

CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA

MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF

May 7, 2025

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, with Mayor Morlan presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Others present were: Steve Shettler, Steve Shettler Media; Stuart Grossman; Matt Welter; Stacy Flynn, The Legacy Insurance Group; Donald Northup, Public Works Director I; Brent Gilliland, Public Works Director II; 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 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 Iosbaker moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda items: Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of April 16, 2025; Financial Report, payroll expenses, Miscellaneous Expenses, ACH and Monthly Transfers for April 2025; credit card report and to set time and place for the next regular scheduled Council meeting is May 21, 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 Clark moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda items: Council Accounts Payable claims in the amount of \$30,793.96 Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None; Abstain: Lentz (Lentz's brother Owns Atwood Electric) Motion Approved.

Additional City Business:

Council member Iosbaker, KCED Director, stated right now they are pulling together a fundraiser for the daycare center in Keota that's scheduled for May 22 at Lagos acres. Information will be coming out probably in the next few days. We have kicked off an initiative within KCED to look for ways to expand housing options in the community. We've got a couple of ideas that we're exploring. No details are ready to emerge yet, but it looks promising. The car show is coming up on the 12th of July and the Farmers Market will start in June.

Stuart Grossman with Sigourney Kiwanis was in attendance to give the Pavillion update. He had a packet with the summary, and details for the pavilion. Stuart said that we've made a few changes to the design since we saw you last, for a variety of reasons. The funds have been secured to do the construction this summer. The general contractor has been selected, and he has selected subcontractors. They have changed the supplier of the pavilion structure. They are planning for construction to begin on Monday, July the 14th, after the KCED car show, and be extensively complete by Friday the 22nd of August, the day before the Fountain Festival. There may still be grass and things that need to be done, but the plan is the construction will be done, and construction material be gone. As you can see from the packet some of the design changes that have been made. The simplest one is we've removed the cupola. These images that you see here do accurately reflect the current design of the pavilion. The images that we have been using to date were architectural renderings that did not have all the details in them as these do now. We are repositioning the right ramp as it was suggested that it might be a blockade for people walking across the grass. In the design they will have concrete pillars that look like the courthouse, they were designed by Matt Welter. Lastly instead of having vertical railings they will be making it horizontal railings instead. Matt Welter has been working with the General contractor, McDowell Construction, and has a lot of great ideas. All funds have either been raised or donated. The supplier for the pavilion has been changed due to some conflict interest. Stuart did have one request to have parking spots on Jefferson Street be blocked for the material during the construction. We told Stuart that we will have to have a street and sanitation meeting and make the recommendation to have the parking spots blocked off. We will have him back on the agenda at the May 21st meeting.

Council member Conrad moved seconded by Council member Clark to approve the flagpole purchased by the American Legion and for it to be installed by Renner Construction. Location of the flagpole will be determined by the Soccer / Flag Football director at the Soccer and Flag Football fields. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

City Clerk Fry stated that an Angela Meijering called asking if the City of Sigourney would like to sponsor 10 Families at \$16 per family for an important safety initiative for Kids. Due to the lack of more information being provided City council decided it would be best to table discussion of this matter until more information was provided. Council member Clark moved seconded by Council member Conrad to table this discussion. Upon roll being called the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion tabled.

Brent Gilliland Public Works Director II stated that we are looking at purchasing 2 lawn mower Chute Blockers. This will prevent us from blowing grass at adults and children playing at the park, the pool and the pickle ball courts. . The chutes will mulch the grass and debris instead of throwing it around. Council member Clark moved seconded by council member Schultz to approve purchasing 2 Chute Blockers in the amount of \$798. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Quality Control Restoration and ICAP insurance agreed on a final number for the roof repair at City Hall after the 2023 hailstorm. Total replacement cost for the City Hall roof repair is \$ 23,544.88. City Clerk Fry has spoken to both the contractor and insurance representative, and they have everything all set up. QCR will be able to get the repair completed before end of Fiscal year and then we should have this claim completed and nothing should be carried over into Fiscal year 2026. Council member Clark moved seconded by Council member Conrad to approve going forward with the quote and insurance to replace the roof at City Hall. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

City Clerk Fry wanted to show the council the final payment that the insurance company will be sending to City Hall for the hailstorm that happened in 2023. No vote was needed as this was just for their information.

City Clerk Fry received a notice for non-renewal for a government crime bond. Clerk Fry stated that she had reached out to our current Insurance Agent, and he was going to start looking for a different Crime Bond.

Stacy Flynn attended the City Council meeting to discuss possibly getting the City of Sigourney to sign an Agent of Record change form. Stacy handed out a packet of information for the council to look at. She stated that she has been in insurance for over 20 years and she had previously worked on the city insurance from 2007 to 2016. Ms. Flynn stated that our current insurance company has been sold to a large insurance company and so now our insurance dollars will not be staying in town. Ms. Flynn would like the City to consider switching to The Legacy Insurance Company. She stated you would be getting a local insurance agent and a locally owned insurance company. Council member Clark asked if the rates and coverage would stay the same or if we would expect to see a change in them. Ms. Flynn stated that all rates and coverage would remain the same. Council member McLaughlin stated she was concerned about the other insurance companies and if we needed to give them a chance at the insurance. But with no change in premium we don't believe we need to reach out to the other insurance companies. Council member Clark moved seconded by Council member Lentz to approve to sign the Agent of Record change with Stacy Flynn at Legacy Insurance Company. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Park and Recreation: Council member Clark moved seconded by Council member Iosbaker to approve hiring Alan Sellers as the director for the 2025 flag football season. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Street and Sanitation: Brent stated that we sold an attachment a couple months ago and the money that we sold the attachment for we would like to purchase a 6 foot soil conditioner. The soil conditioner would be used for any small seeding jobs for water, sewer, potholes, and to level out mulch and dirt. This would help keep cost down if there was a small yard patch that need completed we would be able to do it instead of hiring it out. Council member Schultz moved seconded by Council member Conrad to approve purchasing a 6 foot soil conditioner from H&M in the amount of \$ 6,900.00. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Committee meeting on Monday, May 12, 2025 at 6:00 PM and Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

Water and Wastewater: An ordinance was passed in 2024 for the water rates for the next 5 years. City Clerk Fry was unaware that we didn't need to vote on the matter again unless someone wanted to make a motion to change the past ordinance. Council member McLaughlin asked why we weren't going to vote on the rate increase as in years past we would vote on all rate increases. It was found that because this ordinance was already passed for the next five years and no vote was needed. Council member McLaughlin wanted to make known that she was not in favor of this 5% increase to the water rate.

An ordinance was passed in 2024 for the sewer rates for the next 5 years. City Clerk Fry was unaware that we didn't need to vote on the matter again unless someone wanted to make a motion to change the past ordinance. Council member McLaughlin stated that she is not in favor of the 5% increase to the sewer rate.

Discussion of upgrading Water Treatment Plant softener PLC upgrades. Brent Gilliland stated we have had some issues with our softeners so we are looking at upgrading them. We first have the WPT control upgrades and then the second quote is for the actual software for the controls. This would give us a second way to monitor the softeners at the water plant. Currently if the water plant were to get stuck by lighting we would be down for months before we could get the parts to fix it. This would give us the updates we need to run on 2 computer systems instead of one. Electric pump would also be able to remote in if there was a problem instead of having to call them and they would have to come on site to fix the problem. The cost of the upgrades is around \$47,000. The current panel view is 17 years old and the softener program was installed in 1994. We would be using the water surcharge fund and it is also budgeted for to complete the payment for this upgrade. Council member Clark moved seconded by Council member Conrad to approve the WTP softener control upgrades with the amount being around \$47,000. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Public Safety: Council member Clark stated that Public Safety meet last week to discuss a few items. First Doug Glandon, Code Enforcement officer, had The Design House create a citation book that he will be able to use to write citations for our codes. We discussed that the issues between Mrs. Dietrich and Mr. Claywell is a civil matter. Paperwork has been sent out to complete an inspection on Mr. and Mrs. Dietrich's apartment to make sure they are in compliance with the international codes. Mr. Claywell's properties have already been inspected and are in compliance. Public safety is looking at completing an ordinance that would restrict the use of household materials on store fronts on and around the square. We have gotten many complaints on dogs barking at the same property all the time.

Doug has given the property owner 1 citation and will be giving them more if the problem is not resolved. To possibly help with this we are considering an ordinance on how many animals you can have in your household.

Human Resources:

City Clerk: Council member Lentz moved seconded by Council member Conrad to approve setting a Public Hearing on May 21, 2025 for City Budget Estimate for Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Upon the roll being called, the following voted Ayes: Iosbaker, Lentz, Schultz, Clark, Conrad and McLaughlin. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Public Input:

Council member Clark moved, seconded by Council member Lentz, 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 7:06 p.m.

Jimmy Morlan, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Ashley Fry, City Clerk