30-2020 (to fill Richard Palucci seat). Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

Hearing of Delegations: No comments received electronically or at city hall.

Police report: Upcoming Drug Take Back and Effigy Mounds table top meeting are cancelled. The department is establishing temporary procedures for non-emergency calls. Enforcement of non-compliance with shut-down directives from the state will have significant consequences. Loss of licensing could result so businesses are encouraged to follow the guidelines. Operations report: city crews are busy preparing for potential flooding and getting ready for spring clean up.

Mayor Troester opened a scheduled public hearing to take comments on the proposed 2020-2021 budget. No comments had been received at city hall, Mayor Troester was approached by one citizen regarding the levy, which is down approximately 25 cents from the current levy. No comments were received from the conference call line.

Carroll moved, seconded by Halvorson to approve appointment of Tom Sauer as Fire Chief for McGregor Hook and Ladder Company No. 1. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. Oath of office will be administered by the mayor or city administrator. Hallberg moved, seconded by Scott to approve use of city property permit for the MFL MarMac prom parade at Triangle Park. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. Scott moved, seconded by Echard to approve use of city property permit for the spring and fall art festivals, McGregor Marquette Chamber of Commerce – May 23-25, October 3-4 and October 11-12. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. Hallberg moved, seconded by Echard to sponsor the GRRRR for \$1,001. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. Council asked if there had been a sponsorship request for Lazy River in the past. Audrey Posten was present and said this was the first year. Scott moved, seconded by Hallberg to sponsor the Lazy River for \$500. Roll call vote: Ayes – Hallberg and Scott. Nays – Carroll, Echard, Halvorson. Motion failed. The council will consider splitting the donation next year.

Alternate side parking for snow removal is suspended as of March 31, 2020. Hoods will be placed on the signs and parking will be permitted on both sides of the street unless there is a snow day or snow emergency. Halvorson moved, seconded by Scott to approve Resolution 01-03-2020 Approving 2020-2021 Budget and Certification of City Taxes with a property tax levy of 14.10813 per thousand. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. Council reviewed proposed budget amendment No. 1 for the 2019-2020 budget. Scott moved, seconded by Hallberg to set a public hearing date for April 15, 2020, 6:30 p.m. to take comments regarding the proposed budget amendment No. 1 for 2019-2020 budget. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

Council considered a bid from B & R Construction for concrete repairs along Point Ann Lane and for a wall along Prospect St. to shore up the road. Bids had been sought from several companies in 2019 but they had never showed up to look at the work. Carroll moved, seconded by Echard to approve the bid from B & R Construction for work on Point Ann and Prospect St in the amount of \$4,565 for the labor portion of the work. Concrete, digging and rock will be billed separately to the city. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

Echard asked that the council reconsider use of Triangle Park for art festival vendors and asked that the fire department could provide a quarterly update of activities at some council meetings. Hallberg gave a reminder that the Turner Park Committee fundraiser – Flower Power – is still going and to pass the word that people can order on-line or give her the order to process.

With business concluded, Echard moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Scott. Ayes – All. Meeting adjourned.

Lyle J. Troester, Mayor

Attest:

Lynette L. McManus, City Administrator