

**City of Martensdale
Regular Council Meeting
January 8, 2018**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Prichard.

Members present: Ryan Baker, Robert Wetzler, Scott Henson, Jeri Jo Dudney and Nathan Wheeldon.

Members absent: Robert Seymour.

Attorney John Judisch was present.

The 2018 appointments were made as follows:

Mayor Prichard asked Nathan Wheeldon to be the Mayor Pro Tem, Nathan Wheeldon agreed.

City Bank – Regions and City State Bank. N. Wheeldon made a motion to approve the bank's; seconded by S. Henson. On a roll call vote: Wheeldon, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wetzler, Aye; Dudney, Aye; Henson, Aye. Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

City Paper – Indianola Record Herald. S. Henson made a motion to approve the Bank's; seconded by J. Dudney. On a roll call vote: Wheeldon, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wetzler, Aye; Dudney, Aye; Henson, Aye. Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

City Attorney – R. Baker made a motion to appoint Stuyvesant, Benton and Judisch as the city attorney; seconded by N. Wheeldon. On a roll call vote: Wheeldon, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wetzler, Nye; Dudney, Aye; Henson, Aye. Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried.

Fire Chief – N. Wheeldon made a motion to appoint Scott Henson as the fire chief, seconded by R. Baker. On a roll call vote: Wetzler, Nye; Wheeldon, Aye; Baker, Aye; Dudney, Aye. Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried.

City Clerk – Donna Bahun. N. Wheeldon made a motion to approved Donna Bahun; seconded by R. Wetzler. On a roll call vote: Wheeldon, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wetzler, Aye; Dudney, Aye; Henson, Aye. Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

The consent agenda and December 4, 2017 minutes were presented. R. Wetzler had a change to the minutes, the vote for the appointment of J. J. Dudney was not unanimously. The city clerk will make that change. R. Wetzler made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction; seconded by N. Wheeldon. On a voice vote Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

The city clerk asked to transfer \$7,440.47 from the fire township fund to the general to pay for the fire truck repair. N. Wheeldon made a motion to transfer the funds; seconded by R. Baker. On a voice vote Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

The city clerk discussed the keys to city hall and said previous mayors have not turned in keys when they left. S. Henson made a motion to change the locks, seconded by J. Dudney. On a voice vote Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

The city clerk asked if anyone had anything for the 2018-2019 budget and the pricing. R. Wetzler said he would like to do some sidewalks again in the City. He had some pricing to do some side streets. There was discussion about getting pricing for curbing, Mayor Prichard said Robert Seymour will get those prices to him. S. Henson said he felt we should finish Burlington before starting any new sidewalks. He stated he is not against putting in sidewalks but that Burlington still have a lot of problems that need fixed. Additional pricing will be presented at the February meeting so the city council can make a decision. The city clerk asked about salary increases for the new budget, also stated that she is doing much more work now with taking over the fire dept. accounts. The council asked her to figure the amount for a 5% and 6% increase and present it at the next meeting.

Heith Hockenberry from Jester Insurance was present, he stated that Jester Insurance has been with the IAMU Municipal Program for 40 years and that EMC is the city's insurance company. The dividends the City has received the past few years Has been 10-12 percent. He stated that Brad Rudolph has his own insurance company in Indianola, IA has contacted him and would like to work with the City as it's agent. Mr. Rudolph stated that he lived in St. Mary's, IA and that his company insures Warren County and Jackson Township. He is familiar with the area and he would like to work with Martensdale. The iCap insurance program was discussed. It was explained that in the program the City would be in a pool of other companies and Cities, and that the cost could rise for insurance due to claims. Brad Rudolph has spoke with Rob Wetzler previously and said that he was able to save Jackson Township money and give them better coverage on their policy. He also stated that they had problems with their workman compensation insurance that he was able to clear up. The iCap program also is not regulated by the State. Mayor Prichard thanked Heith and Brad for attending the meeting and the City will let them know their decision when it is finalized.

The city council discussed Robert Seymour's health status after he became ill and has been off work since the beginning of December. Mayor Prichard stated that his wife is Bob Seymour niece and therefore he would not give any opinions on the subject. The city clerk was asked to see if there was a job description for Robert Seymour and she could not find anything in the files at City Hall. It was suggested to contact the League of Cities and IAMU as they do have templates on job descriptions, the city clerk will contact both of them.

The city council discussed Randy Crow filling in for Bob Seymour right now, Mayor Prichard stated that he would like Randy Crow to keep track of his time and what work he is doing.

The city council discussed setting vacation and sick leave for Robert Seymour, nothing has ever been keep track of for him. After some discussion R. Baker made a motion that effective January 1, 2018 Robert Seymour will receive 8 weeks of PTO per year, which can be used as vacation or sick leave; seconded by R. Wetzler. On a voice vote Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

The city clerk has given Cathy Seymour papers for the Family Leave Act for Robert Seymour. It was discussed that the city council would have to know before that time whether Robert Seymour will be able to come back.

R. Wetzler stated that he thought the City should know by the February meeting what Robert Seymour's doctor is saying and whether he is going to be able to return back to work. The city will need to know the status of his ability to return and when in case they need to post his position if he cannot return.

Resolution 01.01.2018 Naming Depositories was presented. N. Wheeldon made a motion to accept the resolution; seconded by R. Baker.

On a roll call vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Dudney, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye. Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

The second reading of Ordinance 12.01.2017 an Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Martensdale, Iowa by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Fireworks was presented. N. Wheeldon made a motion to accept Ordinance 12.01.2017; seconded by R. Wetzler. On a roll call vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye. Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

R. Wetzler made a motion to waive the 3rd readings of Ordinance 12.01.2017; seconded by R. Baker. Mayor Ralls stated he did not feel that a firework ordinance was needed and would not sign the ordinance. On a roll call vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Dudney, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye. Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

Gary Brons from McClure Engineering was present to discuss the status of the sewer project. He stated that the amendment from the Iowa DNR has been approved. He stated that the USDA Rural Development has asked that the flood plain maps be changed from 100 yr. to 500 yr. flood plain. He also stated that the funding through the USDA could be affected due to decreasing the amount of funds. He said the USDA funding interest rate is 2.75 for 40 years. The date of knowing the status right now is Jan. 19, 2018. He stated if that were to occur the City could move forward with the SRF funding, however that would be for a 30-year period and the interest rate is higher than the USDA. There was discussion regarding the CDBG survey for a grant and the deadline for that is April 1. Mayor Prichard asked Gary whether any sewer work would begin this year. Mr. Brons stated that could depend on the USDA funding and whether it can get approved in time. He asked the city clerk to contact Andrew Collings regarding the survey and to get the information again to give to the city council. He also asked the city clerk to email him the names of the new mayor and all city council members.

The City received a message from the Warren County Health Services regarding a complaint they received about a property in Martensdale. The complaint expressed concern about the safety of the home and that the landlord was not taking care of the problems with the home and structure. The home is in a trust and the city attorney was able to find the trustees listed for the property, they will send the owners a letter regarding the condition of the home. R. Wetzler stated that the home is now vacant.

Fire Report: Scott Henson stated that there were 8 fire calls and 17 EMS calls for December, for 2017 there were a total of 294 calls.

Scott asked to purchase a mounting bracket for the deliberator for \$900.00 and stated that they need batteries for the radios. He would like to purchase 10 batteries, cost would be \$1,000.00. J.J. Dudney made a motion to purchase the items requested; seconded by R. Baker. On a voice vote Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

Open Forum: The city clerk received a Freedom of Information Act from John Ralls addressed to Fire Chief Scott Henson, Martensdale Fire Department. The city attorney stated that some of the information requested would not be given due to privacy laws. The attorney took the request and will E-mail the fire chief and the city with their recommendations.

Scott Henson stated that the ambulance billing that went through Indianola has been having trouble getting claims processed for the last 3-4 months and no payments have been received due to the claims not being processed. He would like to change to EMS Billing Services in Colorado. R. Baker made a motion to change the ambulance billing to EMS Billing Services; seconded by J. J. Dudney. On a roll call vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, abstained; Baker, Aye; Dudney, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye. Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried.

Michael Trotter was present and asked if the temporary stop signs on Rock Island and Center St. could be removed. The city council agreed.

Nathan Wheeldon stated that Bill Yates was at the meeting but had to leave. Mr. Yates was granted a permit over a year ago to install a privacy fence and now the building inspector stopped by and stated that Mr. Yates will either have to cut the fence to 3 ft. or move it back. N. Wheeldon stated he did not understand why after a year now the building inspector wants it changed. The city clerk will contact the building inspector. The board of adjustment may need to meet to grant Mr. Yates a variance if necessary.

N. Wheeldon made a motion to adjourn; seconded by R. Wetzler. On a voice vote Mayor Prichard declared the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Brad Prichard

Donna Bahun, City Clerk