

CITY OF DESOTO – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 24, 2017 – Mayor Hasty called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Answering roll call was: Emily Cramp, Mathew Sanders, Kelly Summy, Karen Wilson, and Clayton Wright.

Staff present included City Clerk Marcia Thomas, Public Works Director Dan Van Langen, Police Chief Dustin Runge and City Attorney DeWayne Dalen.

Motion by Wilson/Summy to approve the agenda; Cramp,Sanders,Summy,Wilson,Wright all in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion took place regarding the City of De Soto Urban Revitalization Plan; Several De Soto residents expressed their concerns and objections to a 10 year tax abatement with the first 7 years at 100% tax abatement for the structure only and the remaining 3 years on a sliding scale. One concern was the current residents paying more property taxes to cover the cost of the people not paying property taxes. Steve Helm, the Dallas County Assessor, addressed this issue. The City of De Soto is already at their maximum \$8.10 levy rate for the general fund. The current residents of De Soto will only pay more property taxes if their property valuation is increased. Mr. Helm said he usually reevaluates properties in Dallas County every two years. The tax abatement would not affect this. One De Soto resident against the tax abatement said he doesn't want to see the city grow. De Soto is starting to see commercial growth and Mayor Hasty and the council members in favor of the tax abatement are trying to spur residential growth as well, because for a city to thrive typically you need a combination of commercial and residential growth. With the construction of the water treatment plant and the waste water treatment plant projects, estimated at \$6,000,000.00 in 2017 the additional 200 possible users of water and sewer would help finance them.

Motion by Wright/Sanders to approve Resolution 2017-18; A Resolution determining the necessity and fixing a date for a public hearing on the matter of the adoption of a proposed De Soto Residential Urban Revitalization Plan. The public hearing date will be March 21, 2017 @7:00p.m. in the city council chambers, 405 Walnut Street, De Soto, Iowa. Cramp,Sanders,Summy,Wilson,Wright all in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Wilson/Sanders to approve Resolution 2017-19; A Resolution to approve the purchase of a street sweeper for \$5,000 from the City of Adel, Iowa per the recommendation of the Public Works Director, Dan Van Langen. Cramp,Sanders,Summy,Wilson,Wright all in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Wilson/Cramp to approve paying the landlord \$1,000 giving the city the right to test drill for possible well site for the new water treatment plant. Cramp,Sanders,Summy,Wilson,Wright all in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Hasty left the council meeting @8:30p.m. due to a previous commitment.

Mayor Pro Tem Summy conducted the rest of the meeting.

Public Works Director Van Langen discussed his budgets for the Road Use, Water and Waste Water Funds for fiscal year 2017/2018. Discussion took place.

Having no other business Mayor Pro Tem Summy asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion by Cramp/Sanders to adjourn @9:30pm; Cramp,Sanders,Summy,Wilson,Wright all in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Pro Tem: Kelly Summy

Attest: City Clerk, Marcia Thomas

These minutes are subject to approval by the City Council at its next regular meeting.