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MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE BURLINGTON, IOWA CITY COUNCIL

Meeting No. 23  
December 6, 2010

The Burlington City Council met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. in the Thomas J. Smith Council Chambers, City Hall with Mayor Ell, Council Members Davidson, Fleming, Murray and Reed present.

BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

CONSENT AGENDA: To the Public:

All matters listed under Item I., Consent Agenda, having been discussed were considered to be routine by the City Council and were enacted by one motion. There was no separate discussion of these items. If discussion was desired, that item was removed from the Consent Agenda and was considered separately.

Introduced By: Murray      Seconded By: Reed

MOTION: To approve all items listed under Item I., Consent Agenda.

DISCUSSION: Mayor Ell reviewed the items listed on the consent agenda to the viewing audience. Council Member Davidson announced those individuals appointed

to various City commissions and boards. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - AYES )

CARRIED

HEARINGS:

1. Statement: Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Certification of a Cultural District for at Least Ten (10) Years to be Named: Historic Downtown Burlington Cultural and Entertainment District

COMMENTS: The City Manager stated that the City was applying for the downtown area to become a Cultural District for at least ten years and would be named Historic Downtown Burlington Cultural and Entertainment District. He stated that

the designation would open up opportunity for grants for historic downtown buildings. He stated that the application was originally due on December 15, 2010 but the application deadline has now been extended to February 2011. He asked that the City Council approve the Resolution. Steve Frevert, Executive Director for Downtown Partners stated that the designation would increase marketability and allows those properties that are listed on the National Register the opportunity to apply for more grant opportunities. All present had

opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Reed

Seconded By: Davidson

Motion to Close

CARRIED

Introduced By: Reed

Seconded By: Murray

Resolution Authorizing the Certification of a Cultural District for at Least  
east

Ten (10) Years to be Named: Historic Downtown Burlington Cultural and Entertainment District

DISCUSSION: None.

(VOTE: 5 - AYES )

ADOPTED

2. Statement: Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Iowa Department of Economic Development for an Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Grant

COMMENTS: The City Manager stated that the City was applying for a grant in the amount of \$390,000.00 for an Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program in a Targeted Neighborhood within the Burlington City limits through the Iowa Department of Economic Development. The Development Director stated that the application deadline was December 8, 2010 and the project would be funded with CDBG Housing Fund through the Iowa Department of Economic Development. He stated that the need for this project was originally identified through a housing needs assessment update by the City Planning Department in the Spring of

2009. The housing needs assessment consisted of a windshield survey and a housing condition score that indicated a need for rehabilitation in the targeted

area. He stated that households assisted through this program will qualify based on income guidelines not to exceed 80% of county median income. He reviewed with the City Council and the viewing audience a map of the area where the activity will be conducted. Under rehabilitation processes, households will

not be displaced. In some instances some households could be asked to move temporarily which such things as plumbing, electrical, or lead-based paint need to be dealt with. Proper coordination between the contractor and homeowner can prevent displacement. Any household asked to leave their premises will be told to do so for their own safety and will be paid for out of administrative costs of the program. Items covered for the grant consist of electrical, plumbing, heating and venting, windows, roof, siding and foundation. The program does not

cover decks, air-conditioning and appliances. All code violations will be corrected. Council Member Murray stated that he understood why the City was applying for the grant money, but felt that people needed to start taking care of their property. He stated that no one helps him with his property. Mayor Ell stated that he agreed with Council Member Murray, but the funds would be used for low to moderate income persons. The Development Director stated that Burlington was one of many communities in the State applying for the funds. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Davidson Seconded By: Murray

Motion to Close

(VOTE: 4 - AYES ELL, FLEMING, REED AND DAVIDSON

1 - NAY MURRAY)

CARRIED

Introduced By: Davidson Seconded By: Reed

Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Iowa Department of

Economic Development for an Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Grant

DISCUSSION: None.

(VOTE: 4 - AYES ELL, FLEMING, REED AND DAVIDSON

1 - NAY MURRAY)

ADOPTED

RESOLUTIONS:

Introduced By: Fleming Seconded By: Davidson

1. Resolution Approving Plans and Specifications for the Burlington, Iowa Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Project - 2010 Tabled from the November 15, 2010 City Council Meeting

DISCUSSION: The Mayor stated that the Resolution Approving Plans and Specifications for the Burlington, Iowa Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Project - 2010 was tabled from the November 15, 2010 City Council Meeting and it appears that the Council is still unable to act on the Resolution. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Murray Seconded By: Fleming

2. Motion to Table the Resolution Approving Plans and Specifications for the Burlington, Iowa Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Project - 2010, with

No Date for this as of Yet

DISCUSSION: None.

(VOTE: 5 - AYES )

CARRIED

Introduced By: Fleming Seconded By: Davidson

3. Resolution Approving Participation in Local Match for an Iowa Department of Economic Development Forgivable Loan for General Electric

DISCUSSION: The City Manager stated that the proposed Resolution provides for the participation in a local match for an Iowa Department of Economic Development Forgivable Loan for General Electric. He stated that the City's Economic Development Advisory Committee recommended the utilization of \$75,000.00 of Local Option Sales Tax dollars over the next four years in equal annual installments of \$18,750.00 to assist General Electric with the local match. Dennis Hinkle of Grow Greater Burlington Partnership stated that he did not like incentives, but they are a part of what is needed to retain and recruit

businesses. He stated that everything needs to be done to retain these jobs. He

stated that the employees will vote on their wages on December 7, 2011. Leon Shahan of 1821 Mt. Pleasant Street stated that he was a former employee of General Electric and that he was opposed to welfare at the corporate level. He stated that General Electric has enough money to take care of themselves and if the City did not provide incentives to General Electric, the property taxes for property owners could be much less. The Mayor agreed that he was also not thrilled with incentives, but it was necessary to retain the jobs we have. Council Member Fleming stated that he would be enthusiastically yes. Council Member Reed stated that if the City votes no we lose 200 jobs, property values go down and there will be less tax money. He stated that he would be voting yes

on the issue. Council Member Davidson stated that creating jobs happen at the local level. He stated that there were funds available and the City is obligated to use those funds for this purpose. He further stated that there has

to be trust. Council Member Murray stated that he would be enthusiastically voting yes for the 200 American workers not for the General Electric Corporation. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - AYES )

ADOPTED

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE: Leon Shahan of 1821 Mt. Pleasant Street stated that too much money was being spent on the war on drugs and health care. He urged the

City Council to really look at the City budget so that property taxes could go down. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Adjournment: 7:27 p.m.

Approved: December 20, 2010

Kathleen P. Salisbury, MMC  
City Clerk

William L. Ell  
Mayor

(See tapes on file in the office of the City Clerk for complete discussion and documentation.)

ITEM I.  
Consent Agenda

FINANCES AND MISCELLANEOUS  
Minutes of Previous Meetings  
Payroll and City Claims

BEER, LIQUOR, WINE AND CIGARETTES

REPORTS AND BONDS

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution Approving Demolition/Nuisance Abatements for Various Properties
2. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign State of Iowa REAP Grant Award Agreement for Flint River Trail
3. Resolution to Establish a New Fee Schedule for the Dankwardt Park Pool
4. Resolution to Establish a New Fee Schedule for the RecPlex
5. Resolution to Establish a New Fee and Charge Schedule at Flint Hills Municipal Golf Course

PETITION:

1. Motion to Receive and File Petition to Reopen Maple Street Between Main Street and Third Street

SET DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS: DECEMBER 20, 2010

1. Consideration of an Ordinance Amending Section 86.01 Definitions and Section 86.02 Warning Signals and Establishing a New Section 86.05 Penalty of Chapter 86

Railroad Regulations of the Burlington Municipal Code

2. Consideration of Sale of Property Locally Known as 265 South Central Avenue, City of Burlington, Des Moines County, Iowa

APPOINTMENT:

Board of Housing Standards and Appeals: Doug Beard