

The Palo City Council met in special session at Palo City Hall April 23, 2012. Mayor Tom Sanders called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council Members present: Trent Miller, Scott Packingham, Josh Frank, Doug Hanover, Brian Beaty. Others present: None.

The Mayor led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. Hanover moved **approval of agenda**; Frank second. Motion carried. (5-0)

Council discussed topics presented by Larry Burger, Speer Financial, at the previous Council Meeting. These topics included the interest rate schedule and the savings to the City over and above fees paid. Beaty motion to approve **Resolution 042312A Authorizing Issuance of General Obligation Corporate Purpose and Refunding Bonds and Approving the Levy of Taxes to Pay the Same**; Hanover second. Roll call. Motion carried. (5-0)

Miller motion to approve second reading **Ordinance 579-2012 Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Palo, 2012, by Repealing 90.07 (4) & (6) pertaining to Water Service Connections and 90.30 Rates Outside the City**; Beaty second. Roll call. Motion carried. (5-0)

Hanover motion to open public hearing Ordinance 580-2012 Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Palo, Iowa, 2012, by Repealing Chapter 90.34, 2012, pertaining to Cross Connection Control at 6:39 p.m.; Beaty second. Roll call. Motion carried. (5-0) Clerk did not receive written comments. Audience comment: Examples of specific uses necessitating the need for backflow preventers, inspection process, and regulations. These examples included swimming pools, irrigation systems, sprinkler systems, industrial uses, inspections required, and State and County regulations. Further discussion included the costs associated with both backflow prevention devices and the inspection process. Council reiterated the need to make sure the City water supply is safe and their research on how other small cities handle this issue. Miller motion to close public hearing at 6:44 p.m.; Hanover second. Roll call. Motion carried. (5-0) Councilperson Miller informed Council Darrell Cannon offered to provide information to Council on cross connection controls by holding a workshop. Further discussion on sandpoint wells, pressure washers, sprinkler systems, carbonated beverage distribution systems, industrial uses, swimming pools, cross connection control costs, safety, costs if the water supply is compromised, anti-siphon devices, inspections, Howard R. Green recommendation, and the redundancy of 90.34 (3) sentence 3 in relation to sentences 1 and 2. Beaty motion to approve first reading **Ordinance 580-2012 Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Palo, Iowa, 2012, by Repealing Chapter 90.34, 2012, pertaining to Cross Connection Control** as revised to strike 90.34 (3) "Any premise that uses any other source of water or a private well must have an approved backflow preventative device and yearly testing on the backflow device to prevent contamination of the City water supply." Hanover second. Roll call. Motion carried. (4-1) Miller nay. Clerk instructed to contact Darrell Cannon to set up a workshop at his convenience. Participants will include Council and Maintenance Superintendent.

Council discussed the **offset program** requirements. They will review the Information in their packets and discuss further if it is determined there is a need for the service. Collection procedures were discussed including deposits, landlord and tenant accounts, and other collection options or services available.

Old Business: Rain has delayed volunteer and contractor work on the **boat ramp project**. Clerk instructed to have Maintenance Superintendent contact Schoon Construction so they can move their equipment further away from the boat ramp construction site.

Council discussed the vandalism of the **concession stand** facilities. The Mayor would like a schedule from the organizations renting the facilities so the restroom facility can be closed when the ball diamonds are not in use. Different methods to identify the vandals were discussed. The Council would like information on the vandalism and a request for citizens to be aware if they see unusual activity at the location to call the Sheriff's department

in the City newsletter. Council would like Maintenance staff to provide costs associated with replacing current fixtures with stainless steel. The Council discussed the need to keep the facilities open for restroom and storm shelter use and the costs associated with maintaining the facilities. Different options to change the way the facility is opened and closed including a keyless entry system, deposits for keys, and other options were discussed. Clerk instructed to see if City Administrator included information on the punch list to make sure doors are currently keyed the same. Council would like more information on a keypad for this facility.

Council instructed Clerk to follow up on easement agreement for the Splash Pad.

Councilperson Beaty is continuing to work on securing bids for the concrete around the splash pad control structure. Installation of the water fountain was discussed. Mayor Sanders will clarify questions on the installation. Concrete may be added to a small strip of grass near the splash pad. Council discussed the water supply valves at the concession stand/storm shelter/restroom facility.

The gym floor in the **community center** will be repainted the first week of May. When the LP system is installed work will be completed on the sewer system and the area will be final graded. Council would like the engineer for the community center project to stake out the area for the LP system. The Mayor will contact Ralston Construction about grading the fire station site. The wetland project in the area was also discussed. The fire station site is the designated site for the excavated materials from dredging the boat ramp.

New Business: Mayor will contact Ricklef's Excavating, LTD about grading the Pleasant Creek Estates area and the area near the ball diamonds on 1st Street. Council discussed filling and grading to maintain the shoulders on Blairs Ferry Road and other areas of town. Equipment needs were also discussed. The Mayor and Maintenance staff will evaluate buying new tires and recapping others to extend the life of the tires for the Bobcat.

Mr. Zeller suggested filling a walkway from the ball diamonds to the Palo MiniMart with chips so bystanders are less inclined to sit on the grass the children use as a walkway. He is concerned children are walking on the road. Council is concerned there is not room in front of the ball diamonds. It may be a consideration for the back of the ball diamonds. Relocation of the Cougar and City sheds will add more parking spaces for ball diamond and splash pad parking.

Hanover motion to **adjourn** at 8:33 p.m.; Frank second. Motion carried. (5-0)

Michelle NejdI

City Clerk