

The second meeting of February for the Denver City Council, Bremer County, Iowa was held on Tuesday February 20, 2018 at the Denver City Hall Council Chambers. Council Members present were Gavin Carman, Sean Hartman, Jeremie Peterson, Mark Richmann and Joel Wikner. There was four people in attendance.

Mayor Diercks called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Motion Peterson, second Carman to approve the agenda. AYES: Carman, Hartman, Peterson, Richmann, Wikner. NAYS: None.

Motion Richmann, second Peterson to approve the minutes of February 5, 2018. AYES: Carman, Hartman, Peterson, Richmann, Wikner. NAYS: None.

There was no Public Forum.

Agenda Item # 6 was Discussion of Possible Ordinance to Ban Fireworks in Denver. Larry Farley provided copies of Fireworks Ordinances prior to the City Council Meeting from the City of Tripoli, City of New Hampton, City of Hudson, City of Gilbertville and the City of Cedar Falls. Justin Scott was unable to attend the City Council Meeting. Laura Chapin reviewed her information regarding restricting the use of fireworks in the City of Denver. Laura Chapin contacted 33 Iowa Communities regarding how they regulate fireworks in their communities and found that ten communities follow State Law, twelve communities have passed local ordinances banning fireworks within their City Limits and eleven communities are allowing fireworks but only for limited times around the Fourth of July and New Year's Day. Presently the City of Denver follows State Law in regards to fireworks. Laura Chapin is no longer seeking a complete ban on fireworks in Denver, instead she is proposing the City of Denver create an ordinance that would allow fireworks July 3-5 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and December 31 between the hours of noon and midnight. Mary Scharnhorst was present and felt fireworks should be allowed for 2-3 weeks around the Fourth of July instead of 2-3 days and allow them start at noon on the weekends. Councilman Carman expressed concern if the three days fall on weekdays there could be lots of fireworks being shot off in a short amount of time. Councilman Carman preferred the City of Hudson Ordinance on Fireworks. Mayor Diercks felt we may want to consider leaving fireworks alone for another year to see if the newness wears off. Councilman Richmann felt if Denver did create a Fireworks Ordinance they could be used beginning at noon. Councilman Hartman addressed the citizen concerns contained in Laura Chapin's document and felt Denver could reach a compromise between a complete ban and allowing fireworks within Denver but limit the number of days they can be used. Councilman Carman does not want to ban fireworks in Denver because it is a State Law approved by the State Legislature. Councilman Carman has had numerous conversations with citizens and fireworks are not an issue for them, he talked to staff members of Discoveries Pre-School and parents who send their children to Discoveries Pre-School and fireworks have not been a problem for them. Councilman Peterson explained that he does not want to ban fireworks completely in Denver and would be ok with limiting their use to the weekend before the Fourth of July and the weekend after the Fourth of July and not having them start until noon on them days. Mayor Diercks found most people liked fireworks in his conversations with citizens, only one person he talked to supported an outright ban on fireworks in Denver. Mayor Diercks asked the two citizens in the back row if they had any comments on fireworks and both of them informed the Council that they in favor of keeping fireworks. Councilman Hartman also had conversations with numerous citizens and found only one person supported an outright ban on fireworks, he also suggested that what fireworks you light needs to stay on your property not on your neighbor's property. Councilman Carman asked Laura Chapin if she was still representing Citizens for a Peaceful Denver. Laura Chapin informed the Council that Citizens for a Peaceful Denver had disbanded.

The Council directed an Ordinance be drafted to include allowing fireworks during the following dates and times

- *Starting the weekend before the Fourth of July thru the weekend after the Fourth of July
- *Between the Hours of Noon and 10:00 p.m. on weeknights Monday-Friday
- *Between the Hours of Noon and 11:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday
- *If July 3 and July 4 fall on weeknight Noon to 11:00 p.m.
- *Christmas Eve to New Year's Day same hours for the day of the week as Fourth of July
- *New Year's Day Noon to 12:30 a.m.

Motion Hartman, second Richmann to appoint Darcy Wittenburg to the Denver Park & Recreation Board.

AYES: Carman, Hartman, Peterson, Richmann, Wikner. NAYS: None.

The Council directed to submit a Grant Application to the Bremer County Community Foundation for a Speed Trailer for the Denver Police Department in the amount of \$5,500.

Motion Richmann, second Wikner to approve Resolution No. 5-2018 to Purchase Electric Materials from RESCO in the amount of \$6,420 for the Schumacher Third Addition, Phase II. ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Carman, Hartman, Peterson, Richmann, Wikner. NAYS: None.

Motion Richmann, second Wikner to approve submitting a Sealed Bid to the City of Lake Mills for a 2005 Ford F-750 XLT with 60' Bucket Truck. AYES: Carman, Hartman, Peterson, Richmann, Wikner.

NAYS: None.

The Council discussed Dave Jergens declining their Offer of Employment for the Water / Sewer Superintendent Position and re-advertising the position. The Council changed the wording of the ad to include Salary is negotiable based on experience and no deadline for accepting applications that the position is open until filled.

Councilman Peterson updated the Council on his conversations with Shelly Wolfe, Bremer County Auditor on the property valuations being lower this year. The total property valuations increased year over year however the amount of funds needed to cover the T.I.F. payments for principal and interest increased and that is what affected the property values used to calculate the General Levy.

The Council reviewed the FY 2019 Balance Sheet, cuts made from the previous meeting, Debt Schedule, Property Tax rate of \$7.96225/\$1,000 of valuation, rate increases for garbage, water and electric.

Motion Peterson, second Wikner to approve Resolution No. 6-2018 Setting Date for a Public Hearing on March 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. to consider adopting the FY 2019 City Budget. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES:

Carman, Hartman, Peterson, Richmann, Wikner. NAYS: None.

In Other Business Councilman Wikner informed the Council that it is time to ban Party Buses from stopping in Denver. A local business owner approached Councilman Wikner about the problems they caused his business this past weekend. Party Bus Riders are urinating on local businesses property and causing them unnecessary expenses to try and keep them off their property. Mayor Diercks said he will set up a meeting to address this problem.

Revenues for the Month of January 2018

General Fund	\$ 45,479.04
Library Savings Fund	\$ 0.87
Road Use Fund	\$ 36,168.76
Local Option Sales Tax	\$ 14,040.43
Tax Increment Financing Fund	\$ 4,293.53
Debt Service Fund	\$ 1,061.24
Permanent Fund	\$ 750.00
Water Utility Fund	\$ 15,051.23
Sanitary Sewer Fund	\$ 40,419.57
Electric Utility Fund	\$110,596.47
Electric Utility Deposit Fund	\$ 0.00
Storm Water Utility Fund	<u>\$ 2,554.79</u>
Total	\$270,415.93

ATTEST:

Rod Diercks, Mayor

Larry Farley, City Clerk/Admin.