

**CITY OF DUBUQUE, IOWA  
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
SPECIAL SESSION**

The Dubuque City Council met in special session at 6:00 p.m. February 13, 2019 in the Historic Federal Building, 350 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

Present: Mayor Buol, Council Members Del Toro, Larson, Resnick; Shaw; City Manager Michael Van Milligen.

Absent: Council Members Jones and Rios

Mayor Buol read the call and stated this is a special session of the City Council called for the purpose of conducting the FY20 CDBG Annual Action Plan public hearing and discussing various FY20 City Departmental budgets.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Community Development Block Grant- Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Action Plan: Proof of Publication on notice of public hearing to approve a Resolution to include the Fiscal Year 2020 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan in the City of Dubuque's Fiscal Year 2020 budget and the City Manager recommending approval. Motion by Shaw to receive and file the documents and adopt Resolution No. 48-19 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2020 (Program Year 2019) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan. Seconded by Resnick. Housing and Community Development Manager Alexis Steger provided a slide presentation. Topics included: CDBG objectives; grant allocations for FY10-FY19; a review of the Community Development Advisory Commission; summary of the proposed FY20 Annual Action Plan; resources to meet locally identified needs; creating quality affordable housing opportunities; equitable outcomes; and advancing City Council goals. Motion carried 5-0.

**FISCAL YEAR 2020 DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REVIEW**

Fiscal Year 2020 City departmental budgets were presented by staff from the following departments:

2. Housing & Community Development Department: Alexis Steger, Housing and Community Development Manager.
3. Planning Services: Laura Carstens, Planning Services Manager
4. Economic Development Department: Jill Connors, Economic Development Director
5. Transportation Services: Renee Tyler, Transportation Services Manager; and Jodi Johnson, Operations Manager.

The City Council had discussion with staff following their respective presentations. Following the Housing and Community Development presentation, Council Member Shaw requested an informal poll of the Council to include discussion of another full-time inspector in the final budget suggesting a possible financial swap with the request for a civil rights specialist position in the City Attorney's Office. Larson, Del Toro, Buol, Shaw concurred 4-1 with Resnick declining.

For the record, Mayor Buol acknowledged receipt of correspondence from Council Member Jones, favoring holding the housing inspector improvement package for further consideration.

Following the Planning Services Department presentation, Council Member Larson requested that the department consider adding sidewalks to its trail grant plans citing Roosevelt Road as an area of need.

Following the Transportation Services Department presentation, Council Member Shaw recommended that the department engage in a vigorous public education campaign for the Smart Meter Project and not depend solely upon social media outlets for public education.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Following the Housing and Community Development presentation, Lynn Sutton, 859 Air Hill, thanked the City Council for the additional inspector hours and stated that there are still many tenants living without heat, that denials by landlords are continuing to occur in the Housing Choice Voucher Program, and that the weed/grass cutting, and garbage removal inspections should be removed from the inspector duties. Ms Sutton added that there are no consistent standards for determining at what length grass should be cut.

Following the Transportation Services Department presentation, John Gronen / Gronen Restoration, 1766 Plymouth Ct., emphasized the need by businesses for transportation strategies and studies as they relate to current development and future business growth. Mr. Gronen highlighted the use of new technology and the need for parking infrastructure.

Nikki Kieffer, President of Sedona Staffing, 2064 Holliday Drive, described the difficulty Sedona has filling 6:15 a.m. staffing requests for west end businesses because the bus routes don't start early enough to get workers to the job sites in time.

Greg Orwoll, Executive Director of DuRide, 2728 Asbury Rd., distributed and reviewed the volunteer transportation service's public information brochure and statistics report.

There being no further business, upon motion the City Council adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

/s/Kevin S. Firnstahl, CMC  
City Clerk