

The Palo City Council met in open session on Monday, May 20, 2024, at the Palo Community Center in the Council Chambers. Mayor Van Kerckhove led those present in the pledge of allegiance and called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Councilmembers present: Angie Brekke, Pete Hagstrom, Doug Hanover, and Darren Stoltenberg. Kendra Klooster resigned. Others Present: Lenna Goodale, City Clerk; Clark Robertson, Public Works.

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve the agenda. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0). Hanover motioned to approve the consent agenda. Stoltenberg second. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

## CLAIMS REPORT

VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
ALLIANT ENERGY	GAS & ELECTRIC	5,637.27
ALTORFER INC	LINN GENERATOR	5,740.87
ANDERSON-BOGERT	ENGINEERING	26,581.79
ANDREW LUTTER	DECALS LABELS	294.43
BLACKHAWK AUTOMATIC	CC FIRE SPRINKLER	1,080.00
BRECKE INC.	WATER HEATER	175.80
C4 OPERATIONS	FD BACKGROUND	23.00
CEDAR RAPIDS MUN. UTIL.	SEWER USAGE	13,866.33
CEDAR RIVER RENTAL COMPAY	TREE PLANTING	258.50
CENTER POINT AUTO PARTS	TRUCK BATTERY	167.50
CINTAS CORPORATION	CH-CC	1,191.24
CITY OF FAIRFAX	INSPECTOR	3,970.27
CITY OF HIAWATHA	FD CPR	126.80
CJ COOPER & ASSOCIATES INC	DRUG TESTING DOT	50.00
LEE CRAWFORD QUARRY CO	BACKFILL ROCK	161.19
CYNTHIA STIMSON	MENTORING	61.89
D & K PRODUCTS	FERTILIZER	2,059.05
DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA	DENTAL INSURANCE	215.30
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	2,962.35
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	2,862.74
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	5,825.09
ELECTRIC PUMP	WTP	1,245.90
EO JOHNSON TECHNOLOGIES	MARCH COPIER	619.41

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU	TRAINING	150.00
THE GAZETTE	LEGAL PUBLICATION	735.65
GWORKS	23-26 CLOUD	3,386.67
HACH COMPANY	CHEMICALS_WATER	386.00
HYDRA-FAB	HOSE	7.15
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	SALES-WET TAX	1,690.44
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	54.90
IPERS	IPERS	3,737.88
IPERS	ADJUSTMENT	(0.03)
ITS	TECHNOLOGY	548.00
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SUPPLIES	2,526.84
KENWOOD RECORDS MGT INC.	RECYCLE BIN	101.58
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	FD TRAINING	120.00
L.L. PELLING CO., INC.	PREMIX	409.50
LENNA GOODALE	MILEAGES	182.85
LINN COUNTY FIRE FIGHTERS	FD DUES	25.00
LINN COUNTY REC	STREET LIGHTS	283.02
LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	CONTRACT FOR SERVICES	10,440.00
LYNCH DALLAS PC	LEGAL	777.00
MC MAHON TRUCK & AUTO LLC	SKID REPAIR	843.68
MENARDS SOUTH INC.	SUPPLIES	339.46
MENARDS-MARION	PARK PROJECT	599.47
MICROBAC LABORATORIES INC	TESTING	238.50
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC.	METERS	2,036.80
MUNSON ELECTRIC INC	AC	1,334.39
NCL OF WISCONSIN INC	TESTING	333.62
PALO COOPERATIVE	TELEPHONE	651.62
PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL INC.	PEST CONTROL CONTRACT	681.83
RED LION RENEWABLES LLC	SOLAR PANELS	4,160.91

ROTO-ROOTER INC.	JET & CLEANING	3,543.75
SARAH SWAYZE	LIBRARY CARD	25.00
SCHIMBERG COMPANY	HYDRANT REPAIR	729.55
STATE CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS	CHEMICALS	1,647.99
STOREY KENWORTHY	UITILY BILLS	1,133.00
UHS PREMIUM BILLING	HEALTH INSURANCE	2,526.40
US BANK	SUPPLIES	4,495.82
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE	355.64
US POSTAL SERVICE	POSTAGE	483.10
USA BLUEBOOK	MIXER	1,702.66
VAN METER INC	LED LIGHTS	153.29
VESSCO, INC	WATER TOWER	801.96
WEX BANK	FIRE DEPT FUEL	391.13
Accounts Payable Total		124,123.65
Total Paid On: 4/26/24		9,906.77
Total Paid On: 5/10/24		9,277.80
Total Payroll Paid		19,184.57
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		143,308.22
GENERAL		78,486.73
ROAD USE		7,585.66
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		1,906.28
ARPA		817.30
WATER		23,990.49
SEWER		30,521.76
TOTAL FUNDS		143,308.22
<b>March 2024</b>		
General Fund	261,069.55	
Road Use	16,095.43	
Employee Benefits	31,972.10	
L.O.S.T.	16,671.88	
TIF	110,042.49	
Debt Service	73,297.85	
Water Fund	34,499.18	

Sewer Fund	52,273.04
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	595,921.52
General Fund	65,162.33
Road Use Fund	8,114.30
Employee Benefits	3,906.49
TIF	125.00
ARPA	82.50
Water Fund	24,633.77
Sewer Fund	31,633.15
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	133,657.54

No deputy was present for the Linn County Sheriff's report. No discussion was had.

Goodale gave the clerk's report. 49 penalties, 18 courtesy calls, 0 shut-offs, 4 nuisance letters sent on grass and dogs. Attended the EMA, and MPO meetings. Had a Special Meeting on 4/24/24. Had a CIP meeting and will continue to have before our budget workshop. The city needs to form a committee on Hazard Mitigation. If interested, contact City Hall. Worked on the DNR Floodplain Ordinance. Goodale spoke with Freese Well regarding a well that Duane Arnold would like removed. He thought the city would be interested in. Goodale will give information to the mayor. The Avenue of the Flags will be \$40. Prairie Vista Phase II has 4 homes started. Amnesty Day was a success. Some nuisance ordinances were left out of codification. Worked with Maggie on TIF rebate payments. The city will now have a temp zoning permit instead of temp occupancy. The money will be collected from the city instead of the county. Will need to amend those ordinances as we find. Still working with FEMA on CAT Z project from the Derecho. Hopefully will close the project in July 2024.

Robertson gave the maintenance report. Mowed, including ditches and ROW, sprayed weeds, and planted trees. Sweep 1<sup>st</sup> St and Blairs Ferry Rd. The main lift pump was installed. Will start putting banners up this week. Received quotes on radios, and playground mulch. Getting ready for the holiday weekend. The splash pad will be open. The water plant mixer has been installed. Flushed hydrants. Sunflowers & wildflowers have been planted. Talked with the sheriff on truck traffic on 1<sup>st</sup> St. The generators have all been serviced. Robertson had EMA training. Monthly water testing.

Andrew Lutter gave the fire department report. Had 10 calls. 2 vehicles, 2 storm watches, 2 fire, 2 medical, and 2 mutual aids. Saturday had a house burn in Covington. There were 75 firefighters from the surrounding area. The pancake breakfast went well.

Mayor Van Kerckhove gave the mayor's report. He stated the generators all have been serviced and permitted through Linn County. The mayor informed the council the city was never notified of the permitting and fees as a result Linn County has fined the city for past-due permits. Robertson stated they should have started in 2008.

The mayor opens agenda-related audience comments at 6:43 pm. Erin Peterson with Palo Communications had a list of items for the council. One item brought up was the opportunity for a revolving loan. Gave examples and hoped Palo Communications would have a zero percent. She also attended the WLCG meeting and was concerned that the Palo Library doesn't have a connection to the Cedar Rapids Library. She also wanted to let the council know that the city has received funding for the mulch through Aureon. She also feels there is an opportunity with First Net regarding handheld radios. She gave examples. The mayor closed comments at 6:50 pm.

DJ Wilson gave an update report on the Duane Arnold Solar Phase 2. Final seeding is expected in May, weather dependent. Electrical work continues with DC cable and AC cable installed through May. Post-installation has started and will continue through May. PV module installation through May. Racking Install will continue through May. The mayor asked how many panels are in phase 1 & 2. Wilson stated about half a million. Stoltenberg asked about maintaining the grounds. Wilson stated NextEra has a green team that will be maintaining the grounds for the next 30 years. The mayor would like to see NextEra buying equipment locally.

Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Hagstrom to open the public hearing at 6:54 pm 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).  
 Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hagstrom to close the public hearing at 6:55 pm. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).  
 Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hagstrom to approve **Resolution 052024A** approving the FY24 Budget Amendment #2. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Hanover to approve **Resolution 052024B** approving transfers for debt. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay.

Motion carried (4-0).

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve **Resolution 052024C** Personal Handbook Religious Freedom Restoration Act. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve **Resolution 052024D** for street sign claim release. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

The mayor informed the council of Fire Chief Jeff Gibbons's resignation. Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Brekke to approve **Resolution 052024E** Andrew Lutter as Fire Chief and James Seely as Asst Fire Chief. Roll call. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve **Resolution 052024F**. The city will pay \$5 for each firefighter who responds to a field call. The city will pay at the end of June and Dec. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

The mayor asked the council if they received Kendra Klooster's resignation letter. The mayor encourages anyone interested in filling the vacancy to contact city hall and apply. Hanover asked why the council wanted to appoint instead of having a special election. He went through a special election to fill his seat. The mayor stated to avoid the cost of a special election and is not for a full term. The term would end in December 2025. More discussion was held. Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hagstrom to approve Resolution 052024G setting a notice of intent for the Palo City Council to fill the vacancy by appointment on June 17, 2024, and to apply by June 10. Roll call. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Had discussion. Hanover and Stoltenberg agreed that paving the area from 1<sup>st</sup> St to the sidewalk would potentially create a parking spot which is what the city wants to void. Stoltenberg would like to postpone giving the council time to look at the area with Robertson. Motioned by Stoltenberg, seconded by Brekke to postpone L.L. Pelling's quote for 1<sup>st</sup> St & Memorial Park until June 17. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Brekke to approve U.S. Geological survey \$3445. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Discussed the cost difference between seal coat and asphalt. It might be in the best interest of the city to pay the difference. Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Stoltenberg to move forward on Dale Lee Dr and to get a quote from L.L. Pelling on seal coat and asphalt then have a discussion with Mark Ralston about the payment for his portion. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Discussed the differences between playground mulch vs rubber. A discussion on the park's vision, donations, or grant opportunities. Motioned by Stoltenberg, seconded by Hanover to postpone until June 17 to look at alternative options. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve Munson Electric to install Hi Bay light fixtures at the fire department for \$6080. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Robertson explains the difference between the quotes of \$17,823.84 & \$21,215.84. One is having the maintenance department install an antenna & line on the water tower. Discussion on placement, lights, and insurance. Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Stoltenberg to postpone the handheld & mobile radios for additional quotes for June 17. 4 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (4-0).

Motioned by Stoltenberg, seconded by Hanover to introduce and approve the first reading of ORDINANCE 73-2024 Amending the Code of Ordinance of the City of Palo, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to Chapter 160 Floodplain Regulations. Roll call. Motion carried (4-0).

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hagstrom to suspend the rules requiring Ordinance No. 73-2024 for two readings before final approval. Roll call. Motion carried (4-0).

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hagstrom to approval the final passage and adoption of **Ordinance No. 73-2024 AMENDING**

**THE CODE OF ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALO, IOWA, BY AMENDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO CHAPTER 160 FLOODPLAIN REGULATIONS. Roll call. Motion carried (4-0).**

The mayor opens general audience comments at 7:57 pm. Jim Hopkins from ABC Disposal asked the council for feedback from Amnesty Day. The council stated they were happy with ABC's service and the flow of Amnesty Day.

A resident at 701 3<sup>rd</sup> St would like to be on the agenda next month for fireworks ideas. He voiced concerns about the traffic speed on Main St. along with the minibikes, go-carts, and racing on the street. The mayor asked Goodale to contact the Linn County Sheriff. Goodale also suggested residents call the sheriff's department to make a report to have on record. The Resident also asked about the ordinance of parking trailers on hard surfaces. The council went over hard surfaces that would apply.

A resident from 201 Vinton St. was glad to hear the banners will be put up. He informed the council that he filled the ditch on his property from the snowplow.

A resident at 4577 Meadow Creek Dr would like to bring RC Parking Lot racing to Palo. He would like to use the cement area at Clymer Park for this event. He suggested the council look at their website [www.cedarriverspeedway](http://www.cedarriverspeedway). Goodale will add to next month's agenda.

Closed comments at 8:12 pm.

New Business- Brekke would like to keep the revolving loan idea that Erin Petersen spoke of for the CIP projects in the fall.

Old Business-Stoltenberg addressed the council on the ordinance for parking trailers on hard surfaces. He is not in favor of the ordinance. He received calls regarding this topic. There was some discussion.

Goodale also informed the council the city needs to fill a seat for Planning & Zoning. We have four members now though not enough to have a quorum for a meeting.

Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Hagstrom to adjourn at 8:21 pm. Respectfully submitted by Lenna Goodale, City Clerk.