

The Palo City Council met in open session Monday September 14th, 2009 at the Temporary City Hall located at the FS Building. Mayor Jeff Beauregard called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following council present: Alan Mengler, Paula Gunter-Mayor Pro-tempore, Trent Miller, John Harris and Jeannie Blumer. Others present: City Attorney; Eric Sittig, City Engineer; Matt Shock, Infrastructure Commander; Tom Watson, City Administrator/Clerk; Stacy Dix.

Mayor Jeff Beauregard asked everyone to stand and say the pledge of allegiance.

Motion by Mengler to approve the agenda with the addition of adding Sheriff Department report after the consent agenda and removing item #11, seconded by Harris, motion carried (5-0).

Motion by Gunter to approve the consent agenda including bills and August 24th, 2009 Council meeting minutes with the correction by Miller of the recommendation of golf cart ordinance should not include seatbelts and turn signals, seconded by Council member Al Mengler, motion carried (5-0). Claims Report: Alliant Energy, Gas & electric, \$2,855.90; Palo Coop., telephone services, \$279.07; Ipers, Ipers, \$2115.43; Palo Savings Bank, Fed/Fica taxes, \$4,536.36; Iowa Dept. of Revenue, State taxes, \$865.00; Iowa One Call, Locates, \$20.70; Linn County Rec, Street lights, \$130.30; Kirkwood Community College, Skills core certificate, \$35.00; Keystone Labs, testing, \$23.00; Menards, Furring strip & supplies, \$635.81; Office Express, Office supplies, \$382.29; Gazette Communications Inc., legal publications, \$394.78; Linn County Treasurer, Property tax-Ralston/Larson,\$444.16; Truenorth Co., Life Insurance, \$64.00; Iowa league of cities, conference, \$175.00; Star equipment ltd, safety equipment, \$191.77; L.L. Pelling, Vinton& 1st Street, \$93,006.33; Shimberg Co., pump, \$15.58; Orkin, Palo Community Center, \$449.05; Linn County Recorder, New Community Center Site, \$559.08; Watson Services, unload playground equip., \$2552.49; Linn County Auditor, Special election, \$2556.70; Anderson-Bogert, Construction phase flood asst., 8433.50;l Trisca Smetzer, recognition items & software reimburse., \$90.64; Croell Redi-mix Inc., Fill sand flash flooding, \$270.00; Atkins Lumber Co., plastic sheeting-flashflood, \$887.44; Solbergs, plaque/awards, \$51.63; Cedar Rapids Winpump, Public water well, \$9225.00; Custom Hose & Supplies, sewer supplies,\$189.10; Port "O" jonny, portojonny,\$225.00; ABC Disposal, August flash flood debris,\$30.00; Ralston-Larson Development, land purchase,\$226,324.76; Wright Express, Gas fire dept., \$81.77; Palo Mini Mart, Diesel for pumps, \$73.27; Johns tire Service, Backhoe repair,\$80.00; Brown Concrete, pump 3 lift stations & manholes,\$750.00; Brown Supply Co., reflective sign-roadwork,\$300.00; Agvantage, FS, Inc.,\$1203.11; Verocity wireless, Tony's phone,\$62.95; Esco electric, ceiling fans fire station, \$1389.15; Michelle Nejd, postage-cert. letters, \$69.47; Fine Line Printing Co., business cards, \$21.55; Culligan, water,\$44.50; Koch brothers, photo copies, \$541.89; Linn County Planning & Development, Flood inspections, \$807.31; Municipal pipe tool co. LLC., retainage, \$369.82; Megan Murphy, USB, Sheet protectors, duster,\$54.54; Solum Lang Architect, new community center, \$1756.20; Aflac, aflac, \$204.84; The Louis Berger Group, Inc., Archaeology survey, \$917.00; Boland recreation, Splash pad down pymnt, \$13,996.50; Titan access account, case tractor parts, \$57.13; Terracon Consultatnts, Inc., Concession stand-geotechnical, \$6375.00; Liberty Bank, F.S.B, Ralston-Larson Dev., \$100,000.00; Comm. Foundation of Johnson City, Grant writing workshop, \$15.00; Craftsman Concepts, Insulation vent fan storage bldg., \$325.00; Dykema's word mill, Recat-Ijobs grant research,\$551.26; Fast Teks, remove virus, \$98.75; Galeton safety products, safety glasses & dust mask, \$75.00; Iowa Prison Industries, Speed Limit Signs,\$342.32; Jim's Outdoor Equipment, Trash pump flushed & repaired, \$58.61; Olesen & Associates, FF1 Training,

\$600.00; Upbeat Site Furnishings, Cig Urn, \$69.15; Visu-Sewer Inc., Sewer lining, \$61,694.52; Kristy Ryan, Daec banner, \$80.00; Gregg Dee Gongwer, Partial pymt creek clean,\$18,950.00; Scott Van Keppel-Cedar Rapids, Suction hoses & increaser, \$200.00; Patricia Harper, Library Card, \$25.00; Judith Brown, Library Card, \$25.00 TOTAL \$577,649.69 Payroll: General \$21,806.72 Road Use \$2031.98, Sewer \$2405.10.

Sherriff's report was given by officer Tim Payne 108.33 hours required and 150.9 hours actually worked from August 10th through September 14th with 92 calls. Mentioned there is a 35 mph speed limit sign posted coming from the east into Palo on Blairs ferry road, however there is not one posted going east out of town. Council would like to review the Speed Zone map at next council meeting, in meantime the 35 mph signs will be pulled down.

Chamber of Commerce Report by Faye Dykema; Stated the Chamber would like to host a meet the candidate's event. Date will be set for October 14th, 2009 from 6-8pm at the Palo Savings Bank.

Resolution#091409A to approve angled one side of the street parking and one way streets on Clinton and Main Street from 1st Street to 3rd Street for Palo Fun Day on Saturday September 26th, 2009. Motion by Gunter, seconded by Mengler, roll call, motion carried (5-0).

Resolution#091409B to approve the street closure of Vinton Street from 1st Street to 2nd Street from 6:00am until 6:00pm for Palo Fun Day Saturday September 26th, 2009. Motion by Gunter, seconded by Harris, roll call, motion carried (5-0).

Resolution#091409C to approve the street closure of 2nd Street from Main Street to Clinton Street from 6:00am until 6:00pm for Palo Fun Day Saturday September 26th, 2009. Motion by Gunter, seconded by Harris, roll call, motion carried (5-0).

Rebuild Palo Fund report by Tom Watson; stated the board is going to meet next Thursday to organize the process for businesses to receive funding through the \$10,000 Wal-Mart donation. Mayor Beauregard also stated the Wives of the Fire Department made an \$11,000 donation from their cookbook sales.

Park and Recreation Report by Kristy Ryan; stated the chamber has been working on trails and have submitted the plans to the P&R board to review. They are getting ready to install the park equipment in the Dry Creek Addition as well as the swings in CR estates. They need about 60+ footings poured for the park equipment in Dry Creek Estates, Brian Beaty offered to do them. The P&R Committee has three sub committees;1). Cultural Enrichment- Kristy Ryan, Chair. 2). Trails- Rob Bower, Chair. 3). Youth and adult sports.

Audience Comments:

Sandy Woods had concerns with the bumps in the road on the corner of 1st Street and Vinton Street. Tom Watson stated the city can put millings on 1st and Vinton Street for a temporary fix until the project is completed.

Julie Ludavissy stated the shrubs on the corner of Main Street and 1st Street needs to be trimmed and the hole by their driveway next to the bridge on Main Street has increased a great deal in size and would like to see this fixed. City staff will have Tony look into.

Sandy Woods also questioned what the City is doing about fixing and cleaning culverts in town. Council member Paula Gunter stated this was all addressed at the Town Hall Meeting two days ago this information has been given to the City and will be looking into.

Presentation by Larry Berger with Speer financial on Financial planning that would help with a financial profile for TIF projects and Debt capacity as well as help with Revenue or GO bonds. Council will review the information.

Park and Recreation Committee, Cultural Enrichment Chair; Kristy Ryan recommended the Council support the Eastern Iowa Arts Academy program in Palo. This donation would make it possible to open the classes up “free” to all participants. The summer program was a big success with 58% of the enrolled students from Palo. This will be the same program that was offered during the summer. This donation would be funded through the Park & Rec. budget.

Resolution #091409D to approve the donation in the amount of \$17,418.00, motion by Council member Paula Gunter, seconded by Council member Al Mengler, roll call, motion carried (5-0).

Resolution #091409E to approve the lions club signage to be placed in the right of way on the west side of 1st street, motion by Council member Paula Gunter, seconded by Council member John Harris, roll call, motion carried (5-0).

Darrell Cannon was present to discuss his property located at 4638 Shellsburg Road requesting Council approval for zoning classification to allow an auction facility and residence on the site. Stated there was a letter of support submitted by the Chamber of Commerce as well as a letter from Mark Ralston who is the owner of the development that abuts his property from the east and south. In Mark’s letter it’s stated he has no concerns other than would like to see this be a conditional use. Mayor Beauregard stated he would need to follow the procedures for annexation and zoning through the Planning & Zoning Commission and then request for a special exception or variance from the Board of Adjustment. The Council has no authority to make a decision without the property being in the City corporate limits. Darrell wanted the Council support. Was noted that all Council members showed by verbal support they would like to see the business stay in Palo.

Matt Shock discussed the bid tab for the site work of the Palo Concession stand, parking lot and ball field improvements. City Engineer would recommend to accept Ricklefs Excavating Ltd as the lowest bidder. Motion by Miller to award the bid to Ricklefs Excavating Ltd at \$185,167.25, seconded by Mengler, motion carried (5-0).

Motion by Mengler to award the RFQ for a 6” Vacuum assisted pump to Premier Pump & Power Co. in the amount of \$22,944.00, seconded by Gunter, motion carried (5-0).

Motion by Harris to award the importation of fill dirt per cubic yard to Ralston Construction with the low bid of \$6.12cy, seconded by Miller, motion carried (5-0).

Resolution #091409F to approve the Van Note Drainage easement and purchase, motion by Mengler, seconded by Harris, roll call, motion carried (5-0).

Motion by Mengler to approve Brogan’s Liquor license, seconded by Gunter, motion carried (5-0).

Motion by Gunter to approve Brogan’s beer permit for Palo Fun Days, seconded by Harris, motion carried (5-0).

Discussion on tax abatement Mayor Beauregard stated Linn County has approved the tax abatement which includes Palo. This will be 20% per tax season spread out through the next 2 ½ years. Any questions contact the Linn County Assessor’s office.

Motion by Gunter to place Ordinance #560-2009 City Clerk Publication requirements on its second reading, seconded by Mengler, roll call, motion carried (5-0).

Mayor Beauregard stated he would like to wait on the Maintenance building addition of a lien two until the Fire Station addition bids are submitted for next Council meeting.

Resolution #091409G to approve property lien for 601 1st Street, motion by Gunter, seconded by Mengler, roll call, motion carried (5-0).

Resolution #091409H to approve the salary for Trisca Smetzer at a Non-FEMA rate effective October 1st, 2009, motion by Gunter, seconded by Mengler, roll call, motion carried (5-0).

Department Reports:

Tony Hite submitted a Department report to the Council including two items for approval: Painting 1st Street Bridge. Eagle Scouts have volunteered to paint this and the Council agrees. Would like to see a pedestrian and bicycle crossing on Blair ferry with flashing lights (caution) and designated walk or bike path for both developments. Council agreed with as well.

Doug stated they have received prices for a welder of \$1000 and would like to purchase one. Council will review.

Gunter stated only mow ditch on 1st street where the pitch is steep for visibility.

Tom stated they will be installing the Omni Site alarm system on Wednesday.

Fire department report by Trent Miller; stated they now have first responders where an EMT may be available. Also stated the boat hull has been delivered and is waiting for the trailer so they can begin fabrication.

Old Business

Trent Miller asked about the trees along the creek. Tom stated they were bid to be clear cut which will leave the stumps level with the ground.

John Harris questioned Shelby Lane in Kwapil's addition the homeowners need to receive their punch list from the City.

New Business

Trisca Smetzer stated the applications for the 30% down payment assistance on new construction is available. Visit www.ecicog/palohomes or contact Kristine Chiafos at 365-9941.

Stacy Dix questioned if the council agrees for the old picnic tables to go out for resident use. Council requested a \$50 deposit in case of damages.

Motion by Council member Paula Gunter to adjourn at 8:48pm, seconded by Council member John Harris, motion carried (5-0).

Respectfully submitted by,

Trisca Smetzer, City Clerk