

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE EMERSON CITY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2021 – 6:0 P.M.
THIS MEETING THROUGH ZOOM FOR GENERAL PUBLIC
ORIGINATING FROM EMERSON CITY HALL – 410 MANCHESTER
(MAYOR PRO-TEM/COUNCIL/CITY STAFF IN PERSON AT CITY HALL)**

Mayor Pro-Tem Mike Branigan called the regular meeting of the Emerson City Council to order on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, 6:04 p.m. Mayor Pro-Tem, City Council and City Staff were in person with public access through Zoom, originating from Emerson City Hall.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mayor Pro-Tem advised that Adam Doll from Hopkins & Huebner Law Firm is on the meeting tonight to fill in for Eddie Fishman.

Roll Call: Present: Councilperson Ann Roth, Larry Johnson, Randy Gray, Bob Huntsman, and Mike Branigan
Absent: None

Moved by Councilperson Johnson, seconded by Roth to approve the agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Gray, Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Roth, second by Gray to approve consent agenda:

*Minutes from regular meeting of May 12, 2021

*Warrants for May 2021

*Financial Report for May 2021

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, Gray, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Roth, seconded by Gray to approve claims for June 2021 in the amount of \$14,511.33

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, Gray, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Visitors opportunity to speak:

*Marlin Gage – wanted to give a shout out to Cathy Bruce for cleaning up the outside of the community building and trimming bushes. Also to Gary & Anne Christensen for the flowers they placed in the park

*Andrew Branigan – asked if the issues with street ditches & culverts can be addressed. The clean up of the trees looks great. Questioned status of minutes on the website.

*Connie Frink had submitted a written comment that was shared: Thanking Cathy Bruce and her husband for all their hard work in cleaning up the landscaping around the community building and a thank you Gary & Anne Christensen for the beautiful flowers at Evans Park

Moved by Councilperson Branigan, seconded by Johnson to approve building permit for a fence at 611 Manchester for Matthew A. Crook & Julie S. Wynn, contingent they follow city ordinances.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Gray, Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Branigan opened a hearing with Duane A. Carlson in regards to 502 King Street unsafe buildings nuisance violation.

Moved by Councilperson Roth, seconded by Johnson to take official notice of the letter sent to Duane A. Carlson by Emerson Fire Chief Liz Ungry on April 6, 2021, and the accompanying pictures.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Gray, Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Gray, seconded by Roth to take notice of City of Emerson Ordinance Chapter 145.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Johnson, Gray, Huntsman, Roth, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Duane Carlson was then given the opportunity to speak. He was on the telephone. He acknowledges that the foundation is in bad shape. Has contacted companies to get quotes for repairs. He will get it fixed as soon as possible.

Councilperson Roth commented that he has been telling the city that for 5 years. Carlson stated he needs to get back with contractor about a date. He is a truck driver so doesn't always get his mail promptly. Acknowledges he does not want anyone to get hurt.

Fire Chief sent letter on April 6 with a June 1 deadline. According to county beacon the property taxes have not been paid since September 2019.

Fire Chief expressed concern that the property is still not getting mowed and that is a great concern.

Moved by Councilperson Roth, seconded by Johnson to determine that 502 King Street, Emerson, IA is an unsafe building under Chapter 145.02, due to it being structurally unsafe or not provided with adequate egress, or which constitute a fire hazard, or are otherwise dangerous to human life, or which in relation to existing use constitute a hazard to safety or health, or public welfare, by reason of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, obsolescence, or abandonment.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Gray, Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Mr. Duane Carlson exited from the meeting as we obtained dial tone.

Moved by Councilperson Gray, seconded by Branigan to determine that 502 King Street, Emerson, IA is an unsafe building as defined Chapter 145.03, subsections 1, 2, and 3.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, Gray, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Gray, seconded by Johnson to approve building permit for Sean Jahnke & Amy Anderson to build a fence at 1011 Nebraska Ave.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, Gray, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Branigan announced this as the time and place to conduct a Public Hearing on Intent to Sell Real Property, commonly known as 411 King Street.

No oral or written comments.

Hearing closed.

One bid was received for 411 King Street and it was opened at this time:

\$2,756 from Ron Hug, subject to city extending the 180 days to 24 months

Moved by Councilperson Roth, seconded by Johnson to approve Resolution No. 2021-13
RESOLUTION REGARDING THE AUTHORIZATION TO SELL REAL

PROPERTY AND SIGN QUIT CLAIM DEED FOR PROPERTY COMMONLY
KNOWN AS 411 KING STREET with modification that 180 days to have outside
cleaned up and balance of property (interior) within 24 months from date of sale.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Gray, Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Johnson, seconded by Branigan to approve Addendum to Agreement
to Rent Land Located at Bass Park for Hay

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, Gray, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Roth, seconded by Johnson to approve Resolution No. 2021-14
RESOLUTION REGARDING MUD DRAGS AT BASS PARK

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Gray, Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Gray, seconded by Huntsman to extend the hay ground lease with
Michael Hossle for one more year, to end February 28, 2023.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Roth, Johnson, Gray, Huntsman, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Roth, seconded by Branigan to approve request from Emerson
Community Club to use Evans Park on Saturday, September 11, 2021 for kids' games

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, Gray, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Roth, seconded by Johnson to approve request from Emerson
Community Club to block streets for the parade on 9/11/21 and the south ½ of the 400
block of Howland to the intersection of Morton Ave and Howland for the evening meal

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Gray, Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Fire Department Report: Chief thanked the Council and City Clerks for attending their dinner
Moved by Councilperson Roth, seconded by Johnson to not give a refund to the May 16, 2021
community building reservation as they violated the agreement since alcohol is not
allowed.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Gray, Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Council consensus to take a short break.

Returned at 7:09 pm with roll call action and all in attendance: Roth, Johnson, Gray, Huntsman,
and Branigan

Moved by Councilperson Huntsman, seconded by Gray to approve the Agreement for
Maintenance and Repair of Primary Road in City of Emerson, between Iowa Department
of Transportation and City of Emerson

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Roth, Johnson, Gray, Huntsman, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Roth, seconded by Johnson to appoint Michelle Petereit to continue her position on the Emerson Library Board, with term ending June 30, 2027.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Gray, Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Branigan announced this as the time and place to conduct a Public Hearing on the Amendment of Current Budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

No oral or written comments.

Hearing closed.

Moved by Councilperson Roth, seconded by Huntsman to approve Resolution No. 2021-15
**RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CURRENT BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2021**

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Johnson, Gray, Huntsman, Roth, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Branigan, seconded by Roth to approve Resolution No. 2021-16
**RESOLUTION FOR TRANSFERS WITHIN FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2020 –
JUNE 30, 2021**

\$24,673.74 from LOST to Water (1/2 of the LOST funds in fund balance)

\$24,673.74 from LOST to Sewer (1/2 of the LOST funds in fund balance)

\$2,936.62 from Emergency Fund to General (close out each fiscal year)

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Johnson, Gray, Huntsman, Roth, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Gray, seconded by Branigan to authorize City Clerk to send a letter to Miner's Tree Service about a damaged sidewalk at 505 Bartlett Street

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, Gray, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Johnson, seconded by Gray to approve Resolution No. 2021-17
**RESOLUTION SETTING HOURLY WAGE FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEE
(PART-TIME MAINTENANCE JAMES MCDONALD) FOR FISCAL YEAR
JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022 (3% increase)**

WHEREAS, salaries of employees of the City of Emerson, Iowa must be set by resolution of the City Council; and


WHEREAS, salary increases were budgeted within the proposed budget for this time period.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Emerson, Iowa, that the following hourly wage is hereby approved and shall be effective with the first paycheck in July, 2021.

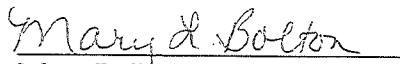
James McDonald

\$10.61 per hour

PASSED by Emerson City Council on the 9th day of June, 2021.


Michael Branigan, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:


Mary L. Bolton, City Clerk

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Huntsman, Johnson, Gray, and Branigan
Nays: None
Abstained: Councilperson Roth (due to personal relationship)

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Roth, seconded by Huntsman to approve Resolution No. 2021-18
**RESOLUTION SETTING HOURLY WAGE FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEE
(DEPUTY CITY CLERK LANA MOYERS) FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2021 –
JUNE 30, 2022 (3% increase)**

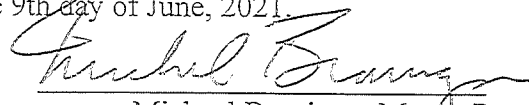
WHEREAS, salaries of employees of the City of Emerson, Iowa must be set by resolution of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, salary increases were budgeted within the proposed budget for this time period.

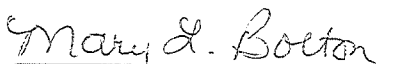
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Emerson, Iowa, that the following hourly wage is hereby approved and shall be effective with the first paycheck in July, 2021.

Lana Moyers \$20.09 per hour

PASSED by Emerson City Council on the 9th day of June, 2021.


Michael Branigan, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:


Mary L. Bolton, City Clerk

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Johnson, Gray, Huntsman, Roth, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Johnson, seconded by Roth to approve Resolution No. 2021-19
**RESOLUTION SETTING HOURLY WAGE FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEE (CITY
CLERK MARY BOLTON) FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022
(3% increase)**

WHEREAS, salaries of employees of the City of Emerson, Iowa must be set by resolution of the City Council; and

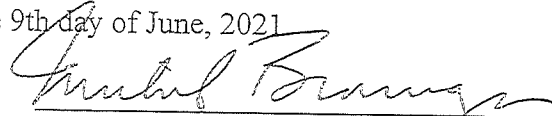
WHEREAS, salary increases were budgeted within the proposed budget for this time period.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Emerson, Iowa, that the following hourly wage is hereby approved and shall be effective with the first paycheck in July, 2021.

Mary Bolton

\$24.72 per hour

PASSED by Emerson City Council on the 9th day of June, 2021



Michael Branigan, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:


Mary L. Bolton, City Clerk

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Gray, Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, and Branigan
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Gray, seconded by Johnson to approve Resolution No. 2021-20
RESOLUTION SETTING HOURLY WAGE FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEE
(PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TODD FRANKS) FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1,
2021 – JUNE 30, 2022

WHEREAS, salaries of employees of the City of Emerson, Iowa must be set by resolution of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, salary increases were budgeted within the proposed budget for this time period.

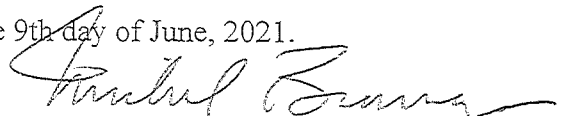
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Emerson, Iowa, that the following hourly wage is hereby approved and shall be effective with the first paycheck in July, 2021.

Todd Franks

\$22.95 per hour

plus he receives an additional \$500 per month in lieu of health insurance

PASSED by Emerson City Council on the 9th day of June, 2021.



Michael Branigan, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:


Mary L. Bolton, City Clerk

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Huntsman, Roth, Johnson, Gray, and Branigan

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilperson Gray, seconded by Roth that future council meetings remain as is, with Mayor/Mayor Pro-Tem/Council, City Staff (including Fire Chief and Librarian) to meet in person in city hall and public to continue with zoom.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Johnson, Gray, Huntsman, Roth, and Branigan

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

The IT service that we have been using has resigned. Everyone will look at other opportunities and provide information to city hall so that any gathered information can be compiled for review at next meeting.

Public Works maintenance report was provided in writing. Discussion was held on a water leak, trying to determine whose line, or stop box it is.

Mayor Pro-Tem Report: Recommends citizens caution their water usage and please reserve as we are in this drought and heat wave

Clerk report – was provided in writing

City Attorney had nothing to report.

Additional items as may become before the council:

- *Tree planting in city right-of-way
- *Removal of picnic tables from the park to be used at personal residences (no)
- *City hall plans to order tables for usage within city hall

Agenda items for next meeting:

- *Review tree ordinance
- *Picnic table policy
- *hydrant installation
- *IT services

Moved by Councilperson Gray, seconded by Roth to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Johnson, Gray, Huntsman, Roth, and Branigan

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Mary L. Bolton

Minutes prepared by:

Mary L. Bolton, City Clerk

Michael Branigan

Michael Branigan

Mayor Pro-Tem presided over meeting