

## **Coralville City Council**

### **Work Session**

**May 11, 2021**

**Via Electronic Meeting because a meeting in person is impossible or impractical due to concerns for the health and safety of Council members, staff, and the public presented by COVID-19**

Present: Mayor John Lundell; Council Members Laurie Goodrich, Mitch Gross, Jill Dodds, Hai Huynh

Staff Present: City Administrator Kelly Hayworth, Assistant City Administrator Ellen Habel, City Attorney Kevin Olson

Others Present: Andrew Hirsh, Stafford Sports

Mayor Lundell opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

1. City Administrator's Time: City Administrator Kelly Hayworth reported on the following:
  - Introduced Andrew Hirsh of Stafford Sports, who is the asset manager for the arena. Hirsh said he has been meeting with Spectra staff, managing costs and expenses especially in light of COVID-19 circumstances, reviewing day-to-day operations, and getting the hockey team settled.
  - On May 20 at 5:15 pm at Xtream Arena, the hockey team will announce their name and introduce the team merchandise and logo.
  - The Fire Department's Rescue Truck is due for replacement and has investigated refurbishment instead. Hayworth said refurbishment would add 15 years to the life of the truck and would cost less than \$200,000, while a new truck would cost \$390,000, so the department is recommending refurbishment. Going forward, Hayworth said the next truck would not be suitable for refurbishment but the ladder truck that is due for replacement in about four years may be a candidate for refurbishment.
  - Eight utility accounts had indicated they would apply for state assistance and did not do so. Hayworth said the utility billing staff had reached out to the account owners several times and will now resume the regular billing process for those accounts.
  - The draft reforestation plan for Bridgewater was completed last week and the DNR Forester's comments were received this week. Hayworth said one recommendation will be that a duplex lot be eliminated which will save a specimen oak tree that wouldn't have survived if the bioswale was placed as originally planned. Hayworth noted work cannot be resumed until the issues are resolved and they will also be using the lumber from the felled trees for parks projects in the community.
  - Assistant City Administrator Ellen Habel said the home on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue that had been vacant for some time and is now owned by the City will be demolished and Habitat for Humanity is interested in the lot. She said the downpayment assistance program is proceeding with income verification and the limited inventory of homes for sale has

been a challenge for participants. Habel said the homes in the owner occupied rehabilitation program have been inspected and work specifications have been written. Habel said the three single-family homes owned by the City on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue can be prepared for resale with new siding, kitchen cabinets, landscaping, interior doors, windows, and other work. She noted the homes are all three bedrooms with walkout basements and are a good size for a family. She proposed selling for \$75,000 each with a limit on the resale price and a 30-year deed restriction for owner occupancy. Hayworth added that the properties could be ready for occupancy this summer and the duplexes on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Place are ready for demolition. He said storm water work to improve the drainage in the area will also take place this summer.

- Habel said she is working with United Way on the utility bill assistance program, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, and United Way will provide the distribution services. She noted that the City will match donations with \$0.25 per \$1.00 donated, and the utility bill text regarding the donations is being finalized.
- Hayworth said 4thFest this year celebrates the Iowa River Power Company building and the parade will be at noon since it is a Sunday.

Adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Notes taken by Ellen Habel, Assistant City Administrator