

Council Chambers, City Hall, February 1, 2010, 5:30 P.M.

The West Union City Council met on February 1, 2010 at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Merlin Dunt presiding. The meeting began with citing the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance	Roll call: Present – Council members Guenther, Schott, Rue, Dyke, and Halva. Absent – None.
Approval of the Minutes	Motion was made by Guenther, seconded by Dyke to approve the minutes of the January 18th, 2010 regular meeting. Roll call. All voted aye. Carried.
Approval of Agenda	Motion was made by Schott, seconded by Dyke, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Update on 2010 Census	Wendy Muhr with the 2010 Census advised they will be starting the 2010 census mid-March. Due to the information being used to develop funding, she strongly encourages everyone to reply as quickly as possible. Jobs are available by calling 866-861-2010. Information will be at the Chamber and City Hall also.
Update on Downtown Project	Robin Bostrom, Fay. Co. Econ. Develop. Director, updated Council on new funding available to apply for, and asked for representatives to assist on February 10 th presenting to the CAT board. Robin will coordinate.
Consider Approval of DOT Grant #2010-R-012	As the scope has not been completely decided on, Bill Ziegler, of Upper Exploreland advised he had spoke with DOT and recommended we wait until next council meeting to act on this agreement. Motion was made by Halva, seconded by Rue, to table until next meeting. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Resolution #2010-09	Motion was made by Halva, seconded by Schott, to approve Resolution #2010-09, a resolution approving Upper Exploreland as our Grant Administrator for the CDBG grant, not to exceed \$30,000 as provided by the grant; and all other grants at a fee of \$45/hour as requested. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Approval of SHPO Agreement	Bill Ziegler, Upper Exploreland, advised council that he had been in conversations with Iowa DNR and State Historical Preservation in regards to the SHPO agreement for vibratory studies for the Downtown Project. It was advised that there are no risks in signing, and that the tests would be required for any federal grants which we have been awarded. Motion was made by Schott, seconded by Halva, to approve signing the agreement. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Approval of a “Financial Team”	Discussion of how to proceed with the absence of City Administrator, Martin Games, to continue progress of the Downtown Project. Motion was made by Halva, seconded by Guenther, to approve the following as the team members: Guenther, Dyke, Jerem White, Bob Josten, Robin Bostrom, Sue North, Greg Ptacek, Tobin Britt, Jon Biederman, and maybe Kathy Showalter, and a couple more community citizens. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Discuss Downtown as an Urban Renewal Area	City Attorney, Jerem White, advised council that Resolution #2009-23 was approved June 2 nd , 2009 as the first step to developing the Urban Renewal area as the Downtown Project area, therefore, the geothermal loop would not need to be put to a vote. The Urban Renewal Plan and a public hearing would still need to be held to proceed. Discussion of that becoming a TIF district is also a possibility; that would come off bonding capacity, but could decrease the assessments to the businesses and be amortized up to 20 years. Motion was made by Halva, seconded by Schott, to direct White to research further and provide information at the next council meeting. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Discuss Establishing a Historic	Dick Woodard presented information to the Council with regards to forming a Historic Preservation Commission, which is a 3 person

Preservation Commission	commission. This designation would allow West Union some additional funding for any historic projects. Item was tabled until next meeting.
Increase Commitment to Rec Foundation	Norm Einck advised council they have applied for a CAT grant and would like to request a larger commitment from the city. Motion was made by Guenther, seconded by Rue, to raise our pledge from \$2,500 to \$5,000 over the next five years, payable at \$1,000 per year. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Resolution #2010-10 Approving the Use of Snowmobiles Within City Limits	Jerem White advised he reviewed the snowmobile route with Police Chief Jim Davies and have agreed on the following: Entrance: West or East ditch along Hwy 150 to the intersection with Hwy 18(or intersection of Jefferson Street to Commercial Drive and Russell Avenue) then along Cemetery Street to the alley intersection next to Super 8 Hotel, crossing Oak Street then Wells Street to the alley intersection next to Wilbur Ford crossing Elm Street. Exit: alley crossing Elm street next to Wilbur Ford to alley going west crossing Wells Street to Oak Street north crossing Hwy 18 and onto Auburn Street crossing Jefferson Street and along Hwy 150 in East ditch. Motion was made by Dyke, seconded by Halva, to approve resolution as stated. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Approval to Purchase Airport Snow Removal Equipment	Jeff Miller advised council \$83,000 is left in grant money that he has discussed with Rory to purchase a skid loader and attachments for snow removal at the airport. Rory agreed this would help in the downtown area also. Bids would need to be taken yet, and the grant money requested. Motion was made by Guenther, seconded by Halva, to approve Miller to apply for the grant money and request bids. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
City Administrator Job Opening	Halva advised ads were placed on Iowa League of Cities, Iowa Workforce, Grapevine, and the local papers. To date we have received 13 applications. Halva asked that a committee assist her and Dyke with interviewing, consisting of Rory Starks, Brian Dunt, Amie Johansen, and Tobin Britt. Need to establish salary range and interview questions. Dyke and Halva recommended that Johansen be named "Acting City Administrator" for the interim with a pay increase of 20% to \$15 per hour. Motion was made by Halva, seconded by Schott, to approve as stated. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried. Halva advised she had discussed with Sue North the possibility of assisting in the interim. As she had volunteered to sit on the financial team earlier, a motion was made by Rue, seconded by Schott, to hire Sue North as "Downtown Project Coordinator" to assist in the office interim not to exceed 30 hours per week, salary to be determined. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Class C Liquor License with Sunday Sales and Outdoor Service for Fayette County Fair	Motion was made by Guenther, seconded by Halva, to approve renewal of a Class C liquor license, with Sunday sales and outdoor service for the Fayette County Fair. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Renewal Class C Liquor License with Outdoor Service for TAP'T Out Stein-N-Dine	A motion was made by Dyke, seconded by Halva, to approve the renewal of a Class C liquor license, with outdoor service area for TAP'T Out Stein-N-Dine. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Discuss Special Work Session with Larry Burger	Motion was made by Halva, seconded by Schott, to schedule a work session to meet with Larry Burger, financial specialist, recommended by bond agent, Bob Josten for February 22 nd . All voted Aye. Carried.

Next Council Meeting The next regular meeting will be held on February 15th, 2010 at 5:30 P.M. at the Council Chambers to work on the budget. A special work session is scheduled for February 22nd at 5:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers also.

Adjourn With no further business to bring before the Council, a motion was made by Guenther, seconded by Halva, to adjourn. Roll call. All aye. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

MERLIN DUNT, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amie Johansen, Deputy City Clerk