The Dubuque City Council met in special session at 6:30 p.m. on March 8, 2021.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and mandates for social distancing, this meeting was conducted virtually via GoToMeeting and aired live on CityChannel Dubuque (Mediacom cable channels 8 and 117.2), streamed live on the City’s website at www.cityofdubuque.org/media, and streamed live on the City’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cityofdubuque.

Present: Mayor Buol; Council Members Cavanagh, Farber, Jones, Resnick, Roussell, Sprank; City Manager Van Milligen, 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 public hearings on certain Fiscal Year 2022 Departmental Budgets and for conducting such business that may properly come before the City Council.

City Clerk Breitfelder announced the voting roll call order for the meeting as: Jones, Resnick, Farber, Roussell, Buol, Cavanagh, Sprank.

SWEARING-IN

1. Swearing-In of Council Member-Elect and Mayor Pro Tem: Mayor Buol administered the Oath of Office to Council Member-Elect and Mayor Pro Tem Susan R. Farber (Ward 1).

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. FY 2022 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan: Proof of publication on notice of public hearing to consider approval of a resolution adopting the Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan for inclusion in the City’s Fiscal Year 2022 budget and directing staff to transmit the plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and City Manager recommended approval. Motion by Resnick to receive and file the documents and adopt Resolution No. 62-21 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2022 (Program Year 2021) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan for inclusion in the City budget. Seconded by Cavanagh. Housing and Community Development Director Alexis Steger provided a presentation outlining the program and responded to questions from the City Council following the presentation. Motion carried 7-0.

FISCAL YEAR 2022 DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REVIEW
Fiscal Year 2022 City departmental budgets were presented by staff from the following departments:

1. Housing and Community Development Department FY22 Budget Presentation: Alexis Steger, Housing and Community Development Director;

2. Planning Services Department FY22 Budget Presentation: Wally Wernimont, Planning Services Manager;

3. Economic Development Department FY22 Budget Presentation: Jill Connors, Economic Development Director, and Jenni Peterson-Brant, Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator;

4. Transportation Services Department FY22 Budget Presentation: Russell Stecklein, Acting Transportation Services Director;

Staff responded to questions from the City Council following their respective presentations. Following the Housing and Community Development Department’s presentation, Lynn Sutton, 859 Air Hill Street, co-chair of Friends of Fair Housing, requested City Council reconsider fair housing testing in the Housing and Community Development Department budget. Rick Baumhover, 601 Garfield, Chair of the Housing Commission, provided input on the City’s Facebook page complementing Housing and Community Development Department staff.

Following the Planning Services Department’s presentation, Kyle FitzGerald, 1240 University Avenue, provided input on the City’s Facebook page complementing Planning Services staff.

Following the Economic Development Department’s presentation, Kyle FitzGerald, 1240 University Avenue, provided input on the City’s Facebook page asking how the City can obtain additional funding for cultural activities in Dubuque and what the most important drivers are for economic development in Dubuque. Ms. Connors responded that there are multiple drivers for economic development in a city and provided various examples.

Following the Transportation Services Department presentation, Greg Orwell, Executive Director for DuRide, spoke in support of funding and described DuRide’s services during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

ACTION ITEMS


There being no further business, Mayor Buol declared the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.
/s/Adrienne N. Breitfelder
City Clerk

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