Welcome to our new Police Chief

The city of De Soto would like to welcome our new police chief John Sparling to our town. Officer Sparling has been on the Adel Police Force for the last 17 years. He states he enjoys serving the community and helping people with their issues. In January, De Soto will have one full time officer, one part-time officer and three reserve officers. He would like to grow his department into a full time department with a new building that invites people to come in to talk with him. Officer Sparling’s background and experience will be a great benefit to De Soto and we look forward to working with him.

Save the date—June 23rd, 2018. The De Soto Sesquicentennial is fast approaching and we need your help to make it an incredible town-wide celebration! If you’re interested in helping, please contact City Hall at 515-834-2233 today!
De Soto  City Council

CITY OF DESOTO – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
December 19, 2017 – Mayor Butch Ostrander called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Answering roll call was: Pam Bach, Terri Golightly, Mathew Sanders, Kelly Summy and Karen Wilson.

Staff present included City Clerk Marcia Thomas, Public Works Director Dan Van Langen, Police Chief John Sparling and City Attorney DuWayne Dalen.

Motion by Wilson/Sandmyr to approve the agenda; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Summy/Wilson to approve the consent agenda; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

When Public Works Director Van Langen was giving his monthly report, Councilwoman Golightly asked him if he had written the Water Treatment Plant Update 2017 article in the city’s last newsletter and he said yes. Councilwoman Golightly had issue with the sentence “The land for the well has been secured by the City of De Soto”. Van Langen explained what the sentence meant and Councilwoman Golightly wanted to go on the record, “Stating she felt the sentence was premature”.

Mayor Ostrander opened the public hearing concerning the progress, scope, budget and status of the Waste Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project @7:42p.m. Mayor Ostrander said this public hearing is being held to update residents on the City’s Waste Water Plant Improvements Project. This project is funded in part by a Community Development Block Grant and DNR/SRF Funds. The need for and goals of the project have not changed since the CDBG application was submitted to the State of Iowa in the fall of 2015. Building Crafts, Inc., is the contractor for the work on the project. Work on the project is approximately 10% complete. The grant is scheduled to close-out July 31, 2019. To date, $47,204 in CDBG funds have been requested and $234,610 in matching funds have been expended. Clerk Thomas said she received no written comments regarding the Waste Water Plant Improvements project. Resident Carol Lee asked what the total cost of the project was. Public Works Director Van Langen said the project cost was approximately 3.8 million. Mayor Ostrander asked if there were any other questions or comments from the audience. Having none, Mayor Ostrander closed the public hearing @7:45p.m.

Motion by Summy/Golightly approving the Fire Department elections of; Fire Chief Tim Murray, Assistant Fire Chief Brandon Hutcheson and Secretary Amanda Bridgeman; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Summy/Sanders approving the site plan for Delic Granite and Tile, property located on Lot 24, Golden Circle Air Plat 2, De Soto, Iowa; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Summy/Bach to approve pay request #3 from Building Crafts for $177,388.75 for the Waste Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Wilson/Golightly to approve the audit report by Martens & Company, CPA, LLP for fiscal year ending June 30, 2017; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Wilson/Bach to approve the engagement agreement with Ahlers & Cooney, P.C. land acquisition for the De Soto Water Treatment Plant Project; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Renae Johanningmeier discussed with Mayor Ostrander and the City Council the Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield 2018 Health Insurance Plans for city employees, city pays 80% of the premium and the employee pays 20%; Motion by Summy/Wilson to approve the 2018 renewal rates for city health insurance for city employees; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Wilson/Bach to approve the replacement of the furnace at city hall, cost $2,658.00 Adel TV with a $700.00 rebate from MidAmerican Energy; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion took place regarding the speeding and parking issues on Marshall and Oak Streets. There is a difference of opinion on whether the city council should change the city ordinance and only allow parking on one side of the street or leave the parking on both sides of the street. Public Works has posted new speeding signs and the Police Department is patrolling more in an effort to slow traffic down. Mayor Ostrander is asking the residents of Marshall and Oak Street to either come to the next city council meeting January 16, 2018 @7:00p.m. or call one of your council persons and let your voice be heard.

Discussion took place on updating the employee handbook. Councilwoman Golightly had given each council member a copy of the City of Johnston’s employee handbook to review. Mayor Ostrander asked the council members to review the current employee handbook or others and make recommendations at the January 16, 2018 regular council meeting.

Councilwoman Golightly discussed with Mayor Ostrander and City Council changes being enacted in the laws that govern cities and the ADA rules and other valuable information on improving websites. Discussion took place. No action taken.

Councilwoman Golightly said to Mayor Ostrander and City Council, she felt no employee should receive a stipend in lieu of taking the city health insurance. Discussion took place. No action taken.

Having no other business Mayor Ostrander asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion by Summy/Wilson to adjourn @9:05 pm; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.
December 28, 2017 Meeting

December 28, 2017 – Mayor Butch Ostrander called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Answering roll call was: Pam Bach, Terri Golightly, Mathew Sanders and Karen Wilson.

Staff present included City Clerk Marcia Thomas, Fire Chief Tim Murray and Police Chief John Sparling.

Motion by Wilson/Sanders to approve the agenda; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Ostrander said there will be no public hearing to consider the submission of an application for a Community Development Block Grant for improvements to the City’s Water Treatment Plant. There are two required documents for the applications that the City is waiting on from the IDNR. Our hope is to be able to submit an application in the spring.

Councilman Kelly Summy arrived @7:05pm.

Motion by Bach/Sanders to approve a temporary use permit for the Auto Auction property located at 1000 Armstrong Drive, De Soto, Iowa; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Summy/Sanders to approve Midland GIS mapping software, cost estimate of $21,956.00; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Bach/Sanders to approve the purchase of 4 gas monitors for the De Soto Fire Department, cost estimate $1,217.79; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Wilson/Golightly to approve the life insurance, long term disability insurance and delta dental plans for 2018; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Renae Johanningmeier with Group Benefits discussed with Mayor Ostrander and City Council health insurance options for City Clerk Thomas. City Clerk Thomas is covered under her spouse’s group health insurance program and doesn’t need the city’s traditional health insurance. Clerk Thomas is not eligible for the Health Savings Account option that Librarian Glenn and Public Works employee Eckstein receive because she is on a traditional health plan. She is eligible for a (HRA) health medical reimbursement plan. The city’s 80% cost of this plan would be over $10,000 annually. Clerk Thomas is currently receiving a monthly stipend of $300.00 or annually $3600.00. Golightly read minutes from the February 1, 2010 minutes that stated;” motion by Hutcheson and seconded by Dippold to give Dan, Marcia and Pam each $150.00 per month for their families to stay on their spouse’s insurance and not take the City’s health insurance. This amount is capped and would not increase in future years. These three employees would be grandfathered in. Any new employees would not be offered this incentive. Dippold, Hansen, Hutcheson in favor; Bach, Cox opposed; Motion carried 3-2. Motion by Wilson/Sanders to approve City Clerk Thomas continue receiving the $300.00 monthly stipend in lieu of taking the city health insurance plan; Bach, Sanders, Summy and Wilson in favor; Golightly opposed; Motion carried 4-1.

Having no other business Mayor Ostrander asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion by Summy/Wilson to adjourn @7:45 pm; Bach, Golightly, Sanders, Summy, Wilson in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor: Butch Ostrander

Attest: City Clerk, Marcia Thomas

These minutes are subject to approval by the City Council at its next regular meeting.
Soup’s On!
Come to the library January 10th for a cozy afternoon of soup & card games with your community!
11:30AM   Ages 18+

New Movies @ Your Library

Dunkirk
Despicable Me 3
The Mountain Between Us
Home Again
The Lego Ninjago Movie

Learn a Language @ Your Library
Come check out our new database to get started learning a language from the comfort of your couch!
A Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting was held Saturday morning, December 2nd, 2017 for Veteran Power Sports and Equipment at their location at 916 Guthrie Street in De Soto IA. Veteran Power Sports and Equipment is owned by Jordan Goldie and features Bad Boy Mowers and recently added ODES UTV’s and ATV’s. The business did a soft opening in May and hosted a ribbon cutting Saturday with a live radio remote and refreshments to kick off its new products.

The dealership is a collection point throughout the month of December for the food pantry for Dallas County and its customers can register to win $1000 thru the radio station in conjunction with the Grand Opening.

De Soto welcomes this veteran owned business to the community and looks forward to further additions of addition equipment in the future for sale and service.

Mayor Butch Ostrander, Council women Karen Wilson, Terri Golightly, Pam Bach and Community Betterment Volunteer Carol Lee joined Owner Jordan Goldie, Operations Manager Randy Bird, Rayyan and Annan Alanani, as well as Jordan’s son Saywer were in attendance.

Let’s all recommend and check our local store for your mowing and recreational needs!

De Soto is Ready to Go Ready to Grow!

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De Soto Build with Bags Campaign

The Build with Bags collection is going well and the competition between the collection points has been fierce. Each week, there truly has been a different leader in amount of bags collected and the children are really leading the pack!

We continue to work toward our goal and our grant process to add more benches and other recycled plastic accessories to our city park area. Please remember to keep donating your clean plastic shopping bags to our three area collection sites: 100 Acre Woods, De Soto Intermediate School, and of course, City Hall.

Please support our city and the Build with Bags program.