

The Palo City Council met in open session Monday, November 20th, 2023, at the Palo Community Center in the Council Chambers. Councilmember Angie Brekke led those present in the pledge of allegiance then called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Councilmembers present: Angie Brekke, Pete Hagstrom, and Kendra Klooster. Jen Welton attended via phone. Mayor Eric Van Kerckhove, and Andrea Rahe Absent. Others Present: Lenna Goodale, City Clerk. Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Klooster to approve the agenda. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Hagstrom motioned to approve the consent agenda. Klooster second. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

## CLAIMS REPORT

VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
ABC DISPOSAL SYSTEMS, INC	SOLID WASTE	10621.93
AGVANTAGE, FS, INC.	FUEL	36.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	GAS & ELECTRIC	4074.07
ANDERSON-BOGERT	ENGINEERING	23306.00
BRECKE INC.	WINTERIZED SPLASH PAD	2587.87
CAMPBELL SUPPLY CEDAR RAPIDS	TOOLS	382.77
CEDAR RAPIDS MUN. UTIL.	SEWER USAGE	12252.75
CEDAR RIVER BILLBOARD	FD STORM REPAIR	400.00
CEDAR RIVER GARDEN CENTER INC.	MAY TREES	3931.06
CINTAS CORPORATION	WATER TOWER	955.98
CITY OF FAIRFAX	INSPECTOR	7343.06
CJ COOPER & ASSOCIATES INC	DRUG TESTING DOT	270.00
CLARK ROBERTSON	MILEAGES	31.44
CONSOLIDATED ENERGY CO (INC)	FUEL	307.63
CYNTHIA STIMSON	MENTOR	270.57
DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA	DENTAL INSURANCE	204.90
ECICOG	LMI PROGRAM	1500.00
ECICOG	LMI 308 CLINTON ST	1500.00
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	3173.87
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	2579.16
FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU	FIRE DEPT TRAINING	199.90
FUTURE LINE TRUCK EQUIPMENT	DUMP TRUCK/SNOWPLOW	28307.78
GAZETTE COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	LEGAL PUBLICATION	485.83
GEE ASPHALT SYSTEMS INC.	MOBILIZATION	6160.00
HAWKINS, INC.	CHEMICALS	510.96
IMWCA	WORKER'S COMP	756.00
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	SALES WET TAX	2288.80
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	18.00
IPERS	IPERS	3727.97
IPERS	IPERS	-0.02
INFRASTRUCTURE TECHNOLOGY	TECHNOLOGY	612.00
KENWOOD RECORDS MGT INC.	RECYCLE BIN	15.90
KOCH OFFICE GROUP INC.	COPIER	250.03
LENNA GOODALE	TRAINING, MILEAGE	498.15
LINN COUNTY REC	STREETLIGHTS	295.57
LINN COUNTY TREASURER	SIGNS	95.32
LRS PORTABLES OF IOWA	PORTABLES	173.65
LUBBOCK CONSTRUCTION, IN.	FD STORM REPAIR	2200.00
LYNCH DALLAS PC	LEGAL	1067.50
MAT VANDER HEIDEN HAULING	FD FLAGPOLE	1000.00

MENARDS SOUTH INC.	PLOW SPREADER	770.21
MENARDS-MARION	PLOW/SPREADER	261.18
MICROBAC LABORATORIES INC	TESTING	37.00
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC.	METERS	7603.00
MUNSON ELECTRIC INC	HSP REPAIR	680.00
MUNSON ELECTRIC INC	FD STORM REPAIRS	8142.30
OFFICE EXPRESS INC	SUPPLIES	41.99
OVERHEAD DOOR COMPANY	FD DOOR	917.00
P & K MIDWEST	LAWN MOWER REPAIR	33.88
PALO COMMUNICATIONS	PHONE/FAX/INTERNET	655.56
PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL INC.	PEST CONTROL	80.25
RED LION RENEWABLES	SOLAR PANELS	2093.37
RELIANCE STANDARD	LIFE INSURANCE 3RD QTR	79.80
RELIANCE STANDARD	LIFE INSURANCE 4TH QTR	79.80
SCHMINKE EQUIPMENT LLC	BATTERIES	347.88
SHANE MURPHY	RENTAL REIMBURSEMENT	80.00
SPEER FINANCIAL, INC,	ANNUAL TIF REPORT	400.00
STATE CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS	CHEMICALS	1647.99
STORM STEEL	TRUCK REPAIR	27.31
UHS PREMIUM BILLING	HEALTH INSURANCE	2732.81
UMB BANK	2019A & 2019B FEES	1200.00
US BANK	SUPPLIES	340.58
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE	356.32
US POSTAL	POSTAGE	339.00
USA BLUEBOOK	PARTS	223.40
WEX BANK	FIRE DEPT FUEL	330.00
ZIPPY'S SALT BARN, LLC	SALT & SAND	1053.76
Accounts Payable Total		154946.79
Total Paid On: 10/27/23		9895.66
Total Paid On: 11/10/23		8129.61
Total Payroll Paid		18025.27
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		172972.06

**October 2023**

General Fund	276,778.75
Road Use	15,796.49
Employee Benefits	33,658.55
L.O.S.T.	16,545.29
TIF	145,451.41
Debt Service	80,301.93
ARPA Grant	7,080.49
Water Fund	41,567.15
Sewer Fund	55,140.04
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>672,320.10</b>

General Fund	34,263.02
Road Use Fund	8,816.41
Employee Benefits	4,874.05
TIF	16,370.63
Water Fund	21,321.70
Sewer Fund	23,086.63

**Total Expenses:**

108,732.44

Lenna Goodale reviewed clerk report. 53 penalties, 16 courtesy calls, 1 shut off and 3 nuisance letters. Goodale attended IMFOA in Des Moines. Also attended budget workshop on 11/2/23. Completed AFR and AURR reports. Staff working on emergency plan vendor contact list. Permit process with Linn County has been going smoothly. Preparing for the end of the month, and end of the year. City submitted and was awarded \$250 for park mulch and \$500 for park rubber mats from Aureon. City also submitted a grant and was awarded for \$264,000 from MPO Surface Transportation Block Grant for Covington Bridge and 1<sup>st</sup> St Rehabilitation FY24-27. Last day for yard waste will be 11/27/23. Soup with Santa will be 12/3/23. Received final numbers from the election. The new council members are Doug Hanover and Darren Stoltenberg.

Goodale gave the maintenance report. Everything is ready for snow removal. The salt and sand bunk are finished and moved from the old fire station. Will be working on cleaning out the old fire station to use for more storage. A tree on Church St was cut down and waiting for stump to be removed. Mowed and mulched leaves. Blairs Ferry Lift station pump was pulled due to flushable wipes plugging system. Will need to order new stainless-steel chain for pumps. The sewage rotted the chain. Windows at city hall have been cleaned. Will be sweeping streets before winter. Burned sunflower field. Will be removing trees from 1<sup>st</sup> St and burning the brush. Two brush piles to burn this winter, one at boat ramp and the other on 1<sup>st</sup> St east side of the road. Street signs have been ordered.

Andrew Lutter gave the fire department report. 11 calls. 5 medicals, 1 fire, 2 accidents, 1 rescue, and 1 mutual aid. Hazmat testing tomorrow night at the fire station. No training next month.

No Mayor's report given.

Brekke opened agenda related audience comments at 6:39 pm. No discussion. Closed comments at 6:39 pm.

Dean Brehm gave an update report on Duane Arnold Solar I & II. Phase 1- Final seeding continues with touch up seeding expected next year. Module racking installation continuing with wrap up first week of December 2023. Module installation continuing through November 2023. Continued work on electrical installations. All PV modules have been received and are onsite. Phase 2- Civil work is complete. Final seeding continues and touch up seeding expected next year. All Inverters have been received and are onsite on their foundations. Electrical work continues with DC conduit installation, Medium Voltage cable installation, and Bore Pipe along Palo Marsh Road. Post installation has started and will continue through November 2023. PV module delivery continues. Hagstrom voiced concerns on the semi crossing 1<sup>st</sup> St bridge to Lewis Bottom Rd. Brehm stated that his team is doing everything they can to prevent semi's using 1<sup>st</sup> St.

Deputy Snow gave Linn County Sheriff report. There were 66 calls and met the required 87 hours. Hagstrom asked the deputy for clarification on the vandalism on 11/10-11/11 regarding smashed windows. Deputy stated vehicles and the phone company had vandalism. They know three or four juveniles that were involved.

Mr. Pruisman with the American Legion is requesting financial assistance with the sidewalk project. He stated the project is almost done except for grading. Hagstrom asked how fundraising was going. Pruisman said some money has been donated and about 2/3 is paid. Welton asked what the final cost was. Brekke stated last month the cost was \$15,408. Pruisman said \$11,000 has been paid. Welton is not in favor of funding this project. Hagstrom stated he would help with fundraising. Hagstrom is in favor of Welton. Klooster suggested posting on Facebook. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Hagstrom to not fund this request for the sidewalk project. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Klooster to approve **Resolution 112023A authorizing the transfer of funds for the payment of debt interest and fees due December 1, 2023.** 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Brekke to approve **Resolution 112023B Annual Urban Renewal Report AURR FY23.** 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Welton left the meeting at 6:59 pm.

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Brekke to approve **Resolution 112023C AFR Report FY23.** 3 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (3-0).

Welton returned to the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Brekke to approve **Resolution 112023D authorizing the transfer of funds for the payment of debt interest, principal, and fees due June 1, 2023.** 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Goodale gave information on the differences between United Healthcare and Wellmark. Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hagstrom to approve United Healthcare, and dental-vision renewal. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Goodale stated Hydraulic Modeling of Dry Creek for Disc Golf Course has been moved to December meeting.

Motioned by Klooster, seconded by Brekke to approve the second reading of ORDINANCE 66-2023. An **Ordinance 66-2023 By Amending Chapter 69" Parking Regulation" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Palo, Iowa. Roll call. Motion carried (4-0).** Goodale corrected agenda item # should be ordinance number 66-2023 not 66-6023. Third reading will be next month.

The council had some discussion regarding Park & Recreation board. He stated the Thursday open gym is going very well. Trying to find ways to fundraise for the trail system. The board discussed possibly having a pavilion behind the post office where there is already a cement pad. Working on a youth ambassador club to get the youth more involved in the community. The board also created a Facebook page just for Park and Recreation. Some fundraising ideas are having a beer tasting event held at the community center and another idea is to have a community bon fire where residents can take real Christmas trees for a fee. Instead of making wooden park signs, it was discussed to have metal signs at each park. Hagstrom wanted to get the council's consent before moving forward. The council liked the ideas for the fundraising. Hagstrom also voices concerns about board members not attending meetings. He would like to get more people involved and who are passionate about building our community. Which is one reason the board would like to have zoom meetings in hopes that would allow members to join monthly meetings. Goodale also included that Hagstrom and Robertson are liaisons and therefore are not able to vote on agenda items. Klooster stated the members that are not attending meetings need to be addressed if they're not following through on their commitment, that the city needs to find residents that are committed. Hagstrom will follow up with board members.

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Klooster to approve the request from Scout Pack 87 requesting the community center and kitchen rental fees be waived for February 10, 2024. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

The council had a discussion on seasonal employment wages. The council feels seasonal employment should not make more than part-time employees. Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hagstrom to approve **Resolution 112023F** starting wages for seasonal employment positions at \$15 per hour. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Brekke opened general audience comments at 7:17 pm. Resident at 501 Main St. suggested the city to install steel beams with reflectors over 1<sup>st</sup> St bridge to stop semis using the bridge. Brekke closed comments at 7:22 pm.

No discussion on new business or old business. Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hagstrom to adjourn at 7:22 pm. Respectfully submitted by Lenna Goodale, City Clerk.