

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, IOWA

1004 Melrose Avenue

April 14, 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.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL

Mayor From called the April 2009 meeting of the University Heights City Council to order at 7:04 p.m. and welcomed members of the public present.

Present: Mayor From. Council Members Andrew Dudler, David Giese, Stan Laverman, Brennan McGrath, and Amy Moore. Staff present: Engineer Bilskemper, Attorney Ballard, Treasurer Kimura, and Police Chief Fort. Also present were: Steve Smith, Pat Yeggy, Rich Schmidt, Janet HOFFEY, Margaret Donnelly, Dell Richard, Mary Mathew Wilson, Joseph Frankel, Kathie Belgum, Chris Luzzie, Pat Bauer, Al Wells, Kent Ralston, Kris Ackerson, and Bill Gay.

Clerk Anderson was absent.

Steve Smith with Johnson County Refuse, Inc. discussed requested changes to the City's Refuse Agreement, increasing the charge for recycling service to \$4.75 per household. Stickers for garbage removal will be \$1.25 each. There will be no change to the yard waste stickers (they will stay at \$1.25). There was some discussion about different possibilities for leaf and yard waste bags.

MOTION by Laverman, seconded by Moore, to approve a new refuse contract with Johnson County Refuse, Inc. beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2015. Carried.

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

Public Input:

Chris Luzzie spoke about the Local Option Sales Tax vote and urged citizens and the Council to sign a petition in favor.

A home on Mahaska Drive may be operating a business. A report will be made to Attorney Ballard who will follow up.

Joe Frankel extolled the virtues of bicycle riding both as a conveyance and a method of exercise. Discussion was had concerning bicycles on sidewalks as opposed to streets and dangers encountered and created by certain cycling and automobile behavior.

Rich Schmidt commented that the walk light at the intersection of Sunset Street and Melrose Avenue was too fast. The City Engineer clarified that when the "walk" portion starts blinking, opposing traffic still has a red light so that pedestrians may complete their walk.

Mayor's Report: The Mayor's written report was presented. The Mayor also reported that she received a letter from Mary Richard resigning her position on the University Heights Zoning Commission. The Mayor appointed Catherine Lane, 303 Highland Drive, to fill Ms. Richard's term, which expires December 31, 2011.

Clerk's Report: None.

Legal Report: A written report was presented. Conflict of interest issues concerning the anticipated proposal for redevelopment of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church property were discussed. A letter will be sent to certain property owners informing them of recent changes to the City's zoning ordinance and requesting compliance. The Council set a deadline for compliance of July 31, 2009.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer submitted a written report. All bills presented were approved by **unanimous consent.**

Warrants
March 11, 2009 through April 14, 2009

Name	Amount	Name	Amount
City of Iowa City	13.56	MidwestOne Bank	3,281.30
Matthew Fort	1,062.30	IPERS	1,883.46
Ronald Fort	769.96	IPERS	31.18
Benjamin Lord	627.89	Treasurer State of Iowa	1,496.00
Brad Reinhard	1,063.58	Iowa Workforce Development	43.74
Donald Strong	1,287.11	MidAmerican Energy	611.94
McLeod USA/PAETEC	127.90	Paul Moore	750.00
MidAmerican Energy	36.29	City of Iowa City	13.56
MidAmerican Energy	25.76	City of Iowa City	38,058.42
MidAmerican Energy	78.14	Iowa Prison Industries	216.31
Andrew Dudler	184.70	Iowa City Press-Citizen	384.80
Matthew Fort	1,247.70	Johnson County Refuse, Inc.	4,970.50
Ronald Fort	849.39	Julie Pulkrabek Law Office, P.L.C.	386.00
Louise From	454.13	Pyramid Services Inc.	94.28
David Giese	184.70	Verizon Wireless	90.02
Lori Kimura	222.33	Westport Touchless Autowash	48.00
Stanley Laverman	184.70	VISA	652.83
Benjamin Lord	607.70	Saples	150.05
Brennan McGrath	184.70	ABC Solutions	14.41
Brad Reinhard	1,064.41	Paul Moore	35.00
Donald Strong	1,220.27	SEATS	689.86
Wellmark BC/BS	1,024.74	Physio-Control Inc.	4,334.00

Total Receipts

\$ 41,501.09

Total Warrants

\$ 70,757.62

Community Protection: Police Chief Fort submitted a written report. Chief Fort also submitted a written report concerning replacement squad cars. Council deferred any action concerning policies for replacing cars until after the May 5, 2009, Local Option Sales Tax vote.

Streets and Sidewalks:

Council Member Giese reported that he directed Russ Boyer to acquire hot mix and patch areas of Olive Court, Sunset Street, and the intersection of Koser Avenue and George Street. The City of Iowa City assisted in unplugging a storm sewer and helped with some street patching as well.

Council Member Giese is documenting signage in the community that has faded or needs replacing for other reasons.

Christopher Ackerson and Kent Ralston of Johnson County Council on Governments (JCCOG) presented steps and measures the City could take to become a Bicycle Friendly Community. JCCOG's Trails Committee hopes to have a bike plan approved by summer. Among other measures, the plan will require inventory of signage and bike parking. Recommendations will be made to cities that desire to become more bicycle friendly.

Engineer's Report:

Street signs are still awaiting installation.

A survey regarding apparent violations of the zoning ordinances' restrictions on parking was discussed. Engineer Bilskemper invited Council Members and members of the public to provide additional property addresses that might be in violation.

Council Member Giese will contact all interviewed consulting firms concerning the wide sidewalk project informing them that a consultant has been selected and the City is in the process of negotiating a contract. The city may contact firms not selected if a contract cannot be agreed upon with the selected consultant.

Engineer Bilskemper discussed the \$50,000.00 available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. If the city desires to use any portion of these funds to pay for engineering fees, then three different firms must be interviewed and a contract negotiated. The Council decided to pay its own engineering fee so we can use all of the \$50,000.00 for actual construction costs. Engineer Bilskemper will submit a 50-year cost analysis to the Federal Highway Administration.

Building, Zoning & Sanitation: Attorney Ballard outlined the process for Zoning Commission and City Council to consider the anticipated proposal for redevelopment of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church property. Council Member Dudler will post all materials related to the proposal on the City's website.

E-Government: Council Member Dudler reported improvements in the City's website and indicated that more redesign and reorganization was coming. Mary Mathew Wilson offered help from The University of Iowa's Office for Civic Engagement. Council Member Dudler reported that email addresses are available for all Council Members and the staff on the City's website.

JCCOG: A report is contained in Mayor's written report.

Announcements: The City's first University Heights Keep America Beautiful day will be Saturday, April 18, 2009. The City may wish to join volunteer solutions on the United Way website.

The meeting was adjourned by **unanimous consent at 9:06 p.m.**

Attest: Steven E. Ballard, Acting City Clerk

Approved: Louise A. From, Mayor