

City of Carter Lake  
Regular City Council Meeting  
Monday, September 18, 2017

#### The Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Waltrip called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Council members: Barb Melonis, Jason Gunderson, Pat Paterson, Ron Cumberledge and Frank Corcoran; Also present City Clerk, Jackie Stender and City Attorney Michael O'Bradovich.

Approval of the Agenda – Moved by Cumberledge, seconded by Corcoran; Ayes: Unanimous.

Melonis moved to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows: August Council minutes, July and August Financial reports; August claims, overtime reports and department reports from Parks, Maintenance, Fire/EMS, Senior Center, Library and Police Department, seconded Paterson; Ayes: Unanimous.

#### New Business:

Julie Dake Able employee union representative appeared to request an extension of the current union contract for one year. The Contract expires 6/30/18. This would not affect the current contract and allow for possible wage reopener for the year. Cumberledge would not be in favor of negotiating prior to the expiration because we could four new council members January 1<sup>st</sup> and they should have the opportunity to put their input. Corcoran encouraged council to make extension to protect the employees before it is too late. Paterson supports Cumberledge's idea. Cumberledge asked how many employees are paying members of the Union? City Attorney strongly encouraged the Council to discuss further in the executive session later this evening.

#### No communications from the Public.

Bill Dahlheimer requested an update on the progress of making repairs to prevent further erosion along the lake's shoreline? Bill reminded the council what he proposed several months ago. Paterson clarified that Maintenance Director Ron Rothmeyer has been working with the IDNR to prepare and submit a grant to assist with the erosion repairs; the City should have a decision in the next few months if the grant was awarded so the project can move forward.

Jeannine Callan questioned the council why more was not being done to force her neighbor's dog to stop barking. Mayor had the Chief come to the meeting to explain and answer questions. Ms. Callan will need to agree to sign a complaint and agree appear in court if the City Attorney agrees to proceed with the issue.

Communication from Mayor Waltrip: Mayor would like to discuss reimbursing the Maintenance Director for his vacation time that he was unable to use before it expired in June due to the large ongoing projects that Ron was supervising. Council discussed several options, Council member Melonis asked if it was within the Mayor's right to make that decision; City Attorney pointed out that the employee handbook would be the place to look for authority that states it should be taken within the calendar year; he did not know of any provision that would allow in retrospect the council or mayor to pay out unused vacation. Cumberledge spoke with the Iowa League of Cities who said it is a very slippery slope to turn these benefits into a bonus; you do not turn unused vacation or wellness days into a cash bonus. Due to the unusual circumstances, we should come to a resolution of compensation since our handbook does not allow this. Melonis motioned to determine the compensation that would have been given to the building inspector and pass it onto Ron Rothmeyer, died for lack of second and Corcoran motioned to table until the next month so we can have figures to review, seconded by Gunderson; Roll Call: Ney: Paterson, Cumberledge Yea: Melonis, Corcoran and Gunderson

Cumberledge presented the proposal from American Tower for the cell tower lease. \$30,000 for signing the agreement and \$48,000 advance payment for the first 10 years of the lease. Gunderson motioned to approve agreement, seconded by Melonis. Ayes: Unanimous.

City Attorney Michael O'Bradovich updated the council on the status of 1501 Cachlin. All the required notices, publication and proof of service have been completed as required by the code; therefore the Council can move forward with demolition whenever it chooses too. Mayor stated he would hire contractor if the basement was not removed by the end of the next weekend (9/25/17) and the Council agreed that was acceptable.

Gundersen moved to shut down Splashpad for the season effective October 1, seconded Corcoran. Ayes: Unanimous. Melonis moved to approve Resolution 30-2017 for the Road Use Tax Street Finance report, Paterson seconded. Ayes: Unanimous. Cumberledge moved to approve Resolution 31-2017 to designate the Cell Tower funds in the amount of \$76,800 to be earmarked for future project, Corcoran seconded. Ayes: Unanimous. Melonis moved to approve Resolution 32-2017 to authorize fund transfers effective 6/30/17, seconded by Corcoran. Ayes: Unanimous. Gundersen moved to approve Resolution 33-2017 to act upon demolition of 1501 Cachelin, seconded by Corcoran. Ayes: Unanimous. Melonis moved to approve Resolution 34-2017 to set wage increase for Barbara Bennett, Police Secretary, seconded by Corcoran. Ayes: Unanimous.

Cheyenne Kuiper introduced herself as the new Animal Control officer. Pam Christensen is concerned why the lights are not operational along the path in the club area; the red bud trees need to be trimmed in this area also.

Council moved into executive session to discuss union contract issues.

Jackie Stender  
City Clerk

Gerald Waltrip  
Mayor