

MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
January 2, 2018

The regular meeting of the Monona City Council was called to order by Mayor O'Connor at 7:31 p.m.

Present: Mayor Mary K. O'Connor, Alderpersons Doug Wood, Andrew Kitslaar, Nancy Moore, Jennifer Kuhr, Brian Holmquist, and Chad Speight

Also Present: City Administrator April Little, Library Director Ryan Claringbole, Public Works Director Dan Stephany, and City Clerk Joan Andrusz

ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Holmquist to approve the Minutes of the December 4, 2017 City Council meeting, was carried.

APPEARANCES

There were no Appearances.

PUBLIC HEARING

There was no Public Hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion by Alder Kuhr, seconded by Alder Kitslaar to approve the following, was carried:

1. Approval of Application for a 2017/2018 Operator License:
 - a. Zachary S. Schaefer, Silver Eagle Bar & Grill
2. Approval of Applications for a 2017/2019 Operator Licenses:
 - a. Jessica Ann, Breakwater
 - b. Sydnie L. Murray, Kwik Trip
 - c. Christopher A. Jeske, Mr. Brews Tap House
3. Approval of Application for a 2018 Temporary Operator License:
 - a. Susan M. Carr, Monona Public Library

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion by Alder Kitslaar, seconded by Alder Wood to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 18-1-2230 Requesting Exemption from County Library Tax, was carried.

Library Director Claringbole reported this is an annual action needed to certify the Library meets the funding threshold to be exempt from County taxes. This is late but will be accepted.

A motion by Alder Kitslaar, seconded by Alder Wood to approve Resolution 18-1-2230 Requesting Exemption from County Library Tax, was carried.

Public Works Director Stephany reported Resolution 18-1-2229 Purchase Approval of One Current Model Year ¾-Ton Pickup Truck with Plow does not require immediate action. It will be reviewed by the Public Works Committee. The 2018 Capital Budget includes \$36,000 for this but the new truck, to be purchased using the state contract, will cost \$31,900. The 2005 truck will be auctioned. Data on CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) pricing and calculation indicates payback would be realized in more than 191 years. Eco-boost is not available on this model. It does have flex fuel but there is no hybrid option.

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Kitslaar to suspend the rules and take action on Consideration of Resolution No. 18-1-2231 Amending the 2018 Operating Budget to Expand Funds Available for Merit Payment, was carried.

Mayor O'Connor reported \$18,000 is allocated to this program, which used to be awarded only to non-represented staff, and she wants to add funds to include ten permanent Library staff. This should have been looked at when Act 10 took effect. Past Mayors added people as unions dissolved. She calculated the \$3,300 requested from the Fund Balance based on the 60% that was allocated last year. Department Heads make recommendations, some more judiciously than others, but not all receive the merit-based award, which is given at review time. Last year 45 were eligible and 30 received the payment. City Administrator Little reported some were removed because they were new employees as well as other reasons. She researched including part-time employees and past practices.

Alder Speight stated he wants to clarify who is deemed worthy. City Administrator Little reported all Department Heads will receive some payment but it depends on that person's year. Ranges will be created. Mayor O'Connor stated those who are always there deserve something, too; there may not be an opportunity for them to do more. Alder Speight stated he hopes that the Council would be asked for more funds if there was a year with 90% exceptional service. Alder Holmquist stated this is connected to compensation. It was originally given for those who work outside union representation. He wants a discussion on compensation as a whole and wants a level and predictable award. Alder Wood agrees; it originally couldn't be given to union staff. Alder Moore wanted to clarify that not receiving the award is used as a way to motivate non-effective employees.

A motion by Alder Speight, seconded by Alder Kitslaar to approve Resolution No. 18-1-2231 Amending the 2018 Operating Budget to Expand Funds Available for Merit Payment, was carried.

REPORTS

Members announced upcoming committee meeting dates and times.

Alder Kitslaar reported tickets are available for the Library fundraiser, "Loud in the Library", to be held on January 27 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to wear camping gear; there will be s'mores and a special guest as well as other activities with a camping theme.

City Clerk Andrusz announced four candidates have turned in their nomination papers. The three incumbents, Alders Kitslaar, Holmquist, and Kuhr, will be joined by Molly Grupe on the April 3, 2018 Spring Election ballot.

City Administrator Little reported she is working on cleaning up the Ordinances after the recodification, which will include the earlier Council meeting time of 7:00 p.m. that all members have agreed to. She reminds members to leave their laptops tonight for upgrade work.

Mayor O'Connor reported the next Council meeting will also be on a Tuesday due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday. She is working on the bicycle/pedestrian project committee and long-range facility planning.

APPOINTMENTS

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Speight to approve the following, was carried:

1. To the Distinguished Service Award Committee, May 1, 2016–April 30, 2019:
 - a. Kathy Thomas
 - b. Paul Kachelmeier
2. To the Distinguished Service Award Committee, May 1, 2017–April 30, 2020:
 - a. Mari Anne Lichtfeld
 - b. Steve Halverson
3. To the Park and Recreation Board, effective immediately–April 30, 2020:
 - a. Tony Gomez-Phillips

Alder Speight questioned whether work has been done on a committee service policy. Mayor O'Connor responded it has and will be sent out next week after review by City Administrator Little. The re-appointment process will be discussed and Chairs will be involved. Alder Wood stated even effective members may need to be moved from a committee. Alder Holmquist stated he is not continuing his previous abstention of this vote because very effective work has been done on a policy. City Clerk Andrusz reported Distinguished Service Award Committee member's re-appointments were missed, partly because the Committee meets only once per year; all the members are relatively new.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Alder Kuhr, seconded by Alder Wood to adjourn, was carried. (8:03 p.m.)

Joan Andrusz
City Clerk