

CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA

MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF

June 18, 2025

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, with Mayor Morlan presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Others present were: Casey Jarmes, The News Review; Susan Walker; Stacy Flynn; Danette Meyer; Sherry Fisher; Stuart Grossman; Rose Fisher; Jenny Thompson; Darian Graff; Don Northup, Public Works Director I; John Wehr, John N Wehr Law Office; and Ashley Fry, City Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Council member McLaughlin moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve the tentative agenda. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Conard moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda items: Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of June 4, 2025; Special Liquor License for Sigourney Kiwanis Club; City Clerk Financial Report, Payroll Expenses, Miscellaneous Expenses, ACH and Monthly Transfers for the month of May; July 4th 2025 Advertising; Midwest Group Benefits – 2nd quarter HRA Billing; Community Betterment Projects; credit card report and to set time and place for the next regular scheduled Council meeting is July 2, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Conrad moved, seconded by Council member McLaughlin, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda items: Council Accounts Payable claims in the amount of \$39,716.15. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None; Abstain: Schultz (Schultz's nephew owns Exceptional Edge) Motion Approved.

Additional Business: Stacy Flynn with Legacy Insurance Group attended the meeting to go over the July 1, 2025 insurance renewal. Stacy stated that the insurance renewal looks good compared to what we expected. On the first page are, renewal comparisons, I put a comparison of 2024 to 2025 versus our expected 2025 to 2026, with both the dollar amount and then the percentage. I do have a summary showing what those changes are overall. There was about a \$2,000 premium increase, which is significantly lower than where we would have expected that to come in. Some of the factors behind that are that we corrected the fire protection class. Correcting the fire class got a decrease in premium. There is potential that the fire class could go lower soon and could mean even more savings. After reviewing the current policy, we were missing the concession stand at the soccer field, a lawn mower, removed one street sweeper and added the new one. We did add the two speed signs on Pleasant Valley to the policy as well, and then the 2% inflation guard that's just built into the policy. Each year, the property coverage is increased by 2% to help keep up with inflation. That's something that ICAP puts on the policy automatically. The next page is the coverage, on the auto policy, general liability policy is \$2 million of coverage, and that's per occurrence. Per claim, we've got up to \$2 million in coverage. And then the excess liability, which works kind of like an umbrella, there's another 2 million. So what the current cost is for that 2 million in excess liability coverage each year we should get a quote to see what the additional limits are. I was able to find a new crime policy with ICAP through Old Republic. She stated that the work comp renewal was looking great, we have a 14% discount due to not having many work comp claims. Stacy informed the council of programs that ICAP offers as part of being there client.

John Wehr with John N Wehr Law office was in to explain why he had requested discussion on the rock that is in the City's terrace. A couple of weeks ago there was an accident in the 400 block of West Pleasant Valley Street where a car drove on the terrace hit a rock and the car rolled. He pointed out that in our ordinance it is stated that no person shall leave any items on the terrace. Any items in the terrace must be removed within 48 hours. He wanted to make the council aware that if the driver of the vehicle wanted to pursue charges there would be a good possibility that they could sue the homeowner and then in return the homeowner could sue the city. He presented a case that happened in Des Moines on an uneven sidewalk. Individuals sued the business owner and in return the business owner sued the city. Council member Clark stated that he feels that situation is different as people aren't supposed to be driving on the terrace. Susan Walker stated that she is not in favor of having the rock removed as she feels that rock potentially saved the car from coming into her house or the neighbor's home. She stated what is the difference between rocks, trees or even a telephone pole in or on a terrace? Council member Clark asked, could this location be grandfathered in leaving the rock on the terrace? It was undecided if that could be an option or not. Stacy stated that she would look into if ICAP would be ok with the possibility of grandfathering in the rock on the terrace. This will be discussed in a Public Safety committee meeting.

Danette Meyers stated that I just want to express the concerns I have, along with other small business owners in our community. I understand that the food truck owners are a small business also trying to make it in today's economic struggles. As business owners, we feel that we are the ones committed to our community and feel that food truck owners need to contribute as they are taking away from our businesses. I researched several communities, like our size, as to how they handle food trucks. Belle Plaine and Marengo both allow trucks within their city limits, except they must have up to date permits through the city in their process. They require an application and an application fee of \$25.00 to \$50.00. Once approved by the appropriate committee, they then pay for a permit allowing them the access to park within the city limits for one, two days or a week at various rates ranging \$20.00 to \$100.00. Once approved, the food truck can continue to return multiple times within the year of the application by getting a new permit for every day that they will be selling. One town allows the application to be valid for one year after having to reapply and pay application fees again. The other allows a renewal of a permit with documentation of current state licenses and state sales tax with no fee. As business owners, we feel that the money that

would be acquired through these fees should be applied to a nonprofit organization within our community, as a donation, just as we would have done if we had earned the money. This is to have a grant type where they can apply and receive money, per year, as you the council decide where the money would be received, such as to the ball clubs, the pool, Fourth of July activities, Christmas festival and so on. We as business owners feel that if we're going to have food trucks within the city limits, they should contribute to the community, just as we do with our profits. Council member Clark suggested putting in place a 150 feet distance between restaurants and food trucks. Meyers stated that could hurt the farmers market or special events, so that would have to be looked at as well. This subject was talked about by the council and we are going to take them to either Park and Recreation or Public Safety to get an ordinance started and get a permit in place so we can start regulating the food trucks in town.

Council member Iosbaker moved seconded by Council member McLaughlin to approve Resolution # 2025-06-12 for Fountain Festival Street Closure. City Clerk Fry stated that if the revenue and expenses are run through the city then the event could be ran under the City Insurance. Stuart stated that he agrees to this and that if they need anything bought for the Fountain Festival, he will ask permission to purchase them. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Stuart Grossman spoke about having a pavilion dedication ceremony after it is completed. He is hoping to have the event on October 4, 2025. The committee for the pavilion is hoping that the city will approve of having the event and also to approve closing the streets for the event. Stuart stated that a band has agreed to perform but they have not completely booked them until the city has approved of the event. City Clerk Fry asked how and who was going to pay for the band and Stuart stated that the city would not be paying for the band that they would have fundraising, or Kiwanis would pay for the band. Council member Conrad stated that the council can't approve the event until a resolution is made but has the blessing to continue with planning for the event.

Council member Iosbaker, KCED Director, stated that we've been involved a lot with the subgroup for the childcare center. We are continuing to do fundraising. We received \$5000.00 from the endowment fund and since then we have been able to make that number grow to about \$20,000 and we still have donations coming in. It is unlikely that the childcare facility will be able to open at the beginning of the school year as there are a lot of regulatory hoops to complete. But hopefully mid-year we should be able to open our doors.

Park and Recreation: Council member McLaughlin wanted to make the council aware of some vandalism that happened at the Sigourney Pool. As you can see on the screen this is a picture of the boys bathroom sink that has been broken. There were 3 boys that were questioned and they all denied it and the parents are standing behind them. So, from now on the boys bathroom will be locked and if they need to use the bathroom, they would have to ask the guard on duty to unlock it and then re-lock it after they are done. Donnie told the council that he had been in contact with Sigourney Lumber and a local contractor to get it fixed but the material won't be in until after the pool season has closed. We were able to push it back up and make it more secure. Council member Clark asked, can we ban the 3 boys from the pool for the summer? It was agreed upon that we would send the 3 letters stating that they are not to come to the pool for the remaining days this summer that the pool is open.

City Clerk: Council member Schultz moved seconded by Council member Clark to approve Resolution No. 2025-06-10 for Authorizing the Transfer of Funds and Payments of General Obligation Bonds and Revenue Bonds for Fiscal Year 2026. City Clerk Fry stated that every year you have to pass a resolution showing the principal and interest amount for our GO Bonds and Water and Sewer Loans. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council member Schultz moved seconded by Council member Conrad to approve Resolution No. 2025-06-11 Authorizing the Transfer of Funds for Fiscal Year 2026. City Clerk Fry stated that again this is a Resolution that has to be passed yearly showing in house transfers that are going to be made between funds. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Jimmy Morlan, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Ashley Fry, City Clerk