

The Palo City Council met in open session on Monday, March 18, 2024, at the Palo Community Center in the Council Chambers. Mayor Van Kerckhove led those present in the pledge of allegiance and then called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Councilmembers present: Angie Brekke, Pete Hagstrom, Doug Hanover, Kendra Klooster, and Darren Stoltenberg. Others Present: Lenna Goodale, City Clerk; Clark Robertson, Public Works.

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Hanover to approve the agenda. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Hagstrom motioned to approve the consent agenda. Klooster second. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

CLAIMS REPORT

VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
ABC DISPOSAL SYSTEMS, INC	SOLID WASTE DEC	22,873.37
ALLIANT ENERGY	GAS & ELECTRIC	6,225.32
ANDERSON-BOGERT	ENGINEERING	16,226.00
BOWKER MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS	HEATER REPAIR	417.82
BRECKE INC.	PUMPS	857.67
C4 OPERATIONS BACKGROUND CHECK	FD BACKGROUND	54
CEDAR RAPIDS MUN. UTIL.	SEWER USAGE	13,326.13
CINTAS CORPORATION	AED	600.66
CITY OF FAIRFAX	INSPECTOR	4,079.52
CYNTHIA STIMSON	MENTOR	100.59
D.R. HORTON	PERMITS REFUND	15,013.02
DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA	DENTAL INSURANCE	215.3
ECICOG	LMI REHAB PROJECT	2,808.90
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	2,905.52
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FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU	TRAINING	50
FUTURE LINE TRUCK EQUIPMENT	CUTTING EDGE	1,820.20
GAZETTE COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	LEGAL PUBLICATION	301.19
GWORKS	ANNUAL LICENSE	984
HAWKEYE COMMUNICATION INC.	ANNUAL INSPECTION	245
HAWKEYE FIRE & SAFETY CO	FD TESTING	1,129.00
HAWKINS, INC.	CHEMICALS	1,337.80
INTERSTATE BILLING SERVICE, IN	SKIDLOADER REPAIR	1,320.61
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	SALES WET TAX	1,736.62
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	11.7
ITS	COMPUTERS	549
JAKE'S CONCRETE CONSTRUCION	STUMP REMOVAL	1,500.00
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SUPPLIES	268.99
KENWOOD RECORDS MGT INC.	RECYCLE BIN	15.9
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	FD TRAINING	224
LINN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH	GENERATOR RENEWAL	940
LINN COUNTY REC	STREET LIGHTS	294.61
LYNCH DALLAS PC	LEGAL FEES	1,126.00
MENARDS SOUTH INC.	PAINT SUPPLY	455.59
MERCY CEDAR RAPIDS	FD PHYSICAL	337
MICROBAC LABORATORIES INC	TESTING	317.75
MIKE LEAVEN	FD TRAINING BOOKS	109.8
MILES WYATT	FD ALTOONA	812.98
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC.	METERS	9,565.00
OFFICE EXPRESS INC	SUPPLIES	37.95

OMNI SITE INC.	ALARM	238.36
PALO COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE ASS	PHONES	655.67
RED LION RENEWABLES LLC	SOLAR PANELS	2,190.54
ROTO-ROOTER INC.	LIFT STATION	1,980.00
STATE CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS	CHEMICALS	1,647.99
TRUENORTH COMPANIES, LC	INSURANCE	279.3
UHS PREMIUM BILLING	HEALTH INSURANCE	2,451.51
US BANK	SUPPLIES	440.84
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE	355.7
US POSTAL SERVICE	POSTAGE	415.1
VIKING INDUSTRIAL PAINTING LLC	WT MAINT.	4,952.00
WEX BANK	FIRE DEPT FUEL	191.54
WHITE CAP, LP	ROAD REPAIRS	67.81
Accounts Payable Total		127,060.87
Total Paid On: 3/01/24		8,862.85
Total Payroll Paid		8,862.85
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		135,923.72
GENERAL		60,620.92
ROAD USE		6,910.59
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		1,853.86
TIF		2,808.90
WATER		28,739.75
SEWER		34,989.70
TOTAL FUNDS		135,923.72

February 2024

General Fund	16,534.83
Road Use	14,489.77
Employee Benefits	131.40
L.O.S.T.	23,699.91
TIF	426.90
Debt Service	293.33
Asphalt Overlay Project	80,000.00
Water Fund	28,515.53
Sewer Fund	44,053.76
Total Revenue:	208,145.43

General Fund	80,104.86
Road Use Fund	15,559.37
Employee Benefits	2,648.58
L.O.S.T	80,000.00
TIF	22,029.00
ARPA	371.25
Water Fund	29,248.90
Sewer Fund	25,279.08
Total Expenses:	255,241.04

No Deputy from Linn County Sheriff to give a report. No discussion.

Goodale gave the clerk's report. 61 penalties, 20 courtesy calls, 0 shuts off. Worked on budget amendment #2 and FY25 budget. Attending the MPO meeting. Yard carts will be picked every week all year around with no extra charge. Palo was granted \$2,367,000

for the connector trail available in 2027. Waiting to hear back from Linn Co, engineer, and EMA for possible April 24 emergency disaster training. Met with Palo Communication for pictures of the awarded grants. Goodale asked the council if they are planning an ice rink so it can be added to insurance. Had a clerk meeting. Goodale met with Michelle Cheever, City Engineer to go over sewer and water rates. Infrastructure meeting held in March. Worked on auditor's reports. The state auditor will be here on March 26. Goodale informed the council that Dean Brehm, project manager for NextEra will not be at the meeting tonight.

Robertson gave the maintenance report. Worked on quotes for the mowers, Blairs Ferry lift station, and park shade. Cleaning brush, burning ditches, and at the boat ramp. Had Iowa One calls. Water report. The team is getting ready for spring, trimming trees, and cleaning the trails. Robertson had an Infrastructure meeting, worked on a 28E agreement with Shellsburg, and worked with Linn Co on the turn lane on HWY 94. They will be patching holes by the RR track and other areas in town. Started mowing ditches and planting along the creek. Lining up tree planting at the end of April. He will be attending water training, and flood training in Iowa City.

Andrew Lutter gave the fire department report. 13 calls. Had ambulance familiarization last Wednesday. Fire training tomorrow night. Pancake breakfast will be at the end of April.

Mayor Van Kerckhove gave the mayor's report. The mayor informed the council that Dollar General is interested in building behind Casey's. He also asked the council if they are interested in hearing information on speed cameras at the intersections of Hwy 94 & Hollenbeck Rd, and Blairs Ferry Rd & 1st St. The council agreed.

The mayor opens agenda-related audience comments at 6:41 pm. The resident at 202 Main St started to talk about water quality. Brekke stopped the resident to explain that this time was for agenda-related items. That she would be able to present during general audience comments. The mayor closed comments at 6:42 pm.

Jeremy Murphy with Outlaw Dynamics, and resident of Palo requested to be on the agenda. He would like to hold a vendor market twice a month on Sundays from 4 pm – 7 pm and Saturday May 4 from 9 am-3 pm. He is requesting it to be held in the parking lot at City Hall. Palo vendors would be at no cost and outside vendors would pay \$25. A portion of these proceeds would be donated to the Palo Fire Department. The mayor asked if he would consider another location. He suggested Clymer Park. Brekke voiced concern that city hall would be closed to access the restrooms, where Clymer Park would have one. Mr. Murphy agreed. The council agreed to have a vendor market at Clymer Park. Goodale will add to the city event calendar on the website.

Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve **Resolution 031824A adopting a policy regarding water/sewer connection fees for the City of Palo.** 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

A discussion was had on write-off because residents are deceased. Motioned by Klooster, seconded by Hagstrom to approve **Resolution 031824B authorizing the bad debt write-off of uncollectible accounts receivable in the water, sewer, and garbage fund at 46 Church St., 48 Church St., and 601 Vinton St.** 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hanover to approve **Resolution 031824C setting a public hearing for the FY24 Budget Amendment #2 for April 15, 2024, at 6:30 pm.** 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Discussion was had regarding the LMI Service Line Program. The program would be for LMI-qualified income to replace service lines. The project would end by June 2025. The maximum from the LMI fund would be \$250,000 and \$15,000 per property. Goodale will contact ECICOG to finalize the program. Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hagstrom to approve the **LMI Service Line Program with ECICOG.** Roll call. Motion carried (5-0).

A discussion was had regarding Amnesty Day. The council would like Goodale to get quotes for next month. The council would like to have Amnesty Day on May 11.

Motioned by Klooster, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve LRS Porta Pottys Rentals at Memorial Park and Clymer Park. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

An Ordinance 69-2024 By Amending Chapter 69 "Parking Regulation – adding gravel" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Palo, Iowa. Brekke motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 69-2024. Roll call. Motion carried (5-0). Brekke motion to suspend the rules requiring Ordinance No. 69.2024 two readings before the final approval. Roll call. Motion carried (5-0). Brekke motion to **approve the final passage and adoption to ORDINANCE 69-2024 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 69 "PARKING REGULATION – ADDING GRAVEL" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PALO, IOWA.** Roll call. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve **Resolution 031824D to set the public hearing on changes to chapter 165 (Zoning- Fencing within drainage easements) of the Palo, Iowa Code of Ordinances on April 15 2024 at 6:30 pm.** 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Had some discussion on Iowa Pump Works. Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hanover to approve **Iowa Pump Works service agreement quote electing for the three-year service agreement at the guaranteed price listed at \$2000 per inspection.** 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Brekke to approve the **Blackhawk Sprinklers Inspections for \$1080 at the Fire Department and City Hall.** 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Had some discussion regarding buying or leasing the 2023 John Deere Z950r ZTrak mower. Robertson explained that the city had the option to trade in every year, and then would purchase a new mower each year. Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Klooster to approve **P & K Midwest quote of \$10,300 for the 2023 John Deere Z950r ZTrak.** 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Had some discussion on the skid loader mower. Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve **BDS Equipment quote of \$6399 for the 74" Jenkins Direct Drive Brush mower with push bar.** 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Klooster to approve WLCG dates for the yearly events. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Hanover to approve **Resolution 031824E setting the public hearing to amend chapter 165 zoning regulations changing parking space regulations on April 15, 2024, at 6:30 pm.** 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

The mayor opens general audience comments at 7:37 pm. A resident at 202 Main St. gave the council a packet regarding the water quality. She voiced concerns about the chlorine smell of the city water. She stated the TTHM is higher than the surrounding communities from her research. She did say the research shows the city water is under the legal level so that is not the issue. However, it's a quality issue for the use of having to drink water that smells like chlorine. Goodale will add this to next month's meeting. Closed comments at 7:41 pm.

New Business: Goodale reminded the council there are two special meetings on April 1 at 5:30 pm and 5:45 pm. Hagstrom asked if Park & Rec is hosting a beer tasting at the community center. Would they need to get a permit? Goodale stated if they are selling alcohol they would need to get a permit from the State. Goodale will call the insurance company to see if the city will be covered for this event.

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hanover to adjourn at 7:44 pm. Respectfully submitted by Lenna Goodale, City Clerk.