

August 2022

# CITY OF EARLY

## City Information

Sharon Irwin, Mayor

### City Council

Bill Cougill  
Brian Pickhinke  
Summer Schmitt  
Tim Langner  
Becky Blackman

Council Meeting-1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday  
Lexi Bainbridge, Clerk  
Kris Alesch, P.W. Director

Keith Horan, Fire Chief  
Fire Meeting - 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

### Library Board

Cory Faist - President  
Julie Carlson  
Julie Wadsley  
Sue Loggins  
Becki Petersen - Secretary  
Board Meeting - 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday  
Kristine Luy, Library Director

### City of Early POP. 587

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## City Office Hours

**Monday thru  
Thursday**  
8AM - 3PM

(Closed during the noon  
hour)

**Friday**  
8AM - 12 PM

## City Council News

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Early, Iowa was held on the 2nd day of August 2022. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Sharon Ann Irwin called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM with roll call as follows: Present: Brian Pickhinke, Summer Schmitt, Becky Blackman, Bill Cougill, Tim Langner. A motion was made by Councilor Pickhinke and seconded by Councilor Langner to approve the consent agenda including agenda, minutes, bills for payment, approval of Casey's Liquor License. On show of hands: Ayes: Pickhinke, Schmitt, Blackman, Cougill, Langner. Motion passed.

Citizen input from L. Bainbridge in regard to the City Shelter House. She had come back that the building would be fine with the A/C unit in regard to sufficient insulation. She also came back with some more quotes on the portable A/C units. The council questioned the reasoning behind the portable unit instead of a window unit. A big enough window unit would not fit in the windows, and this would be the best money option unless we get one that goes onto the wall. The council would like for the DPW to help with finding a wall unit. L. Bainbridge also mentioned while cleaning the shelter house there was significant amount of damage/mold to the existing cabinet, and it needed to be replaced she had a quote from Menard's that was a basic model to replace. Council wanted her to check with K. Horan at VT Industries to see if they would have anything available that would be price reduced. A motion was made by Councilor Pickhinke to find an A/C wall unit under \$500.00 to purchase and after looking into VT Industries to find the best deal for the cabinet for purchase to replace the existing. It was seconded by Councilor Blackman. On a show of hands: Ayes: Pickhinke, Schmitt, Blackman, Cougill, Langner. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Councilor Cougill and seconded by Councilor Pickhinke to raise the rental fee for the Shelter House to \$50.00 and keep the deposit the same at \$50.00. On a show of hands: Ayes: Pickhinke, Schmitt, Blackman, Cougill, Langner. Motion Passed.

Discussion was revisited on the item of the Payless lot usage. L. Bainbridge had talked with the residents who show up for Koffee Klatch and asked them about ideas for the lot. She presented them with some ideas that interested her such as a self-storage unit facility, outdoor storage facility, dog park, solar energy. The residents liked the idea of the Outdoor storage idea more specifically to hold campers over the winter months. But they wanted shelter to cover over the storage. She had asked for ideas of how to pay for it, one resident had stated to buy the lot for the camper and that would help pay for the structure/fencing needed. If they ever sold the camper, it would be their responsibility to sell the spot. Then the City could charge a fee to house the campers on the site. Council had other ideas to sell the lot, and how the process would work, the mayor explained it would be a process but could be done if there was interest. No decisions were made at this time.

A motion was made by Councilor Pickhinke and seconded by Councilor Blackman to approve building permits #801. On a show of hands. Ayes: Pickhinke, Schmitt, Blackman, Cougill, Langner. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Councilor Pickhinke and seconded by Councilor Cougill to approve Change Order #2 for Schmitt Construction to change the end completion date to August 29th, 2022, from the original date of November 19th, 2022. On a show of hands. Ayes: Pickhinke, Blackman, Langner, Cougill. Abstain Schmitt. Motion passed. City Attorney was not present, but Cudaback Parcel purchase was discussed on what needs to happen next. According to the Assessor years ago this parcel was the edge of town. When they were adding the new addition for the out lot they missed this strip of land, so there are no dimensions or legal description to go off of. In order for the land to be purchased it has to be surveyed. The council unanimously agreed that Cudaback will pay for the survey and all other charges associated with the purchase of this bit of land.

Council reviewed the first draft of the new Code of Ordinances and went over some new rate changes for sewer and garbage that were given by the financial advisor from D.A. Davidson, they also discussed changes for ATV/UTV Ordinance to follow State of Iowa guidelines.

The monthly sheriff report was given to all members of the council.

Kris Alesch, Director of Public Works presented his monthly report. A few things to note the water tower inspection report came back and repairs will need to be made on the interior of the tower pricing will be around \$50,000 for the repairs for the recoating. Some sewer lines will need to be cleaned and camera ranging from 6,500 - \$8,000 in price. Also, the Iowa DNR has issued from the EPA new guidelines for all lead-based water lines to be inventoried by October 16, 2024. This includes ALL lines going into residential homes that are connected to the City's water source. The City believes these lines will need to be eradicated in the near future. If homes were built before 1988 it is believed that they will have lead-based pipes, unless upgrades were made. All homeowners on the City's water service will be sent out a letter to help identify whether they have knowledge of their service line and identify the material that is being used.

A motion was made by Councilor Pickhinke and seconded by Councilor Langner to close the meeting at 9:00 PM. Meeting closed.

Sharon Ann Irwin, Mayor  
Lexi Bainbridge, City Clerk

The people of Early are serving a supper to benefit the Adam & Leslie Johnson Family.

Sunday August 28th  
5-7 PM

Adam & Leslie Johnson lost their home to a fire in June.

Early City Hall Building  
Early, Iowa

## EARLY FOCUS NEWS

*Congratulations to August Yard of the Month  
Larry Dellwo at 208 Linden Lane!*

### Early FOCUS

Presents



**OUR ANNUAL LIGHT UP THE TOWN EVENT**

**TO BE HELD ON**

**NOVEMBER 19, 2023 FROM 5:30 PM TO 7:30 PM**

**Craft Fair 5-8 in library**

**Basement of City Hall**

**Soup Supper TO GO Containers ARE Available**

**FREE WILL OFFERING**

**SILENT PIE/COOKIE AUCTION**

**AUCTION WILL CLOSE AT 7:15**

**Heartland Marketing Tree Will be Lit Up**

**LEGION OPEN**

**THIS WILL KICK OFF OUR HOLIDAY HOME OF THE WEEK JUDGING AS WELL. WE ASK THAT YOU TURN YOUR LIGHTS ON IN PREP FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON. WE WILL BE JUDGING ON NOVEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>, DECEMBER 4, DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>, AND DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>. IF YOU WIN YOU WILL BE FEATURED IN THE NEWSLETTER AND ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE. THE SIGN WILL ALSO BE DISPLAYED IN YOUR YARD FOR THE WEEK. Thanks for supporting Early FOCUS!**

## MAYOR'S NOTES

I would like to thank everyone who has put work into making Crossroads Days a good celebration. It takes a lot of planning and preparations to make this a success. It also takes manpower to make it go. That is no small feat! I thought the fireworks were really great! There is discussion going on that there may be a pared down celebration next year and the three years following. Be willing to step up and help!

The City is going to put an air conditioner in the shelter house and a new cabinet. Along with this the rent will be increasing to \$50.

Council discussed possible uses for the former Payless lot. No decisions were made.

We recently had the annual inspection of the water tower. The water tower is now been in use over ten years. The interior coating is going to need to be redone. This is not going to be a cheap job. (But, what is anymore?)

The EPA has come out with new rules for lead and copper piping for potable water systems. There is going to have to be a lot of inspections done in the next two years-not only on the City's side of the service but also for the property owners. More information will be forthcoming in the near future.

The water main project on Second Street is winding down. The treatment plant is making progress. The exterior block is finished and the roof is ready for the finish to be done on that. Some of the interior operational equipment is being installed. The reverse osmosis system MAY get here toward the end of September.

School will be starting before we know it. Where has the summer gone? Be watchful for the children before school and after school.



## Early Public Library

### Events

Story Time- Every Wednesday at 10AM

Koffee Klatch- Hosted Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday @ 9:30  
Next is August 16th

End of the Summer Foam Party- August 13th 1:00PM-3:00PM

### Meetings

Friends of the Library Meeting- Aug 9th @ 9AM

Board Meeting- Aug 23rd @ 6PM

### Announcements

Beginning Tuesday, August 23rd, the library will begin new hours for the non-summer months:

Sundays & Mondays: Closed

Tuesdays: 9:00AM-11:00AM, 12:30PM-4:30PM

Wednesdays: 9:00AM-11:00AM, 12:30PM-6:00PM

Thursdays: 12:30PM-4:30PM

Fridays: 12:30PM-4:30PM

Saturdays: 9:00AM-11:30AM