

**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**City Hall, Cherokee, Iowa**  
**July 28, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.**

A regular meeting was called to order on this date by Mayor Murphy. Present: Council members Johnson, Brown, Miller, Pingel, Peck, City Attorney Herbold, Administrator Eikmeier, Clerk-Treasurer Taylor.

Mayor Murphy added item #4.06 to the agenda – change order #1 to Bockmann, Inc. for additional asbestos removal – flood program.

Bob Leach, 223 E. Bluff, a member of the Horse Arena Committee was present to update the council on a proposed new activity. The committee is in the process of building horseshoe pits, which will be located about 100' north of the bleachers and 50' east of the restrooms. They want to build the pits to comply with national standards so they are able to hold sanctioned tournaments. Bob indicated that northwest Iowa is the only area in Iowa that doesn't have a place to hold these tournaments. Bob reminded the council that the City owns this property, but the Committee maintains and rents the arena and collects fees. The same would hold true for the horseshoe pits. The Committee plans to solicit donations as well as use donated labor and equipment.

The council was asked to consider adopting a resolution committing \$206,637.75 in local funds for a Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant to acquire an additional 8 properties. Of these 8 properties, 4 are rentals and 4 are owner-occupied. The Administrator explained that even though there will be funds left from the first FEMA grant, the City isn't allowed to add additional properties. Property owners not originally within the boundaries the City set for the target neighborhood have now become eligible under another FEMA program. The new program is restricted to properties that have flood insurance and the property has had repetitive flood damage. Property values would be established by appraisal based on current values. There are several options the Council could consider – purchase the property and make the house available for sale to be moved; purchase and the City move the house then sell; or purchase and demolish. If the house were moved, CDBG funding would pay the local 25% match. Although similar to the first grant, the Council will have much more flexibility. If funded, the Council would then determine rules and regulations and put together the best way to save City funds, but still benefit the property owner. Maximum amounts to cover all possible costs have been included in the grant application, which makes the local match seem high. However, in establishing regulations, relocation and replacement costs can be reduced or eliminated, property owners could be asked to participate in some costs, etc., which in turn will decrease the City's local match. On a motion by Pingel, seconded by Johnson, the council adopted Resolution No. 15-14, committing \$206,637.75 in local funds for the Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant. Roll call was: AYES: All. NAYS: None.

A motion by Brown, seconded by Miller, unanimously approved the following under "Consent Business".  
City council minutes of July 14th.  
Reviewed Park & Rec. Advisory Board minutes of July 13th.  
Reviewed Planning & Zoning Commission minutes of July 7th.  
Renewal of Class "C" liquor license – Brightside Lounge  
New Class "B" beer permit – Shopko.  
Change order #1 to Bockmann, Inc. for \$13,050 for additional asbestos removal – flood program.

Rebecca Gisel, Alliant Energy, was present with the community annual partnership report. Alliant Energy supports economic development in the city and county; supports the Chamber of Commerce; provides grants twice a year through Branching Out for tree planting activities; and has rebate programs for installing energy efficient equipment. The Alliant Energy Foundation provides local programs focusing on families, education, and the environment. Alliant Energy invested \$250,015 in gas infrastructure in 2014 and \$1,195,916 from 2004-2014.

A motion by Brown, seconded by Peck, approved the following wage increases for part-time employees retroactive to July 1st. Bill Sipes-\$.25/hr., Peter Steward-\$.25/hr., Greg Eaton-

\$.25/hr., Bob Warrender-\$.50/hr., Harlan Curtis-\$.50/hr., Chuck Coyne-\$.50/hr., Linda Peterson-\$.50/hr., Mike Roe-\$.50/hr., Heath Bomar-\$.50/hr., Randy Kane-\$1.00/hr. Motion carried.

Park Supt., Duane Mummert met last week with the Police Chief and the campground hosts regarding the speed of traffic in Spring Lake Park. Signs posted inside the park around the lake state 10 mph, however, the City Code says 15 mph in city parks. Frank and Sharon Holway, campground hosts, would like to see the City Code state 10 mph. From the yacht club, playground, shelters, and the high path around the lake, they see so many children in the area. Children, as well as adults, are constantly crossing the road to use the restrooms. Campers are parked very close to the road and children can dart out quickly and be right in the roadway. They indicated that a majority of people driving through the park are going 15 mph. Alleys in town are posted at 10 mph, which protects children in their back yards. They feel the same should hold true for the park. Duane said it would be hard to enforce 10 mph, but agrees that there are a lot of people crossing the roads. They have installed speed bumps and the speed trailer, which will count vehicles as well as record speeds. This information will be brought back to the next meeting for further review.

Administrator Eikmeier reported that Brian Heidesch would be resigning effective August 3rd to take employment closer to his hometown. A motion by Brown, seconded by Miller, unanimously authorized filling the vacancy.

A motion by Miller, seconded by Brown, approved the flood buyout offer for 432 E. Willow St. for the pre-flood appraised price of \$26,000. Motion carried.

The council reviewed bids from Lundell Construction and Schoon Construction & Excavation for the demolition of structures on 5 properties purchased through the flood relocation program.

	<u>413 E. Maple</u>	<u>315 E. Maple</u>	<u>115 Union</u>	<u>301 N. 1st</u>	<u>207 E. Cedar</u>
Lundell Const.	\$8,520.00	\$7,085.00	\$9,385.00	\$7,410.00	\$6,583.00
Schoon Const.	\$9,985.50	\$7,844.00	\$15,504.00	\$10,898.75	\$9,290.00

A motion by Brown, seconded by Miller, awarded the bid to the lowest bidder on each property, which was Lundell Construction for a total of \$38,983. Motion carried.

The council received two bids to hard surface the CN Trail from Gillease St. north to Sleezer Rd. Barkley Asphalt - \$23,240; Blacktop Service Co. - \$26,182.50. A motion by Pingel, seconded by Brown, unanimously approved a contract with Barkley Asphalt for \$23,240.

Armond Rider, Public Works Supt., reported that Rehab Systems has started cleaning sanitary sewers in the southwest part of town and are making good progress; next week the blacktop company will begin; they are replacing some curb on Park Ave. before overlaying; and they recently completed storm sewer work in Oak Knoll addition. He indicated that there are a lot of curbs in town that need addressed before doing future overlay work.

Administrator Eikmeier reported that a resident was stating that the City was maintaining a private drive at Bluff and Central Streets. What the City was actually doing was repairing a drainage situation adjacent to the CN trail. This same resident was also stating that the City was marking parking lots on private property. What actually took place was that a City employee, on his own time, was using the private property owner's equipment to mark the parking lot.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

News media – Ken Ross, *Chronicle Times*.

Mark Murphy – Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra Taylor  
City Clerk-Treasurer