CITY OF DUBUQUE, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
SPECIAL SESSION

The Dubuque City Council met in special session at 6:00 p.m. on March 23, 2020 in the second-floor Council Chambers of the Historic Federal Building, 350 W. 6th Street.

Due to the COVID-10 pandemic, this meeting was also conducted virtually.

Present via teleconference: Mayor Buol; Council Members Cavanagh, Jones, Resnick, Roussell, Shaw, Sprank; City Manager Van Milligen (joined at 6:06 p.m.), City Attorney Brumwell

Mayor Buol read the call and stated this is a special session of the City Council called for the purpose of conducting such business that may properly come before the City Council and for reviewing certain Fiscal Year 2021 departmental budget.

PRESENTATION(S)


2. COVID-19 Update: City staff will provide an update on COVID-19 pandemic situation and response activities. Public Health Specialist Mary Rose Corrigan provided updated information on the corona virus related to the City of Dubuque and Iowa generally. Ms. Corrigan demonstrated an interactive map from the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDHP) that provides updates, resources and guidelines intended inform citizens and slow the spread. Other topics included when residents should seek testing or not; the availability of personal protective equipment for health care professionals; and what information to expect to provided healthcare professionals when being screened for testing. Ms. Corrigan responded to questions from the City Council.

ITEMS SET FOR PUBLIC HEARING

1. Walter Development, LLC / Duluth Holdings, Inc. - Amended & Restated Development Agreement – April 6, 2020. This item was removed from the agenda at the request of staff and the developer.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Housing Authority Five -Year Plan: Proof of publication on notice of public hearing to consider approval of the proposed Public Housing Authority 5-Year Plan (2020-2024), and the City Manager recommending approval. Restated motion by Shaw to
receive and file the documents and adopt Resolution Option A (with Source of Income provision) Approving the Public Housing Authority 5-Year Plan (2020-2024); Authorizing the Mayor to execute said Plan and all necessary certifications; designating the Housing & Community Development Director as the Authorized Chief Executive Officer for the Plan; and directing said Plan be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Via telephone, City Manager Van Milligen and Housing and Community Development Director Alexis Steger responded to questions from the City Council regarding the need for additional data collection and tracking as well as the State Legislature’s likely efforts to pre-empt cities from passing a source of income ordinance.

Motion by Jones to receive and file the documents and adopt Resolution No. 94-20 (without Source of Income provision) Approving the Public Housing Authority 5-Year Plan (2020-2024); Authorizing the Mayor to execute said Plan and all necessary certifications; designating the Housing & Community Development Director as the Authorized Chief Executive Officer for the Plan; and directing said Plan be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Seconded by Resnick. Motion carried 6-1 with Shaw voting nay.

Fiscal Year 2021
Departmental Budget Hearings

1. Emergency Management FY21 Budget Presentation: Tom Berger, Emergency Management Coordinator
2. Emergency Communications FY21 Budget Presentation: Mark Murphy, Emergency Communications Manager
3. Police Department FY21 Budget Presentation: Mark Dalsing, Police Chief
4. Fire Department FY21 Budget Presentation: Rick Steines, Fire Chief
5. Building Services Department FY21 Budget Presentation: Cori Burbach, Acting Building Services Manager

There was no public input received through the City Clerk and Budget live email accounts nor from the City’s FacebookLive account being monitored by staff throughout all of the budget reviews.

The presenters responded to questions from the City Council following their respective presentations.

Following the Police Department presentation, Council Member Shaw requested Council consensus for reconsideration of the department’s request for an additional School Resource Officer. A majority of the Council did not concur.

Following the Fire Department presentation, Council Member Shaw requested Council consensus for reconsideration of the department’s request for an additional firefighter position. A majority of the Council did not concur.

Following the Building Services Department presentation, Council Member Shaw requested Council consensus for reconsideration of the department’s request for an additional custodian position. A majority of the Council did not concur.
ACTION ITEMS

1. Fiscal Year 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan Amendment 1: City Manager recommending adoption of Amendment 1 to the Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan. Motion by Cavanagh to receive and file the documents and adopt Resolution No. 95-20 Adopting Amendment 1 to the Fiscal Year 2020 (Program Year 2019) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan. Seconded by Jones. Motion carried 7-0.

2. Rescheduling the March 25 Departmental Budget Reviews and the March 26, 2020 Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget: City Manager recommending rescheduling of the Fiscal Year 2021 departmental budget reviews of March 25, 2020 to April 16, 2020; and the March 26, 2020 public hearing adopting the Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget to April 23, 2020. Motion by Jones to receive and filed the documents and adopt Resolution No. 96-20 Re-setting the date for the public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget as amended for the City of Dubuque; and Resolution No. 97-20 Re-setting the date for the public hearing on the Five-Year Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2021 through 2024 for the City of Dubuque. Seconded by Cavanagh. Motion carried 7-0.

3. Request for Work Session on COVID-19 Update: City Manager recommending that the City Council schedule a work session for Wednesday, March 25, 2020, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers to provide an update on Coronavirus, City services, City operations and community impact. Motion by Cavanagh to receive and file the documents and set the work session as recommended. Seconded by Jones. No conflicts where expressed. The City Clerk confirmed that the work session would take place virtually as with this evening’s meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

There being no further business, Mayor Buol declared the meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

/s/Kevin S. Firnstahl, CMC
City Clerk

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