

# **CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA**

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF**

### **July 16, 2025**

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, with Mayor Morlan presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin and Iosbaker. Others present were: Danette Meyer, Jerry Wohler, Don Northup, Public Works Director I; Kadie Conrad, Deputy City Clerk; and Ashley Fry, City Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the tentative agenda with the corrections of adding 119 E Marion to sections 4-A and 4-B and removing section 6-A. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin and Iosbaker. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda items: Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of July 2, 2025; Tax Exemption for Josh and Rhonda Vermillion at 620 Delta Rd, Resolution No. 2025-07-13; Liquor License Application for Elliott Oil Company at 805 East Jackson Street; credit card report and to set time and place for the next regular scheduled Council meeting is August 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin and Iosbaker. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda items: Council Accounts Payable claims in the amount of \$61,821.85. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Lentz, Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin and Iosbaker. Nays: None; Abstain: Schultz (Schultz's nephew owns Exceptional Edge) Motion Approved.

Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Resolution providing for the Elimination of the Office Assistant Position and Resolution No. 2025-07-14. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Lentz, Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin and Iosbaker. Nays: Schultz. Motion approved.

#### **Additional Business:**

Council member Iosbaker stated that the finance committee had met to discuss the following items on the agenda; Letter to participate in the Iowa Economic Development Authority for a Community Catalyst and Building Remediation Emergency Grant and Authorize the Mayor to sign and for the Financial Contribution for the Iowa Economic Development Authority for a Community Catalyst and Building Remediation Emergency Grant Application for location 119 East Marion Street. He stated that IEDA would potentially support an emergency catalyst grant for 119 East Marion to assist in the remediation of the upper story that was damaged during all the rain while the Façade project was going on. The building owner did the research and determined and submitted a budget to IEDA for restoration of the upper story apartments. That information was taken, and it was viewed favorably. The next thing that happened was IEDA indicated that they were willing to support the grant if the city was willing to contribute. The city would have to apply for the Community Catalyst and Building Remediation Emergency Grant. We discussed it in the Finance Committee last week, and the overall budget that was submitted was about \$175,000.00 total. About half of which would be supported by IEDA, and the balance would be the responsibility of the business owner. In conversation with IEDA, there were several suggestions for how the city could contribute. Examples of ways that the city could contribute could be through TIF, Urban revitalization was another option where tax relief can be provided, tax abatement could be provided, if you have an urban revitalization zone. Other potential options would be forgiveness on utilities. But the net of it is the city willing to step in financially with a commitment to support the grant. In the finance committee we would suggest a \$15,000.00 in kind contribution with the funds coming from the LOSST. We have a balance in there of \$276,000.00, as I recall, that isn't committed to CDs. Contribute that toward this project. I communicated the results of the Finance Committee meeting to IEDA, because they were asking whether there was any potential. I shared the output of the committee meeting with the caveat that it had to be approved by the council. Subsequently, the IEDA sent a letter saying that contingent upon the city making a financial contribution towards the project. I believe it was \$100,000.00 Catalyst Award for the upper story. What's in front of us now on Item A and the companion for item B is whether the council is willing to authorize the contribution to the project. Council member McLaughlin asked would that set us up down the road to assist other business owners? Council member Iosbaker stated yes in similar circumstances. In my own view as a single individual in similar circumstances. Yes, these are extenuating circumstances. Not necessarily come up very often. Council member Clark was under the understanding that the council had talked a couple of years ago about these types of grants, and placing a cap of \$5,000.00 on grant amounts that the city would contribute. As I didn't think giving one business owner X amount and another business owner a different amount is fair. Council member Iosbaker stated, my recollection of the conversation was that in the absence of any other projects or support from other entities, IEDA or otherwise, we would make that kind of a contribution. Council member Clark I think this came up when we went into a contract with the apartments on the east side of the square. Council member Iosbaker I think it's an opportunity to restore business to full function. It was an unsolicited opportunity that was presented by IEDA. So that's why we did the research, and that's why we did the presentation to the council. Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member Iosbaker to approve the letter of intent to participate in the Iowa Economic Development Authority for a Community Catalyst and Building Remediation Emergency Grant and Authorize the Mayor to sign in relation to 119 East Marion Street. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin and Iosbaker. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Schultz and Council member Iosbaker feel that there is unfinished business at 119 E Marion Street and if we don't take this opportunity, to receive those funds or pass on them. There is a problem at 119 E Marion that needs to be fixed. Council member

Conrad moved seconded by Council member Iosbaker to approve the financial contribution for the Iowa Economic Development Authority for a community catalyst and Building Remediation Emergency Grant Application in the amount of \$15,000 for location 119 E Marion Street. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin and Iosbaker. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Iosbaker, KCED Director, stated we had the car show last Saturday. We had 71 participants in the car show. Work on the childcare initiative is still going strong. We have had some conversations with the superintendent at Keota and Pekin for childcare. We are working on the \$10,000.00 raffle that will be held in the fall.

**Public Safety:** Council member Clark stated that a couple of meetings ago we had some business owners come in to voice their concerns about food truck and if they are fully licensed to be within the city limits. The city currently does not have a food truck ordinance or policy. We took this concern to public safety and decided it would be in the best interest of the city to complete a food truck ordinance. What you have in front of you is a copy of the ordinance that the public safety committee decided upon. It has 6-13-1 Definitions, 6-13-2 Permit Required, 6-13-1 Application Requirements, 6-13-4 Operational Requirements, 6-13-5 Prohibited locations, 6-13-6 Enforcement and Penalties and 6-13-7 Fee Schedule. The major thing that we want to make all business owners aware of is that the food trucks will have to get permission from brick-and-mortar restaurants to set up within 150 from their establishment. Council member Iosbaker asked will this ordinance go into effect before this year's farmers market is over.? He stated that we will plan accordingly for the 2026 season of the farmer's market. Council member Clark moved seconded by Council member Iosbaker to approve the First reading of Ordinance Amending Title VI – Physical Environment – Chapter 13 Mobile Food Unit Regulations. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin and Iosbaker. Nays: None. Motion approved

**Finance:** Council member Conrad moved seconded by Council member Lentz to approve Public Works phone increase from \$25.00 to \$40.00 for Logan Northup, Jonathon Utterback and Randy Hemsley. Council member Conrad stated that we rely on the employees who use their own phones to answer the phones when something is needed during working business hours, so we are requesting to increase the limit. Council member McLaughlin asked if this is for their personal phone, yes, it is. She stated that she could see if the department head gets the \$40.00 but it is not necessary for the other employees. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad, and Iosbaker. Nays: McLaughlin. Motion approved

City Clerk Fry stated that the Legion Park cameras were down for the last couple of weeks and after rebooting the cameras on the site and trying to reboot them here in the office they would still not work. I emailed Tom Watson to see if he could look at them and possibly get them working again. He was able to find an old backup from the camera and rewrite the setting and got it back up and going. He emailed me and stated that he had about 6 hours of time getting the Legion Park cameras back up and going. I told him I would take it to the committee and see what they would recommend we do. After the finance committee met, they decided to recommend \$25.00 per hour for 6 hours totaling \$150.00. Council member Lentz moved seconded by Council member Clark to approve paying Thomas Watson \$25.00 and an hour for 6 hours for his time to work on the city cameras. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin and Iosbaker. Nays: None. Motion approved.

**Public Input:** Jerry Wohler attending the meeting and had a couple of complaints that he wanted to talk about. First off does the office keep a record of how many golf carts are registered throughout the city? When I'm driving or riding my bike through town, I see a bunch without the proper colored sticker on them. Second, when I'm on my bike ride, I see so many people blowing grass into the road, and this is in violation of the ordinance that the city has. He asked if he should call City Hall every time he sees someone in violation of the ordinance. Mayor Morlan thanked him for his concerns and that we will investigate the situation.

Council member Lentz moved, seconded by Council member Clark, to adjourn the meeting. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad, McLaughlin and Iosbaker. Nays: None. Motion approved

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

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Jimmy Morlan, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ashley Fry, City Clerk