

October 8, 2024

The Afton City Council met in regular scheduled session at 6:37 PM October 8, 2024. Mayor Burger presided over council members Sheryl Parham, Kristie Nixon, Jeff Burger, Steve Kinyon and Dave Cunningham.

Kinyon moved to approve the agenda and Parham seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried. Nixon moved to approve the consent agenda which consisted of report of the Minutes from the September 10, 2024 meeting, City Clerk/Treasurer, Afton Police Department and the following bills. Cunningham seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

		<b>SEPTEMBER 11, 2024 to OCTOBER 8, 2024</b>	
<b>Check #</b>	<b>Vendor Name</b>	<b>Fund-Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
652E	RPGI	ELEC- PURCHAS OF ELEC SEPT	\$ 55,739.79
653E	SIRWA	GEN/SR- WATER DUE SEPT	\$ 5,727.00
654E	WINDSTREAM	GEN- INTERNET	\$ 353.71
655E	WINDSTREAM	GEN- PHONE	\$ 149.30
656E	EFTPS	GEN/RU/SR/ELEC-PAYROLL TAXES- SEPT	\$ 3,672.26
657E	IPERS	GEN/RU/SR/ELEC- WITHHOLDING MATCH- SEPT	\$ 2,444.28
658E	IOWA DEP OF REVEN	MONTHLY STATE PAYROLL W/H-SEPT	\$ 480.08
659E	IOWA DEP OF REVEN	SR/ELEC- SALES TAX	\$ 1,570.04
660E	RPGI	ELEC- PURCHAS OF ELEC SEPT	\$ 44,298.64
661E	SIRWA	GEN/SR- WATER DUE OCT	\$ 2,292.00
662E	VERIZON	GEN- POLICE INTERNET	\$ 40.01
33775- 33780	EMPLOYEE	GEN/RU/SR/ELEC- PAYROLL #19	\$ 6048.51
33781	MAYOR	GEN- QUATERLY PAY	\$ 461.75
33782	AKIN	REC- SOCCER PAINT	\$ 65.94
33783	DWAYNE PRICE	MTR DEP- REFUND	\$ 130.00
33784	INNOVATIVE	GEN- CLEAN COM.CENTER	\$ 90.00
33785	JIM'S SANITAION	GEN- GARBAGE	\$ 6,011.72
33786	MID AMERICAN ENERGY	GEN/SR- GAS	\$ 30.11
33787	SW IOWA REC	REC- REC BALL FIELD LIGHTS	\$ 80.00
33788	WELLMARK BC/BS	EMBEN/SR/ELEC/RU- HEALTH INS	\$ 1,293.99
33789	AMANDA AYERS	MTR DEP- REFUND	\$ 63.05
33790	ELAN FIN. SERVICES	GEN/REC/ELEC- PICKLE BALL/CONCESSION SUPPLIES/EMAILS	\$ 1,252.47
33791	GIBSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY	GEN- LIBRARY DUES	\$ 1,204.00
33792	HUDDLESON TREE SERVICE	ELEC- TREE TRIM	\$ 600.00
33793	MAINSTAY SYSTEMS OF IA	GEN- POLICE COMPUTER	\$ 4,847.00
33794	MEGGEN WEEKS	GEB- LEGAL FEES	\$ 506.00
33795	TROPHY SHOP	GEN/REC- AWARDS/NAME PLATE	\$ 101.24
33796	UTILITY FUND	MTR DEP- REFUND A. AYERS FINAL BILL	\$ 276.95
33797	WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS	GEN- POLICE TRAINING	\$ 225.00
33798- 33802	EMPLOYEES	Gen/SR/Elec/RU- Payroll #20	\$ 5923.56
33803	ACCESS SYSTEMS	GEN/SR/ELEC- PRINTER SERVICE	\$ 170.56

33804	BOMGAARS	GEN/RU/SR- SHOP SUPPLIES	\$ 117.88
33805	BRETT STREET	GEN- WINDOW CLEANING CITY HALL/COMM. CENTER	\$ 65.00
33806	GRONWOLD BELL KYHNN & CO PC	AUDIT SERVICES JULY 2024	\$ 2,500.00
33807	IOWA ONE CALL	SR/ELEC- LOCATE EMAILS	\$ 41.40
33808	IOWA PUMP WORKS	SR-REBUILD PUMP	\$ 2,901.10
33809	KELLY KLOMMHAUS	GEN- MOWING & TIRMMING 9/12-9/14	\$ 1,250.00
33810	PETTY CASH	REC- START UP MONEY CONCESSION/GATE	\$ 550.00
33811	RICK FOOTE	ECON DEV-EX. BEAUTIFACTION GRANT	\$ 350.00
33812	SERVICE TECH INC	GEN/RU- MOWER PARTS	\$ 309.32
33813	SW IOWA REC	ELEC- BAD WIRE @ 208 N DODGE	\$ 791.27
33814	THE LAW SHOP	GEN- LEGAL EXPENSE	\$ 44.00
33815	AFTON STAR	GEN- PUBLICATIONS	\$ 415.11
33816	AKIN	WLK TRAIL- CONCERTE FOR BENCHES	\$ 85.94
33817	EU HS VOLLEYBALL	REC- TOURNAMENT HELP	\$ 615.00
33818	IAMU	ELEC- ENERGY ASSESSMENT	\$ 142.00
33819	KELLY KLOMMHAUS	GEN- MOWING CEMETERY	\$ 1,250.00
33820	USIC LOCATING SERVICES	ELEC- LOCATES	\$ 301.03
33821	UTILITY FUND	MTR- FINAL A. REED	\$ 175.00
		TOTAL	\$ 158,053.01

Expenditures		Receipts	
GENERAL	27056.16	GENERAL	\$ 21,785.52
ROAD USE	404.51	ROAD USE	\$ 13,884.58
EMPLOYEE BEN	7351.46	EMPLOYEE BEN	\$ 1,764.63
ECON. DEVEL.	350.00	LOST	\$ 10,127.85
WALKING TRAIL	130.84	WALKING TRAIL	\$ 193.29
REC	2682.41	TYLER CEMETERY	\$ 254.20
SEWER	3393.29	HUSS CEMETERY	\$ 2.20
ELECTRIC	103659.52	REC	\$ 5,522.00
MTR. DEPOSIT	645.00	PERPETUAL CARE	\$ 2.66
Payroll/MAYOR	12433.82	SEWER	\$ 8,868.96
TOTAL	<b>158,053.01</b>	SEWER SINKING	\$ 3,136.01
		SEWER IMP	\$ 0.14
		SEWER RES	\$ 9.77
		ELECTRIC	\$ 83,437.86
		ELEC SINKING	\$ 13,688.50
		METER DEPOSIT	\$ 325.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	163,003.17

**Resolution/Ordinances:**

Nixon made a motion to approve 2024-21 -RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY THE CITY OF AFTON, IOWA. Setting the hearing for November 12, 2024 during the regular council meeting @ 6:30pm at Afton City Hall. Kinyon seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Cunningham, burger, Kinyon, Nixon, and Parham all voted aye. Motion carried.

Kinyon made a motion to approve resolution 2024-22 ORGANIZATION RESOLUTION AND AGREEMENT FOR CREDIT CARD PROGRAM. Parham seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Burger, Parham, Nixon, Cunningham, and Kinyon all voted aye. Motion carried.

Cunningham made a motion to approve 2024-23 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CORRECTION OF THE CLERK/TREASURER REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2024 AND FOR THE CASH RECEIPTS FOR MARCH 2024 FOR THE CITY OF AFTON, IA

Cunningham made a motion to approve 2024-24 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE NUMBER, DUTIES, AND COMPENSATION OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF AFTON, IA. Nixon seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Parham, Cunningham, Kinyon, Burger, and Nixon all voted aye. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

At previous meetings the council discussed switching internet providers for the Wi-Fi center and City Hall. The current provider is Windstream and costs the city approximately \$353/mo. for internet services for the Wi-Fi center and City Hall. Lockridge pricing for both locations will be \$168/mo. Nixon made a motion to change services from Windstream to Lockridge. Cunningham seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Parham, Nixon, Cunningham, Kinyon and Burger all voted aye. Motion carried.

The council was provided updated photos on nuisance properties on Filmore, Kansas and Temple. The property owner has been working on removing some trees that were growing into houses and buildings. If the property owner does not complete all the items previously agreed upon with the City of Afton, the city will take the next steps necessary. Nixon brought another property up that needs attention on Scott/Gregory street. The City will contact the property owner.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Meggen Weeks PLC provides General Counsel for the City of Afton. Meggen has recommended Mason McCoy as the City of Afton's new litigation counsel attorney. James Rowe was previously the City of Afton's litigation counsel attorney. James Rowe has been appointed as the Lucas County Magistrate. With that appointment he can no longer serve as litigation counsel for the City of Afton. Nixon made a motion to accept the recommendation for Mason McCoy to be litigation counsel for the City of Afton. Parham seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Police Truck decals are peeling off the police truck. The city is waiting for quotes to come back. Kinyon made a motion to remove the peeling decals from the current police truck. Burger seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Greenlawn board recommended that the council hire Kelly Klommuhaas to cut back peonies for the fall. Klommuhaas quoted cutting the peonies back for the fall and disposing of the debris for \$1000. Nixon made a motion to approve the recommendation for Klommuhaas to cut back peonies in the fall. Burger seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Greenlawn Cemetery board voted to move the spraying to fall instead of the spring for the cemetery. The City Clerk checked on fall spraying prices for Greenlawn. Green Valley and Lynam Lawncare both provided quotes for the fall spraying. Green Valley quote was \$2,456.70 and Lynam Lawncare quote was \$2,475. Nixon made a motion to accept the lower quote from Green Valley for Fall spraying. Parham seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The City owned lot at 404 W Polk St was listed with Retta Ripperger. Retta received a cash offer of \$5000. Nixon made a motion to accept the cash offer. Cunningham seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Burger, Parham, Kinyon, Nixon, and Cunningham all voted aye motion carried. The city will have a hearing for the public on the proposed sale of the property. A notice will be posted in the Afton star with the hearing dates.

A resident reported that the retaining wall by 805 E Filmore was leaning and they were concerned that it might fall. The City's public works employee took a level to the wall. The wall is leaning a small amount in one spot, but the other areas are level. The city has received one quote back so far. The city is waiting to hear back from some other contractors' opinions/quotes before proceeding.

The council discussed and reviewed information about removing the current playground equipment in the city park and building a new playground. The council reviewed pictures from other communities. There are possible grants through SCIOG that the city can apply for once a budget and design are in place. The council asked the city clerk to reach out to a few companies to see if they would come take a look at the park to offer suggestions for design and price quotes. There was discussion of taking current playground equipment out to the rec ball fields to expand the playground there.

Creston Chamber of commerce wanted to know if the City of Afton wanted to be in the Southern Iowa Tourism Tabloid for 2025. The Creston Chamber of Commerce did not know how much it would cost to have an ad in the tabloid at the time of contact. This topic will be tabled until more information is available.

The city was notified that Community Forestry Grant Program, IRA Tree Planting Grant application is now open. The Iowa Tree Planting Grant provides reimbursable grants to purchase trees, mulch, tree staking/protection and supplemental watering by contractor or city staff. The grant is a two-year program allowing for planting to take place in the spring and fall of 2025 and 2026. Grant funding is competitive, non-match, and awarded in amounts between \$10,000 to \$30,000 per applicant. Kinyon made a motion that the city apply for the grant for trees. If awarded the grant that the trees be planted out at the rec ball fields. Nixon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The city will have a Budget Workshop-11/12 after the regular council meeting

Council member Sheryl Parham requested that prayer be added to the beginning of the council meetings. The request was that pastors from the 3 churches in Afton take turns leading the prayer at the council meetings. Guests for the topic of prayer were Pastor William Richardson of Afton Assembly of God and Sheila Sutton from United Methodist Church. It is legal to have prayer at council meetings. For a city council to include prayer at meetings in a way that complies with constitutional guidelines and ensures inclusivity, they should follow best practices to avoid legal or public relations issues. 1. Adopt a Formal Policy- 2. Allow Diverse Participation 3. Non-Coercion-Optional Participation 4. Avoid Proselytizing or Denigrating 5. Provide Alternatives (if needed). The council and guests discussed the request to add prayer and how that could affect the city. Burger made a motion to keep the council meetings the same and not to include prayer or adopt a prayer policy. Cunningham seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Cunningham, Burger, Kinyon and Nixon all voted aye. Parham voted nay. Motion carried.

The city has Wellmark BC/BS insurance for its employees. The current Wellmark BC/BS Renewal Health Insurance Plan will have 19.43% increase for 2025. The council reviewed a few other options from Wellmark. Burger made a motion to keep the current Wellmark plan. Cunningham seconded the motion. All vote aye motion carried.

Updates from Committees:

EMC- no updates

Fire- meeting on Sunday 10/13/24

Rec- Meeting on Sunday 10/13/24

Landfill meeting Wednesday 10/9/24. Bollinger did some maintenance work at the landfill.

Burger moved to adjourn and Nixon seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the Council adjourned at 8:08 PM.

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Michelle Burger, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kayla Lacina, City Clerk