

ODEBOLT CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING

Monday, July 7, 2003 – City Hall – 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Rex called the meeting to order with the following Council in attendance: Thompson, Hansen, Flink and Hemphill. Absent: Scott. Also in attendance were: Steve Hustedt, Todd Bengford, Jeff and Della Holmes, Herb Turin, Dale Godbersen, Joel Ahart, Jim Raasch, Supt. Bill Tysor and Chief Bruce Henderson.

Moved by Flink, seconded by Hemphill to approve the agenda. Four ayes. Moved by Hansen and seconded by Thompson to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Four ayes. Moved by Thompson and seconded by Flink to approve the bills as presented. Four ayes. As per previous agreement, it was moved by Flink and seconded by Thompson to pay the first of five installments in the amount of \$1000.00 each to the Odebolt Community Center. Four ayes. Absent Scott.

DISBURSEMENTS BY FUND

Community Protection	\$12,034.15
Garbage	5,862.15
Recycling	1,307.97
Road Fund	6,738.31
Sewer	15,375.92
Water	18,502.16
Sales Tax	565.78
General Fund	<u>31763.73</u>
Total	\$92,150.17

JUNE RECEIPTS:

Utilities	\$22,614.98
Taxes	5,236.70
Road Fund	7,923.39
Interest	284.27
Clinton Twp.	1,888.25
Misc.	<u>798.70</u>
	\$ 38,746.29

LIBRARY RECEIPTS (April)

Misc. 132.65

LIBRARY DISBURSEMENTS:

Payroll	1713.12
Utilities	226.26
Operating exp.	<u>2,825.53</u>
	\$4,764.91

LIBRARY RECEIPTS(May)

Misc. 419.16

LIBRARY DISBURSEMENTS:

Payroll	1,729.64
Utilities	151.77

Operating exp. 1,205.24  
3,086.65

Steve Hustedt was present to present quotes for medical insurance. As there is a significant increase in the annual premium with the current coverage, several options will be explored and a decision will be reached at the August meeting.

Jeff and Della Holmes were present to question the future plans for going citywide with the rural mail delivery option. The Council repeated that it was the intention of the Council to go through one winter before exploring the option of a referendum.

Herb Turin and Jim Raasch complimented the administration on the improvements and looks of the town overall. But commented that the investment in the tennis courts is being wasted as the courts are currently “unplayable”. They strongly urge the Council to have the courts resurfaced. There is currently money set-aside for this but not enough.

Dale Godbersen was present to question the removal of a tree and the grinding of the stump by an outside contractor with no call for a locate. Discussion followed concerning contractors doing work without first calling the Iowa One Call number.

Joel Ahart was present to request a permit for curb replacement and seeding. Due to past discussions and the fact that the City does not get involved with property disputes, Ahart was advised to seek legal advise on his own behalf.

Moved by Flink and seconded by Hemphill to approve the following permits: O-A School-fence; Lance Ladwig-clothesline and dog kennel; Jason Pingel-fence; Sandy Davis-deck; Robert Brannan-sidewalk; Ron Sorensen-storage shed & concrete; Matt Gritten-landscaping & trees; Richard Hoelscher-mailbox; Richard Bloyer-brick patio; John Isom-sidewalk; Bob Daiker-replace sidewalk & patio. (Four ayes)

An amendment to ordinance Chapter 175 was introduced and discussed. The amendment would allow occupants of property along Lawndale Boulevard to install mailboxes following city and postal guidelines. It was then moved by Flink and seconded by Hansen to waive the rules requiring that an ordinance must be received and filed at two meetings prior to the meeting when final action is taken. Seconded by Hansen. Four ayes. It was then moved by Flink and seconded by Thompson to adopt Ordinance #02.03. Four ayes.

Hemphill reported that the June landfill meeting was held at the landfill. He commented on how he was impressed with the looks and neatness of the area. The staff is to be commended for their work.

Thank yous were read from the ODC and Phyllis Franken.

Following a citizen’s refusal to accept a certified letter from the City, the Police Dept. was ordered to issue a citation to a have the owner of a house bring it up to standards or remove it within 30 days or pay a fine and court costs. Motion was by Thompson. Seconded by Flink. Four ayes.

The Police report was reviewed.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Flink to use the set aside funds and seek additional funds to preserve the investment of the tennis court by accepting the bid of Tennis Courts Unlimited in the amount \$6,500.00 for redoing the tennis courts. Some questions need to be addressed. Four ayes.

Moved by Thompson and seconded by Hansen to accept the Library Report. All ayes. Motion by Hansen and seconded by Thompson to approve the Mayor's nomination of the following to the Library Board of Trustees: Richard Duffy, Rachel Wallace and Rev. Al Milligan (pending acceptance). Four ayes.

In reference to the "Reinvention Bill" passed by the Legislature, the Mayor quoted excerpts from what the City Manager from Sioux City stated. What he says reflects the City of Odebolt's exact sentiments.

"We didn't create these problems but we are now charged with fixing them. Pure and simple, we are here because the state unnecessarily passed cuts down to cities. They cut cities in spite of receiving unanticipated revenues, funding new programs, and receiving Federal bailout money.

Summarizing the apparent attitude of key State legislative leaders, Iowa Senate President Mary Kramer was publicly quoted on Monday evening in response to Des Moines recent cuts of 33 staff, including police and fire, as saying, "elected officials across the state need to handle budget crunches through elimination of unneeded government." Many State leaders made similar comments.

Reading some of their comments, they must consider police, fire, libraries and our other cuts unnecessary and unneeded government."

Moved by Hemphill and seconded by Flink to adopt Resolution #03.11 as follows: Based on the evidence of disability furnished by attorney Frank Cal Tenuta of Iowa Legal Aid on file herein, a permit to install and maintain a curbside mailbox at 220 Lawndale Street is granted to Mark Stangl under City Code Section 175.14A. Four ayes.

Moved by Flink and seconded by Thompson to adopt Resolution #03.12- a resolution to certify nuisance abatement expenses against a property. Four ayes.

Moved by Hemphill and seconded by Flink to adopt resolution # 03.13-a resolution to increase employee's salaries by 3%. Four ayes.

Moved by Hemphill and seconded by Thompson to adopt Resolution #03.14-a resolution continuing membership in the West Central Iowa Safety Alliance. Four ayes.

Moved by Flink and seconded by Thompson to adopt Resolution #03.15-agreeing that Region XII submit an application for grant funds for the purpose of updating our Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning. Four ayes.

Thompson reported on the need for a timer on the lights at the pool. It was suggested that a photocell light might work as well.

Hemphill commended Supt. Tysor and crew for the speedy, efficient manner in handling the pump failure at the lift station recently. The problem was taken care of that same evening in contrast to all the publicity.

At 9:20 p.m. Scott entered.

More sidewalks were mentioned that are in need of repair.

Hemphill apologized for the blocking of entrances during Creek Days due to rail cars being loaded. This is not controlled by the local elevator but by the railroad. And once the cars are in town the crew is compelled to load them.

A certificate of appreciation to Elaine Rex was signed by the Mayor and Council. Elaine has successfully applied for various grants and awards on behalf of the City of Odebolt. The City appreciates the many hours of work dedicated to these projects.

The City is most appreciative of the gift of \$1,000.00 received from the Richland Robins. Their hard work and dedication to the community is most commendable.

At 9:30 p.m. it was moved by Hansen and seconded by Hemphill to adjourn. All ayes.