

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 15, 2024 MEETING OF THE HUMBOLDT CITY COUNCIL

The Humboldt City Council met in regular session on Monday, January 15, 2024 in the Council Chambers of the Humboldt Municipal Building. Mayor Daniel Scholl called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Council Members present: Goodell, Sleiter, Harklau, and Whittlesey. Absent: Dominick.

Motion by Harklau, Second by Whittlesey to approve the following Consent Agenda items: 1) the agenda as printed; 2) the minutes of the January 2, 2024 regular Council meeting; 3) the December Treasurer's Report; and 4) a new Special Class A Beer Permit (sub-permit) for TractorLift Brewery. (4) Ayes, motion carried.

Public Input comments were made by Mike Adams, Brent Naeve, Jeff Christensen, and Jason Christensen of Humboldt regarding the keeping of chickens within City limits.

Ryan Miller of PeopleService, Inc. reviewed the December PeopleService reports. He updated the Council on current and upcoming repairs and maintenance issues for the water and wastewater treatment systems.

The City Administrator reviewed his Council Report.

Motion by Goodell, Second by Sleiter to approve an offer of employment to John Rodriguez, effective January 17, 2024, as Assistant Chief of Police for the City of Humboldt at a salary of \$80,000 per year and a relocation reimbursement of up to \$2,500.00, pending completion of the remaining required testing. (4) Ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Whittlesey, Second by Harklau to approve the hiring of Police Officer Caleb Bruns, effective January 17, 2024, at the police contract probationary salary of \$23.83 per hour. (4) Ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Sleiter, Second by Whittlesey to authorize the Mayor to sign a Bond Counsel and Disclosure Counsel Engagement Agreement for the proposed issuance of not to exceed \$6,560,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, Series 2024. (4) Ayes, motion carried.

Amy Donahe provided a brief summary of the activities of the Humboldt County Housing Development Corporation (HCHDC). The presentation included a budget request for \$7,500 in general funding for FY 2024-2025.

The Council discussed some of the provisions that could be included in a proposed urban chicken ordinance. The City Administrator reviewed a spreadsheet summarizing the ordinances of twenty Iowa cities which allow chickens to be kept within city limits. Some of the considerations include a permit requirement, limits on the number of chickens, size of coops, whether roosters are allowed, and how the ordinance would be administered. A draft ordinance will be prepared by staff for the next meeting.

Motion by Harklau, Second by Goodell to approve the following proposed Resolution No. 2024-04: "A RESOLUTION FIXING DATE FOR A MEETING ON THE AUTHORIZATION OF A LOAN AGREEMENT AND THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$3,800,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL LOAN NOTES OF THE CITY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF IOWA (FOR ESSENTIAL CORPORATE PURPOSES), AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE THEREOF."

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Goodell, Sleiter, Harklau, and Whittlesey. Motion carried.

Motion by Sleiter, Second by Harklau to approve the following proposed Resolution No. 2024-05: “A RESOLUTION FIXING DATE FOR A MEETING ON THE AUTHORIZATION OF A LOAN AGREEMENT AND THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$2,300,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL LOAN NOTES OF THE CITY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF IOWA (FOR ESSENTIAL CORPORATE PURPOSES), AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE THEREOF.”

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Sleiter, Harklau, Whittlesey, and Goodell. Motion carried.

Motion by Whittlesey, Second by Harklau to approve the following proposed Resolution No. 2024-06: “A RESOLUTION FIXING DATE FOR A MEETING ON THE AUTHORIZATION OF A LOAN AGREEMENT AND THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$260,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL LOAN NOTES OF THE CITY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF IOWA (FOR ESSENTIAL CORPORATE PURPOSES), AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE THEREOF.”

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Harklau, Whittlesey, Goodell, and Sleiter. Motion carried.

Motion by Sleiter, Second by Whittlesey to approve the following proposed Resolution No. 2024-07: “A RESOLUTION FIXING DATE FOR A MEETING ON THE AUTHORIZATION OF A LOAN AGREEMENT AND THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$125,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL LOAN NOTES OF THE CITY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF IOWA (FOR ESSENTIAL CORPORATE PURPOSES), AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE THEREOF.”

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Whittlesey, Goodell, Sleiter, and Harklau. Motion carried.

Motion by Harklau, Second by Whittlesey to approve the following proposed Resolution No. 2024-08: “A RESOLUTION FIXING DATE FOR A MEETING ON THE AUTHORIZATION OF A LOAN AGREEMENT AND THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL LOAN NOTES OF THE CITY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF IOWA (FOR GENERAL CORPORATE PURPOSES), AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE THEREOF.”

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Goodell, Sleiter, Harklau, and Whittlesey. Motion carried.

Motion by Sleiter, Second by Harklau to approve the following proposed Resolution No. 2024-09: “A RESOLUTION APPROVING PAY APPLICATION NO. 16 WITH PETERSON CONSTRUCTION OF WEBSTER CITY, IOWA FOR THE RAW PUMPING AND NUTRIENT REMOVAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$265,141.78.”

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Sleiter, Harklau, Whittlesey, and Goodell. Motion carried.

Motion by Goodell, Second by Harklau to approve the first reading of the following proposed ordinance: “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HUMBOLDT, IOWA BY AMENDING CHAPTER 55 AND ADDING CHAPTER 56, TO ALLOW FOR URBAN CHICKENS.”

Roll Call Vote: Nays – Harklau, Whittlesey, and Sleiter. Abstention – Goodell (needs more information). Motion failed.

Other Items Discussed: City Administrator – Thanked the City Street Department employees for their hard work during the recent snowstorm.

Motion by Harklau, Second by Whittlesey to schedule Monday, February 5, 2024 at 5:30 PM as the date and time for the next regular meeting of the Humboldt City Council and adjourn this session at 6:21 PM. (4) Ayes, motion carried.

Daniel E. Scholl, Mayor

Attest: _____
Gloria J. Christensen, City Clerk