

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
MARCH 11, 2020

Charles City city council met in a planning session on March 11, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in council chambers. Mayor Dean Andrews presided and the following council members were present: Keith Starr, Jerry Joerger, DeLaine Freeseaman and Phoebe Pittman. Absent was Phillip Knighten. Also present was city administrator Steve Diers.

St. Patrick's day parade will have a new route this year. It will start at Hot Shots, go north on Main Street, go west to Jackson Street and end at the Pub. This is scheduled for March 21.

St. Charles Brewery has submitted an application for an expansion of their current outdoor service for several events they will be holding this summer into fall. It is the same layout they used for an event last year. They will park food vendors on the north side of their building and they were asked to not have them in the street at all. This item will be on the next regular council agenda for consideration.

Alan Powell from Jendro Sanitation was present to discuss his request for an increase in his fees. The current agreement allows for a request to increase prices by the increase in the CPI. This past December, the CPI rose 2.3%. His costs of insurance, wages and fuel are the main reasons for the request. He was asked if we should consider eliminating recycling to help reduce costs but Alan would prefer to just reduce the number of items they will take rather than eliminate all together. The automation is going well. This amendment to the agreement will be on the next regular agenda for council action.

Library director Annette Dean was present to discuss a notice she received on changes to Federal funding for libraries. This funding has been eliminated from the next federal budget and she is asking her board to contact our legislators to keep this funding intact. This year, we got \$16,000 of these funds which was used to buy computers. If anyone wants to contact our legislators on their own, go to ALA.org and you can fill in your name and city and it will send the letter to the correct representative.

The water tower painting design has been mocked up and was reviewed. The lettering will be the same font as our entrance signs and will be 8' tall compared to the 5' we have now. Discussion on whether to have the design on one or two sides of the tower with the consensus being to have on two sides and visible from either direction on the Avenue of the Saints.

New legislation called American Water Infrastructure Act requires any cities over 3300 population to have an assessment done for terrorism, hacking, etc. issues and have this certified to the EPA by March 31, 2021. City water department employees don't have the time nor expertise to complete this and have asked for proposals from several firms to prepare the necessary documents from start to finish. The following two proposals were received: Dixon Engineering at \$14,570 and SEH at \$17,500. This will be on the next regular agenda for council consideration.

Mayor Andrews had to leave the meeting and Mayor pro Tem Joerger took over chairing the meeting.

A supplemental agreement with Calhoun Burns for the Main Street bridge repair project have been submitted. This agreement would cover construction related engineering services which includes on site observation, verification that the specified materials were used, providing field testing and ensure that the plans and specifications are followed. They will also do a pre-construction meeting, review drawings, verify quantities, prepare monthly payment requests and final inspection. Council hopes that the sidewalks on the bridge will also be looked at and repaired as needed with this project.

A formal agreement with the Iowa Soybean Association for the Iowa Partners in Conservation grant. They will provide technical assistance to the watershed coordinator for testing the water samples collected. We will pay \$10,400 per year for 5 years to the Iowa Soybean Association for this. This will be on the next regular agenda for council consideration.

City administrator Diers reported that there is a lot of information moving on the WRRF project. No definite date has been given yet but it should be sooner rather than later. It helped to separate out the

Gilbert Street lift station. Two bids were received on the McQuillen Place project. Steve will be going to Des Moines to review them with the bankruptcy firm and IEDA. Discussions are being held with Mr. Holtkamp on his project to building a nursing home/assisted living/memory care unit. It should take about 14 months to construct and he's hoping for completion in 2022. Work continues on the ambulance discussion and they are just about ready to go out for proposals. The city was awarded a water quality initiative grant for \$100,000. We will start interviewing next week for the utility clerk position. We will discuss replacing the council workbooks at the next planning session.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Dean Andrews, Mayor

Attest:

Trudy O'Donnell, City Clerk