

MALVERN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Malvern City Hall – 100 W 5th Street

The January 25, 2022 regular meeting of the Malvern City Council was **called to order** by Mayor Shere at 7:00 p.m. Council members present were Androy, Breeding, Johnson, Lidgett, and West. Also in attendance were Joe George, Dave Hoose, Bev Dashner, Scott & Chris Miller, Nate Powles, Tom Mulholland, Zach Jones, and Gregg Schoening. Mayor Shere recognized visitors seeking to address the Council. Gregg Schoening of the Mills County Fair Board requested \$2,000 per year for the next 5 fiscal years to support the Lakin Center. City boards and departments would be allowed to utilize the facility at no cost. Zach Jones presented to Council on the topic of a property located at 414 Main Street. Jones would like to turn the building into an Airbnb with the potential to periodically host art events. Council recommended Jones to the Board of Adjustment for further discussion and decision. Bev Dashner was present on behalf of MABA to request the City's support for an application for Iowa Great Places redesignation. The guidelines for designation have increased from a 5-year designation to 10 years. MABA would be the applicant. MABA expects to apply for funding under this designation during the next grant cycle. Scott & Chris Miller were present to request a refund of the fees required for rental housing permits on their properties that are in the process of being sold. These permit fees amount to \$1,400 and the City has expended \$910 to date to have the properties inspected. Tom Mulholland was present to ask Council to consider selling the pocket park adjacent to his property. The sale of City property would require the City to adhere to the Iowa Code section pertaining to the sale of public land. Johnson motioned to approve the **Consent Agenda** consisting of the January 25, 2022 tentative Council meeting agenda, January 11, 2022 Council meeting minutes, and direction to place Malvern Public Library board meeting minutes and expenditures on file from December 6, 2021. Second by Breeding. All ayes; motion carried. **New Business:** Androy motioned to approve the appointment of Larry Frink as Malvern Fire Chief for a 1-year term ending December 31, 2022. Seconded by West. All ayes, motion carried. Androy motioned to approve the recommendations for Malvern Volunteer Fire Department Officers for a 1-year term ending December 31, 2022. This recommendation included Duane Volz as Assistant Chief, James Volz as Captain, Blake Starnes as 1st Assistant Captain, Jeff VanFossen as 2nd Assistant Captain, Mike Vandenberg as Treasurer, Kyle Poort as Secretary, and Parker Lewis, Lewis VanFossen, and Ethan Richter as Trustees. Seconded by Lidgett. All ayes; motion carried. Johnson motioned to reappoint Greg Pierce to the Malvern Low Rent Housing Agency Board of Commissioners for a 4-year term ending 12/31/2026. Seconded by Breeding. All ayes; motion carried. Discussion was held on application for the Emerald Ash Borer Recovery Grant through Iowa DNR and Arbor Day Foundation. Council would like to explore starting the Tree Board up again before applying for this grant. The City can apply for the grant next year. Androy motioned to approve **Resolution 2022-02a** setting the public hearing for the FY2023 Maximum Levy to February 22, 2022. Seconded by Breeding. All ayes; motion carried. Discussion was held on the expected increase to the City's property and liability insurance due to the derecho in Iowa during the previous year. The cost of these claims are expected to be reflected in all Iowa city insurance premiums. Johnson motioned to approve publishing a max levy notice with a proposed levy of \$10.98476/\$1,000 valuation for FY2023.

Seconded by Androy. All ayes; motion carried. Androy motioned to approve **Resolution 2022-03** certifying charges with the Mills County Treasurer for 706 2nd Avenue. Seconded by Lidgett. All ayes; motion carried. Discussion was held on the request for a 5-year funding extension of \$2,000 per year to the Lakin Center and the need to draft a contract before a long-term pledge can be made. West motioned to approve a payment of \$2,000 for FY2023. Seconded by Lidgett. Breeding, Johnson, West, and Lidgett voted aye with Androy abstaining; motion carried. Johnson motioned to approve MABA's application for redesignation through the Iowa Great Places program. Seconded by Androy. All ayes; motion carried. Discussion was held on refunding fees to Scott & Chris Miller for rental permit applications. Council directed the clerk to contact SWIPCO for their recommendation. Breeding motioned to table discussion until February 7, 2022. Seconded by Lidgett. All ayes; motion carried.

Mayor's Report: Johnson reported that he had been unable to contact one of the property owners regarding annexation. Androy motioned to table discussion until February 7, 2022. Seconded by West. All ayes; motion carried.

Project/Meeting Updates: Project closeout for FEMA Malvern City Road and Culvert Damage has moved to the next step with Iowa Department of Homeland Security. The developers for the proposed W 11th Street subdivision provided an update of their timeline to move forward once they receive a decision on funding from the Iowa Economic Development Authority. Alquist also provided the City with a one-page brochure describing 3-D printed homes. JEO provided the City with a punch list of items that were left to complete the water treatment plant as a result of a facility walkthrough with JEO, Building Crafts, Inc, and PeopleService. Androy motioned to approve JEO Invoice # 130358 for \$2,942.50. Seconded by West. All ayes; motion carried.

Budget Workshop Update: Council discussed various departmental budget items and departmental proposals. Council received an updated Excel with each department's proposed budget to review for budget discussion at the February 7, 2022 meeting. Discussion was held on budgeting for employee salaries for FY2023 and the previous year's discussion on employee salaries for communities of a similar size.

Nuisance District Updates (November 30, 2021-January 25, 2022): No update was given for 107 2nd Avenue as the property remains in Probate. An inventory of junk/junk vehicles is needed before an abatement notice can be sent to 97 3rd Avenue. Sidewalk replacement for 905 N 2nd Street was settled in Magistrate Court. City is awaiting confirmation to abate. The occupants at 702 3rd Avenue appear to have vacated the property. No further abatement issues were discussed.

Mayor and Councilmember Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Items: Council expressed interest in getting copies made of the key for the old water works building. PeopleService currently possesses the only keys for the facility.

Androy motioned to **adjourn** the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Seconded by Lidgett. All ayes; motion carried.

ATTEST:

Douglas Shere, Mayor

Joe George, City Clerk