

## **SPRINGVILLE CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

### **October 24, 2011**

Mayor Heeren called the regular meeting of the Springville City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. in Springville City Hall. Present on roll call: Grimley, Miller, Ralston, Shebetka and Ballantyne. Also present: Doug Beard, Todd Wyman, Dave Haugen, Liz Kemp, Susan Cooper, Mike Brady, Richard Lorimer, Kent and Brent Backen and Deputy Lemense.

**Public Hearing:** Mayor Heeren opened the public hearing on the Designation of the Springville Residential Revitalization Area and the Adoption of a Plan for Residential Property Tax Abatement. Per the provisions of Chapter 404, Urban Revitalization Act, Code of Iowa a City may designate an area of the City as a revitalization area upon meeting criteria as set forth by the code. The City must also prepare a proposed plan for the designated revitalization area. Said Plan includes an exemption from taxation on the first \$75,000 of actual value of a property for a period of 5 years. The City is moving forward with said plan by holding this public hearing. Mayor Heeren asked for public input, there being no oral or written comment the public hearing was closed at 6:05 p.m.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion was made by Grimley second by Miller to approve the consent agenda with removal of the finance report. All ayes motion carried.

**Citizens with Concerns Not on the Agenda:** none.

**Sheriff's Report:** Deputy Lemense provided the patrol report for hours of service from October 10, 2011 through October 24, 2011. There were 31 calls for service. September hours of service: 146.4.

**Maintenance Report:** Todd reported on the final walk through for phase 1 of the sewer project. The light on the water tower has been replaced, they cleaned up at the yard waste site, had 2 burials, fixed the toilet at the rental unit and checked out lights and outlets, drained and winterized backup pumps at the lift station, turned on the heat at the Community Center, showed the Ford F-350 to prospective buyers, fixed and leveled alleys and utility disconnects. The guys will be working on servicing summer equipment, leaf pickup in the parks, patching potholes and starting phase 2 of the sewer project. Todd noted the public works department needs a third person for snow removal in case of heavy snows. Todd recommended resurfacing of the street in the downtown area be considered in next year's budget and will be getting estimates for the project.

**Mayor:** Rick reported on attending the Linn County EMA meeting. On November 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. CST, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will conduct the first ever, top-to-bottom nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS). The purpose of the test is to assess the reliability and effectiveness of the EAS as a way to alert the public, should public safety officials ever need to send an alert to the public in a large region of the United States or nationwide.

**Other Reports:** Roger reported on attending the Park Board meeting. The board has ordered 2 new pieces of playground equipment to put in the same vicinity as the new wood structure installed by the Boy Scouts. The board is also considering putting in a sand volleyball court and lighting the basketball court. Tom Miller suggested the board also look into frisbee golf, as the sport seems to be very popular in other cities. Roger noted that Steve Mysak did a good job on Graham Park wetlands landscaping. The willow trees that were taken out will need to be burned next spring.

Library Board President Susan Cooper was present asking if the council had set any guidelines for the FY 2012-13 budget. Susan also inquired if a councilperson would like to attend the Library Boards budget meetings. Robin is the library liaison until December 31<sup>st</sup>. Bixler noted that she would like to attend the Library Board budget meeting.

Bixler informed the council that a deputy was in to take a report on the vandalism done to the gazebo.

### **Old Business**

**Nuisance Abatement – 173 Broadway Disposition of Property:** Richard Lorimer was present for a discussion on the purchase of 173 Broadway. Lorimer reported he intends to build either a single family dwelling or a duplex on the lot. Council asked if he could get the building removed yet this year. Because digging the basement out would require a hole that would need to be filled over the winter and then dug out again for the basement of a new residence, he felt that that was not fiscally possible. Discussion continued on boarding up entryways and the possibility of removing the garage addition as it has no basement under it. An abstract for the property cannot be located; the City Attorney will be contacted to begin that process so sale of the property to Lorimer can proceed.

### **New Business**

**Housing Rehab Grant Writing Proposals, Technical Services Proposals and Award of Contracts:** Notice of intent to apply for a housing rehab grant was sent to three entities and published in the Cedar Rapids Gazette. MSA was the only entity to submit a proposal. Liz Kemp of MSA was present to explain the housing rehab program to the council. MSA proposes to provide grant- writing service for Springville to prepare and application to the Iowa Department of Economic Development (IDED) Housing Fund to fund an owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program. If Springville is not awarded CDBG funding for the program there is no charge for the grant writing. Should Springville be awarded a grant MSA would provide technical assistance to the City to ensure that program administration will be completed in accordance with IDED's current CDBG regulations. Motion was made by Shebetka, second by Ralston to award both grant writing and technical services contracts to MSA. All ayes, motion carried.

**Project Updates:** Dave Haugen was present for an update on the sewer project. As Todd noted, phase 1 is nearing completion with only some landscaping work to be completed. A pre-construction with Visa-Sewer is scheduled for October 28<sup>th</sup>. The project is slated to begin on January 9, 2012.

**Casey's Alcohol Sales Violation:** Casey's failed an alcohol compliance check. Council directed the Clerk to process the civil penalty (monetary) against Casey's.

**Wanda Young/Ed Sleep:** Discussion was held on correspondence received by the City Attorney on the Wanda Young/Ed Sleep lawsuit. Motion was made by Shebetka, second by Ballantyne to enter into an agreement with Wanda Young that if she loses the court case with Ed Sleep, she agrees to remove her fence within 30 days of the Court's decision. If she chooses not to remove the retaining wall the City will enforce its' municipal infraction code. All ayes, motion carried.

**Engineers Review of Spring Meadows III Final Plat:** Kent and Brent Backen of Elite Developers were present for discussion on the final plat for Spring Meadows III and the residential property tax abatement plan. Discussion was held on moving forward to get the final plat approved so they can dig basements yet this fall.

**Downtown Revitalization (*Banners & Christmas Decorations*):** Examples of several types of banners were presented to the council as one method of a downtown revitalization effort. It was noted that new Christmas

decorations are also needed along with the appropriate hardware for both banners and decorations. It was suggested that decorations be taken from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and that more banners/decorations be put on Broadway Street. The project will be a budget item for FY 2012-13 and SEDC will be approached to partner in the project.

Motion was made by Shebetka, second by Miller approving **Resolution #37-2011; A Resolution Proposing Sale of City Owned Property Located at 173 Broadway.** Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Grimley, second by Shebetka approving **Resolution #38-2011; A Resolution Pledging a Monetary Contribution as "Local Effort" Toward a CDBG Housing Rehab Grant.** Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Grimley, second by Shebetka approving **Resolution #39-2011; A Resolution Adopting the Proposed Plan for the Springville Residential Revitalization Area.** Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Shebetka, second by Ballantyne approving the first reading **Ordinance #4-2011; An Ordinance Designating an Area of Springville, Iowa, as the Springville Residential Revitalization Area.** Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried. The exact area of the revitalization plan will be confirmed with Bob Josten before the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the ordinance and shall be corrected before that time if need be.

**Correspondence:** Resignation of Jim Teig from the P&Z Commission, from Pickens, Barnes & Abernathy finalizing litigation, IDOT in reference to moving ahead with the 151/Springville Rd interchange study and Linn County with information on absentee ballot voting.

Next regular council meeting **November 7, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.**

Motion by Miller, second by Grimley to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. All ayes, motion carried.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*City Clerk*

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*Mayor*

*\*\*minutes not official until approved by City Council*