

Anita City Council  
February 17, 2021  
6:00 p.m.

The Special City Council Meeting of the Anita City Council was held February 17, 2021 with Mayor ProTem John Knutson presiding. In order to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the regular meeting of the Anita City Council was held at City Hall while also electronically utilizing the platform Zoom to allow the public to attend. Chapter 21.8 of the Iowa Code does permit an electronic meeting where all members participate remotely when an in-person meeting is impossible or impractical, which is certainly true during this crisis. On March 19, 2020, Governor Reynolds issued a proclamation of Disaster Emergency which included a suspension of Iowa laws that would prevent the use of electronic meetings or the limitation on the number of people present at an in-person meeting site. The agenda was posted 24 hours in advance at City Hall, Anita Post Office, and the Anita Channel to give instructions on how others could participate in the meeting.

Council Members present were: John Knutson, Mark Harris and Kevin Littleton. Absent were Tim Wheelock and Ben Daughenbaugh. Various members of the public were also in attendance.

Mayor Pro Tem Knutson called the special city council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Harris; second by Littleton to approve the agenda as posted. Ayes: All. Motion Carried.

Motion by Harris; second by Littleton to set the date for the public hearing for adoption and approval of FY21/22 city budget for the next regular city council meeting which is March 10, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

An applicant for the Public Works Supervisor requested the council to go into closed session prior to reviewing that applicant's competency for the position. The City Attorney reviewed this request and agreed a closed session was possible under Iowa Code Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(i) because holding the review in open session would be reasonably likely to result in irreparable injury to the applicant's reputation. The City Attorney advised that if the Council agreed with the applicant's request to go into closed session, the closed session must be recorded both in separate minutes and by audio recording.

Said request was submitted to the council. Motion by Harris to go into closed session under Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(i) to evaluate the professional competency of an individual who is being considered to be hired for Public Works Supervisor on the grounds that said review was reasonably likely to cause needless and irreparable injury to the applicant's reputation and that the applicant had made a request for a closed session for this evaluation. Motion seconded by Littleton. Ayes: Knutson, Harris, Littleton. Absent: Wheelock, Daughenbaugh. Nays: None. Motion carried.

At the conclusion of the evaluation discussed above, the Council resumed its special meeting in open session. No final decision was made on the hiring of a Public Works Supervisor.

The next regular monthly Anita City Council meeting on March 10, 2021 at 7:30 pm at City Hall, if able, or via electronic meeting utilizing zoom. Details will be posted if the meeting will be held electronically due to COVID-19.

Motion by Harris; second by Littleton to adjourn. Ayes: All. Motion Carried, meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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Mayor Pro Tem, John Knutson

ATTEST:

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Kaitlin Hodges, City Clerk