

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 26, 2009

A regular meeting of the City Council of Vinton, Iowa, was held on the 26th day of March, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chambers, Vinton, Iowa. Mayor Watson presided and the roll being called the following Council Members were present and absent: Present: Burkey, Elwick, Hessenius, Maynard, Redlinger, Vermedahl. Absent: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Elwick, second by Vermedahl to approve the minutes of the March 12th meeting. Question: Ayes - All. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Redlinger reported that the Public Works Committee had met to discuss the possibility of angle parking on A Avenue between 4th and 5th Streets. Changing to angle parking would only gain one or two parking spaces. The street superintendent does not recommend this change. This committee also does not recommend this change.

Burkey reported that the Benton County Community Foundation had received 30 grant applications.

Maynard reported that the Vinton Community Foundation had met to discuss awarding college scholarships.

Motion by Redlinger, second by Hessenius to approve the agenda. Question: Ayes - All. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Tami Stark, Vinton Unlimited, reported many downtown sidewalks with animal waste on them. She asked Council to consider making this an offense for the animal owner. Maybe Vinton's code of ordinances could be made more specific. The Public Safety committee will consider this issue.

Steve Mathis, Modern Motel owner, spoke to Council about the proposed new hotel. He is concerned he might have to close, if a new hotel is built. He has owned the business six months and has been remodeling and updating the property. Coordinator Lent reported that the a new hotel is in the planning stages. A development agreement has not yet been signed.

Joe Schott inquired about downtown trees growing into the grates. Some sidewalks are shifting up. Coordinator Lent stated that some of the trees may have to be cut down.

Motion by Vermedahl, second by Elwick to adopt an ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VINTON, IOWA, BY AMENDING PROVISIONS PROVIDING FOR THE DIVISION OF TAXES LEVIED ON TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE DOWNTOWN URBAN RENEWAL AREA OF THE CITY OF VINTON, IOWA, PURSUANT TO SECTION 403.19 OF THE CODE OF IOWA. Question: Ayes - Burkey, Elwick, Hessenius, Maynard, Redlinger, Vermedahl. Nays - None. The Mayor declared the motion carried and that said ordinance had been given its second consideration.

Motion by Burkey, second by Vermedahl to pass a RESOLUTION TO SET TIME AND PLACE FOR A HEARING ON T-HANGER AND TAXILANE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT. Question: Ayes - Burkey, Elwick, Hessenius, Maynard, Redlinger, Vermedahl. Nays - None. The Mayor declared the motion carried and declared RESOLUTION 03-09-09 passed and approved. The hearing will be held on Monday, April 6th at 7:00 p.m..

Jerry Michael, building inspector, updated Council on inspections. He stated only a few permits have been applied for this year so far. Two-thirds of the flood related permits have been completed. The State is changing licensing requirements. He will be using a new program that will make it easier to track the progress of permits and their inspections.

Coordinator Lent reported that a FEMA project worksheet for demolition of flood damaged houses will be completed. Once the project is obligated, an advance can be requested. Obligation will take at least a month to complete. Lent recommends waiting until this is obligated before starting demolition.

Gary Garwood, Water Superintendent, spoke to Council about adding fluoride to the City's water supply. He stated that Vinton's water naturally has .4 parts per million. Tooth pastes have fluoride in them. The State does not regulate adding fluoride to water supplies. Motion by Maynard, second by Vermedahl to have the water department to continue adding fluoride to the City's water, as has been done in the past. Question: Ayes - All. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Elwick, second by Redlinger to reappoint Dell Hanson to the Benton Development Group, with Tami Stark as an alternate. Question: Ayes - All. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Hessenius, second by Vermedahl to receive and file the following meeting minutes: Airport Commission 3-11-09. Question: Ayes - All. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Coordinator Lent reported on: 1) The river gauge has been installed. It was funded by NSIP. 2) Working on the sidewalk program. It was skipped last year because of the flooding. 3) Looking at updating building permit forms. 4) New location for warning siren has been approved. 5) Sewer backup court case will be rescheduled for later this year. 6) Rebuild Iowa to visit Vinton. 7) Possible change to City Hall hours open to the public. 8) Schwenker apartments of E 2nd Street planning to be remodeled. 9) NEIRL meeting March 31st. 10) Inquiry about bottling milk at the old Java Alley. Lent stated that the property is not zoned for this type of activity. An appeal could be made to the Board of Adjustments.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 6th at 7:00 p.m..

Good & Welfare: Saturday is Earth Awareness Day.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. Time: 8:25 p.m..