

August 12, 2008

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

Mayor From called the August, 2008 meeting of the University Heights City Council to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Mayor From. Council Members Andrew Dudler, David Giese, Stan Laverman, Brennan McGrath and Amy Moore. Staff present: Engineer Bilskemper, Attorney Ballard, Police Chief Fort and Clerk Anderson. Also present was Pat Bauer.

Absent: Treasurer Kimura

The minutes of the July 8, 2008 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 has been in contact with Jeff Hendrickson, developer of the Lytham Condominiums on the Neuzil land, regarding the potential road improvement options for Olive Court. The council discussed items to propose in a formal agreement with the developer; these items will be passed onto the attorney representing the city.

The Mayor also passed out the city newsletter to the council, for review, and stated it would be delivered with the new rental brochure to citizens the last week of August.

Mayor From also has 75 Iowa City Metro Area Trails maps; these are located in the city office and are free to the public.

Legal Report: A written report was presented. Attorney Ballard commented on the activity concerning 36 Highland Drive since the last council meeting. Two citations for failure to mow the property owner's lawn in a timely manner were dismissed. Attorney Ballard will send an additional notice to the property owner for failure to mow because the grass has again exceeded 12 inches.

Attorney Ballard also commented on the positive meeting he and Clerk Anderson had with the University Heights citizens group that is interested in assisting with rental issues. This group was the first to receive the new city rental brochure and seemed pleased with its content.

Clerk's Report: Clerk Anderson stated that 71 rental permits had been received as of the time of the meeting. She will send reminder letters to the property owners within the next week. An updated rental listing will be posted on the city website by the end of August.

MOTION by Laverman, seconded by Dudler, to approve the cigarette permit for Taste on Melrose. Not carried.

Dudler - Aye McGrath - Abstain
Giese - Nay Moore - Nay
Laverman - Aye

MOTION by McGrath, seconded by Laverman, to reconsider the vote for the cigarette permit for Taste on Melrose. Carried.

Dudler - Aye McGrath - Aye
Giese - Aye Moore - Aye
Laverman - Aye

MOTION by Laverman, seconded by Dudler, to approve the cigarette permit for Taste on Melrose. Carried.

Dudler - Aye
Giese - Aye
Laverman – Aye

McGrath - Aye
Moore - Aye

Streets and Sidewalks: Council member Giese commented that 150 properties were in violation for low-hanging tree branches and 16 of the 150 properties are rental units; 14 properties had vegetation issues. Giese also made a note of which sidewalks need to be repaired.

Engineer Bilskemper passed out a standard pay application from Eggelston Concrete Contractors. Bilskemper also commented that Landa, the company who does the city’s pavement markings, still has work to do and we will pay the outstanding invoice once the work has been completed.

Engineer Bilskemper stated that the curb and gutter had been extended at 200 Koser Avenue and this will help to keep the rain water stay in the street.

Building, Zoning & Sanitation: Council member Moore passed out a rough draft of the comprehensive plan for the “Keep University Heights Beautiful” program. The comprehensive plan is necessary to be affiliated with the state organization. Moore also stated that the city will receive 25 more blue cans from Dale Lee for trash during the home football games. Moore is still looking for more volunteers to help with setting trash cans out on Fridays and picking them up on Sundays during home football weekends.

Mayor From commented that Steve Smith, owner of Johnson County Refuse, will be contacting properties that are not using the proper amount of garbage stickers or using too big a can during the next garbage pick-up date.

Pat Bauer stated that the Zoning Commission had a meeting on July 15th to begin addressing the points raised in the intern’s report on zoning issues in University Heights. The commission didn’t feel that new ordinances needed to be created but the city needed to enforce the ones already in place.

E-Government: Council member Dudler is working on updating the website and hopes to have everything updated by the end of September.

JCCOG: Mayor From commented that the regular meeting will be held at the end of August.

The meeting was adjourned by **unanimous consent at 9: 20p.m.**

Attest: Christine M. Anderson, City Clerk

Approved: Louise From, Mayor