

City of Agency, Iowa  
Council Meeting  
December 8-2022

The regular meeting of the Agency City Council was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Nathan Bissell at the Agency City Hall. Council members in attendance were Tom Boos, Kathy Thrasher, Jacoby Deshler, Samantha Ulin. Council member Mandy Thrasher was absent. Also present were Sheriff Don Phillips, Don Darland-Heartland Humane Society, Tom and Deb Blew, Alan Novak, Sue Fite, Suzanne Harrison, Royce Kent, Fred Club, and Heather Fellingner.

**PUBLIC HEARING-Zoning Variance-Kent** Ms. Deshler motioned to open Public Hearing. Second by Ms. Ulin. **All Ayes. Motion passed.** Mayor Bissell asked if anyone would like to speak. Royce Kent commented that he had owned the land for 60 years and would like to utilize his property. Alan Novak commented that he lived across from the 1-1 ½ acer section and it was sold at public auction about 10-15 years ago. He said there were people interested in purchasing that property with the intention of developing it including himself. He said it was a residential area and that residential areas in this town are in high demand. Mr. Novak commented that being said he preferred the land to remain residential and be developed as such. Mr. Kent asked if we had a petition opposing the zoning variance and if so how many signatures were on it. Mayor Bissell stated that he did not know of any petitions turned in. City Clerk informed them that there were no petitions turned into City Hall. **Ms. Deshler motioned to close Public Hearing-Zoning Variance-Kent.** Second by Mrs. Thrasher. **All Ayes. Motion passed.**

**APPROVE OR AMEND AGENDA:**

**Mrs. Ulin motioned to approve the Agenda.** Second by Ms. Deshler. **All Ayes. Motion passed.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Mrs. Thrasher motioned to approve the Consent Agenda.** Second by Ms. Deshler. **All Ayes. Motion passed.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**-None

**STREETS, ALLEY, WATER & SEWER COMMITTEE**-None

**HEALTH COMMITTEE**-None

**BUILDING & GROUNDS & PARKS-**

**FIRE BOARD-** Mrs. Ulin stated she will be attending a meeting January 11<sup>th</sup> and will have more to report next month.

**Library Board-** Heather Fellingner commented that the Library Board is participating with the City Santa event this year. She stated that the Library will be open with a craft for the kids and door prizes.

**PERMITS-** None

**PUBLIC FORUM-** Sheriff Phillips reported on the incident at 201 E. Main stating that an individual was arrested and taken into custody. He stated that on December 10<sup>th</sup> they will be testing for another deputy position and continue to search to fill their positions. He commented that he has sent a letter out to ask for a 10% increase in their contract with the City with the cost of fuel and other expenses. Suzanne Harrison, Deb Blew, Tom Blew and Sue Fite spoke of the re-occurring dog issues in town. Mayor Bissell did address the issue by stating that at the January Council meeting the City Attorney will be attending to address the dog issues and give legal advice on how the City should proceed. Sheriff Phillips commented that if the dog is running at large and they know who the owner is they can issue a citation to the owner. Mayor informed the citizens that he did not want them to think that the City was ignoring their concerns and that the City is looking into the best way to handle these issues. Sheriff Phillips said they can and will continue to issue citations and those citations will increase for each citation issued. Mayor Bissell said that he recommends that citizens continue to call City Hall and the Sheriffs office so that we can continue to document each incident. Council member

Mrs. Ulin spoke to the citizens and informed them that the Council did hear their concerns and appreciated their statements. She informed them the Council was pursuing the issues and trying to put into place the best plan going forward for these issues. Sue Fite commented that she was having issues with parking on Caylor Street. She commented that neighbors continually park so close to their double driveway that it makes it very difficult to pull in and out of it. Mayor Bissell stated that calling the Sheriff for those issues would be the best way to get results. Citizens commented that vehicles at that same address do not have plates. Mrs. Thrasher stated that the City does have an ordinance against cars without current plates and asked if City Maintenance could get photos of said cars so nuisance letters can be sent.

**MAYOR/COUNCIL COMMENTS-** Mayor Bissell informed the Council that the Post Office had addressed an issue with some painting needing done and City Maintenance has taken care of it. While doing so it was discovered that the chimney pipe had an issue and has since been fixed. He also stated that concerning car issues the City Clerk is preparing nuisance letters to be sent to the homeowners. Ms. Deshler stated she would like to look into complaint forms to be done on line. She stated she feels they would be utilized more if that option was available.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**FARM GROUND RENTAL AGREEMENT:** Kathy Thrasher made a motion to go with the highest bid from Brandon Warren at \$3300.00. Second by Ms. Deshler. **Roll Call Vote.**

**Ayes:** K. Thrasher, S. Ulin, T. Boos, J. Deshler

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** M. Thrasher

**Motion passed.**

**CEMETERY MOWING 2023 SEASON AGREEMENT:** Mrs. Thrasher motioned to hire Tyler Batterson to mow the Agency Cemeteries for 2023 with a bid of \$11,000 pending proof of insurance. Second by Ms. Deshler. **Roll Call Vote.**

**Ayes:** S. Ulin, T. Boos, J. Deshler, K. Thrasher

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** M. Thrasher

**Motion passed**

**GARBAGE RATE INCREASE** Mayor Bissell shared that due to a 4% yearly increase from Waste Management that the rates for garbage service in town needed to be addressed. **Ms. Deshler motioned to increase the monthly garbage rate at 4% setting it from \$20.25 to \$ 21.06 beginning with the January billing.** Second by Mrs. Ulin. **Roll Call Vote.**

**Ayes:** S. Ulin, T. Boos, J. Deshler, K. Thrasher

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Mandy Thrasher

**Motion passed.**

**ZONING VARIANCE-KENT** Ms. Deshler made a motion to approve the Zoning Variance-Kent. Second by K. Thrasher.  
Roll Call Vote.

**Ayes: None**

**Nays: T. Boos, J. Deshler, K. Thrasher, S. Ulin**

**Absent: M. Thrasher**

**Motion DENIDE.**

**HEARTLAND HUMANE SOCIETY-** Don Darland with Heartland Humane Society spoke to the Council of the financial support needed to continue to service the Wapello County area dogs and cats. He spoke of the finances required to take care of each animal and that Heartland depends on donations from others to operate. He asked that the Council consider their need when setting their 2023-2024 Fiscal Budget.

**SET BUDGET WORKSHOP** 2023-2024 Budget Workshop has been set for Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

**ROYCE KENT:** Mr. Kent shared with the Council various grievances he had.

**DOG ORDINANCES** Mayor asked that the Council would take the dog ordinances home, study over them and be ready to discuss any changes need at the January meeting.

**CARDINAL SCHOOL AFTER PROM** Mrs. Thrasher asked if the donation could be increased this year due to increases of items. **Ms. Deshler made a motion to approve a donation to the Cardinal School 2023 After Prom for \$150.00.** Second by Ms. Thrasher. **Roll Call Vote.**

**Ayes: J. Deshler, K. Thrasher, S. Ulin, T. Boos**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: M. Thrasher**

**Motion passed.**

**ADJURNMENT-**Ms. Deshler motioned to adjourn. Second by Ms. Ulin. **All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.**

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**Nathan Bissell, Mayor**

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**Attest: Pam Muntz, City Clerk**

