

March 10, 2009

Proceedings of the City Council of University Heights, Iowa, subject to approval by the Council at a subsequent meeting. ALL VOTES ARE UNANIMOUS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED ZONING CHANGES**

Mayor From called the public hearing on the Proposed Zoning changes to order at 7:00 p.m. No members of the public were present to speak concerning the zoning changes in question. Mayor From adjourned the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL YEAR July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 BUDGET**

Mayor From called the public hearing on the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 to order at 7:04 p.m. No members of the public were present to speak concerning the budget in question. Mayor From adjourned the public hearing at 7:07 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING**

Mayor From called the March, 2009 meeting of the University Heights City Council to order at 7:08 p.m.

**Present:** Mayor From. Council Members Andrew Dudler, Stan Laverman, Brennan McGrath and Amy Moore. Staff present: Engineer Bilskemper, Attorney Ballard, Treasurer Kimura, Police Chief Fort and Clerk Anderson. Also present were Pat Bauer, Katherine Belgum, Holly Breese, Tom Breese, Molly Burke, Carol Ann Christiansen, Chris Hedlund, Steven Hedlund, Eunice Hunzelman, Al Leff, Jeffrey Maxwell, Dell Richard, Mary Richard, and Al Wells.

David Giese was absent.

The minutes of the February 10, 2009 and the March 4, 2009 meetings of the Council were presented and approved by **unanimous consent**.

**Public Input:** None.

**Mayor’s Report:** The Mayor’s written report was presented. Mayor From reported that the city will receive \$50,000 IDOT Federal Stimulus money for panel replacement on Melrose Avenue and Sunset Street. From also thanked MidAmerican Energy for agreeing to sponsor the 1<sup>st</sup> University Heights city wide pick-up day on April 18<sup>th</sup>. MidAmerican Energy will contribute \$250 as well as gloves and trash bags.

**Legal Report:** A written report was presented. Attorney Ballard commented that he made a change to the ordinance; the change is grammatical in nature and does not affect the substance of the ordinance.

**MOTION** by Laverman, seconded by McGrath, to suspend the requirement that a proposed ordinance be considered and voted upon for passage at two council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is finally passed.. **Carried.**

Dudler - Aye                      McGrath - Aye  
Giese - Absent                  Moore - Aye  
Laverman – Aye

**MOTION** by Laverman, seconded by Moore, for third consideration of Ordinance 171 amending the Zoning Ordinance regarding minimum yards and surface composition of parking spaces. **Carried.**

Dudler - Aye                      McGrath - Aye  
Giese - Absent                  Moore - Aye  
Laverman – Aye

**MOTION** by Laverman, seconded by McGrath, to adopt resolution No. 09-03 establishing an administrative fee, up to \$50, for assessing snow removal costs. **Carried.**

Dudler - Aye  
 Giese - Absent  
 Laverman - Aye

McGrath - Aye  
 Moore - Aye

**Clerk's Report:** A rental permit was received for 35 Olive Court and 1263 Melrose Avenue; a Building Permit was received for 500 Grandview Court. Clerk Anderson says she is waiting to receive a permit for a property on Olive Court.

**Finance Report:** Steve Kuhl, accountant for University Heights, updated the council on the changes made to the budget; the city now has a project surplus for the year. Kuhl noted that the IDOT Federal Stimulus funds and the LOST tax money were not included in the budget numbers, as at the time of publication, it was unknown if the city would receive these funds.

**MOTION** by Laverman, seconded by McGrath, to adopt the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. **Carried.**

Dudler - Aye  
 Giese - Absent  
 Laverman - Aye

McGrath - Aye  
 Moore - Aye

**Treasurer's Report:** All bills presented were approved by **unanimous consent.**

**Warrants  
 February 11, 2009 through March 10, 2009**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
City of Iowa City	13.56	IPERS	1,871.99
Matthew Fort	1,096.07	IPERS	77.30
Ronald Fort	936.51	Paul Moore	750.00
Benjamin Lord	589.69	ABC Solutions	14.41
Brad Reinhard	1,123.81	Paul Moore	35.00
Donald Strong	1,023.09	SEATS	689.86
Mcleod USA/PAETEC	125.36	City of Iowa City	3,632.10
MidAmerican Energy	36.76	Iowa City Press-Citizen	491.27
MidAmerican Energy	25.44	Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities	423.87
MidAmerican Energy	612.25	Johnson County Refuse, Inc.	1,555.50
MidAmerican Energy	101.44	Pyramid Services Inc.	226.60
Matthew Fort	1151.30	Staples	356.96
Ronald Fort	756.00	Brad Reinhard	137.45
Lori Kimura	320.48	Wertjes Uniforms Police Supply	57.24
Benjamin Lord	725.65	Verizon Wireless	90.02
Brad Reinhard	1,080.74	VISA	567.78
Donald Strong	1,127.89	Westport Touchless Autowash	84.00
Christine Anderson	250.34	O'Reilly Auto Parts	42.25
MidwestOne Bank	3,297.68	Leff Law Firm, L.L.P.	18,379.60
Wellmark BC/BS	1,024.74	Shive Hattery	4,347.55

**Total Receipts**

**\$28, 489.32**

**Total Warrants**

**\$ 49,249.55**

**Community Protection:** Police Chief Fort commented that he has received over \$8,200 in Governor Traffic Safety money for the month. Also, the department would like to purchase two new heart defibrillators for the squad cars as the current ones do not work. Council member Laverman will give Police Chief Fort contact information to purchase the equipment.

Fort gave the council members information on four new reserve officers he recommends hiring.

**MOTION** by McGrath, seconded by Laverman, to hire four new reserve officers as recommended by Police Chief Fort. **Carried.**

Dudler - Aye	McGrath - Aye
Giese - Absent	Moore - Aye
Laverman – Aye	

**Streets and Sidewalks:** Engineer Bilskemper stated he will file the annual storm water report. Bilskemper also will send the appropriate paperwork to update the Melrose wide sidewalk project with the Iowa IDOT. He requests to include a resolution for official endorsement.

**MOTION** by Laverman, seconded by Moore, to adopt Resolution 09-04, which is an official endorsement for the Iowa DOT of the wide-sidewalk project. **Carried.**

Dudler - Aye	McGrath - Aye
Giese - Absent	Moore - Aye
Laverman – Aye	

Council member Giese sent a report that he is starting to work on an entire city streets map and will mark all the signage to be a helpful guide in the future for repair/replacement of signs.

**Building, Zoning & Sanitation:** Attorney Ballard addressed the council regarding Tax Incremental Financing (TIF). TIF is a tool to use future gains in taxes to finance the current improvements that will create those gains. TIF creates funding for public projects that may otherwise be unaffordable to municipalities. The city could use TIF financing to realign the corner of Sunset and Melrose Avenue if the proposed development on the St. Andrew Church property is approved by the city. Jeff Maxwell, developer for the proposed development, stated that he was interested in negotiating a TIF agreement under which he would fund all of the improvements up front and be reimbursed over time. These improvements could occur 1-2 years prior to the development on the property.

Maxwell also shared the schedule for the public meetings the developers will have at St. Andrew Church to present their proposal and to receive input. There will be 3 meetings, all held at St. Andrew Church, at 7:00 pm, on March 12<sup>th</sup>, March 26<sup>th</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Al Leff asked the developers if they had decided how many condominiums would be in the residential unit; Al Wells commented the number would be presented at the first city-wide meeting. Leff also commented that the city was giving the appearance this development “was a done deal” given there was discussion of TIF financing, there had been meetings with JCCOG and that the developers wanted to file their application with the city before all public meetings were held. Mayor From responded that the city brought in people to hear what the developers were proposing and that JCCOG was brought into the process as they assist members who do not have the professional staff to review these types of proposals.

It was recommended by some member of the public that the developers file their application on April 15, 2009 so that all input could be addressed. Jeff Maxwell stated that the file date had been driven by St. Andrew Church’s timeline; the developers have a purchase agreement which states March 15<sup>th</sup> but he will see if that can be changed to April 15<sup>th</sup>.

On April 18<sup>th</sup> a city wide clean-up day for University Heights will occur; details will be posted on the city’s website.

Council member Moore inquired about temporarily changing the speed limit on Olive Court; residents would like a lower limit while construction occurs on the Neuzil property. Last year there were complaints about construction trucks driving at excessive speeds for a residential area. Attorney Ballard is going to look into speed limit regulations.

**E-Government:** No report.

**JCCOG:** A written report was presented.

**Announcements:** None.

The meeting was adjourned by **unanimous consent at 8:57 p.m.**

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**Attest: Christine M. Anderson, City Clerk**

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**Approved: Louise A. From, Mayor**