

**City of Martensdale
Regular Council Meeting
April 3, 2017**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Ralls.

Members present: Scott Henson, Ryan Baker, Nathan Wheeldon and Adam Vandekamp.

Members absent: Robert Wetzler.

Attorney Robert Benton was present.

The consent agenda and March 6, 2017 minutes were presented, including the disbursement and revenue reports were approved on a motion by S. Henson; seconded by R. Baker. On a voice vote: Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously.

The city clerk told the city council she has spoken with our bond attorney, Mark Corey at Ahlers and Cooney regarding the sewer project financing. Mr. Corey recommended that the City do a SRF loan to avoid making interest payments monthly. He advised her to contact D. A. Davidson and work with Scott who has done our previous bond financing. The city council told the clerk to contact D. A. Davidson and to see if we can get a SRF loan.

The city clerk has had residents complaining about all the junk sitting around homes in the City and the residents don't think it makes our City look inviting. The clerk named some residents who should be contacted and sent a letter with a copy of our ordinance for junk and nuisance and a copy of the Municipal Infractions ordinance. The city attorney stated that these residents should be notified by both certified mail and regular mail. He also stated that once the City does this, the council should follow through in order to get homes cleaned up. Mr. Benton will have City Attorney, Robert Stuveysant contact the city clerk and send a letter to be mailed out.

The city clerk discussed delinquent water bills and told the council she has received two calls from residents to pay the additional \$50.00 towards their past due amounts. A copy of the water delinquent new ordinance has been sent to all delinquent customers. The council asked how many were delinquent and the clerk stated around 15. If no payments are made this month, those delinquent customers will have their water shut off and a lien placed on their property taxes. If any of the homes are rented, a letter will be sent to the owners of the property.

Robert Seymour told the city council that should be placed on the water bills that he will not be available after 4:00 p.m. on weekdays and no weekends to turn on anyone's water. Bob stated he needs to purchase 10 new water meters and that the dump truck needs to be repaired.

Fire Report: Fire Chief Scott Henson reported a total of 7 EMS and 7 fire calls and said the fire dept. had a practice burning. The fire dept. is working on a list of equipment needed. There were no bills from the fire department to be paid this month since they have not had their meeting yet.

Public Comments: Rich Wheeldon applauded the efforts of the city council in trying to get the City cleaned up.

Andrew Collings from MPO was present the give an update on the grant information from the USDA. He said the Easement Assessment is completed and has been submitted. He told the city council that since they decided to add the sewer lagoon to the project, they would have to complete an architectural survey now. Mayor Ralls asked how much that survey will cost, Mr. Collings said anywhere from \$3,000.00 to \$7,000.00. He asked if the city council had any questions on the CDBG income survey. Mayor Ralls said he was going to bring the survey up during the open forum and try to get a time when the city council can get this completed. Mr. Collings said he would email the city clerk the companies who could do the architectural survey for the city council to review.

The second reading of Ordinance 03.02.2017 An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Martensdale, Iowa by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Water Service Rates was presented. S. Henson made a motion to approved Ordinance 03.02.2017; seconded by R. Baker. On a voice vote: Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously. A. Vandekamp made a motion to waive the third reading of Ordinance 03.02.2017; seconded by R. Baker. On a voice vote: Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Ralls asked if the city council would be available to complete the CDBG income survey. The city council agreed on completing it the last week of April.

The dates for City Clean Up were discussed, the council decided on April 29 or May 6. The city clerk will contact John Wiegert and see what date will work for him.

S. Henson stated that the Warren County Emergency Management has a new app available now.

A. Vandekamp made a motion to adjourn; seconded by N. Wheeldon. On a voice vote: Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor John Ralls

Donna Bahun, City Clerk