

February 2023

CITY OF EARLY

City Information

Sharon Irwin, Mayor

City Council

Bill Cougill
Brian Pickhinke
Summer Schmitt
Tim Langner
Becky Blackman

Council Meeting - 1st Tuesday

Lexi Houston, Clerk

Kris Alesch, D.P.W. Super.

Keith Horan, Fire Chief

Fire Meeting - 2nd Wednesday

Library Board

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

City of Early POP. 587

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Website: www.earlyia.com

Official Newspaper:
The Chronicle

Online Bill Pay:
earlyia.frontdeskworks.com

City Office Hours

**Monday thru
Thursday**
8AM - 3PM
(Closed during the noon
hour)

Friday
8AM - 12 PM

City Council News

A Public Hearing was held at 6:00 PM on the 7th day of February 2023 in the council chambers at which time any citizen of Early, Iowa or any other person having interest in the proposed property tax levy for the fiscal 2023-2024 year as published in the Chronicle on January 26th, 2023, may appear, and be heard for or against the adoption of the proposed property tax levy or any part thereof. No residents or taxpayers were for or against said property tax. Hearing was closed at 6:01.

A Public Hearing was held at 6:01 PM in the council chambers at which time any citizen of Early, Iowa or any other person having interest in the proposed Code of Ordinances of the City of Early, Iowa as published in the Chronicle on January 26th, 2023, may appear, and be heard for or against the adoption of the proposed Code of Ordinance of the City of Early, Iowa or any part thereof. No residents or taxpayers were for or against said Code. Hearing was closed at 6:02.

A presentation from JEO Consulting Group represented by Dana Genreux was held at 6:02 PM on the 10th day of January 2023. Dana was contracted by the Iowa DNR Urban Forestry Management to collect data from our city trees. Dana was here back in the Summer of 2022 collecting GPS data and overall stated that Early was doing a very great job maintaining our Urban Forestry. Out of 528 trees inventoried he recommended to remove 8 trees (Ash), also to keep an eye on and prune as needed an additional 10 trees (Ash). Currently there are 34 species of trees, the top three being Maple 49%, Ash 17%, and Spruce 9%. Dana recommended to the Council of a budgeting plan to remove and maintain the current population as well as to avoid planting Maples in case of an unknown disease would sweep through, our City would be severely impacted. Dana suggested to plant Oak, or even Kentucky Coffee tree. Residents can view the Management Plan on our website.

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Early, Iowa was held on the 7th day of February 2023. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Sharon Ann Irwin called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM with roll call as follows: Present: Becky Blackman, Summer Schmitt, Tim Langner. Absent: Bill Cougill, Brian Pickhinke. A motion was made by Councilor Langner and seconded by Councilor Blackman to approve the consent agenda including agenda, minutes, bills for payment. On show of hands: Ayes: Blackman, Schmitt, Langner, Cougill, Pickhinke. Motion passed.

Resolution 23-04 a resolution approving the proposed property tax levy, was offered by Councilor Pickhinke and seconded by Councilor Langner. On a roll call vote. Ayes: Blackman, Schmitt, Langner, Cougill, Pickhinke. Whereupon the mayor declared said resolution duly adopted.

Resolution 23-05 a resolution setting the fees for the city of Early, Iowa was offered by Councilor Langner and seconded by Cougill. On a roll call vote. Ayes: Blackman, Schmitt, Langner, Cougill, Pickhinke. Whereupon the mayor declared said resolution duly adopted.

Ordinance 329 – Adopting the “Code of Ordinances of the City of Early, Iowa” 1st reading was offered by Councilor Blackman and seconded by Councilor Schmitt. On a roll call vote. Ayes: Blackman, Schmitt, Langner, Cougill, Pickhinke. Nays: None. A motion was made by Councilor Pickhinke and seconded by Councilor Cougill to wave the 2nd and 3rd final reading. On a roll call vote. Ayes: Blackman, Schmitt, Langner, Cougill, Pickhinke. Nays: None. Whereupon the Mayor declared said ordinance duly adopted. A copy of said ordinance is attached hereto and by reference made a part thereof.

A motion was made by Councilor Blackman and seconded by Councilor Schmitt to set a Public Hearing date of April 4th, 2023, for the Proposed Budget FY2023-2024. On a show of hands. Ayes: Blackman, Schmitt, Langner, Cougill, Pickhinke. Motion passed.

City Attorney was not present.

Kris Alesch, Director of Public Works presented his monthly report. Short report moved quite a bit of snow this past month and will have the city dumpsters up and functional again for city use.

A motion was made by Councilor Cougill and seconded by Councilor Pickhinke to close the meeting at 7:25 PM. Meeting closed.

Sharon Ann Irwin, Mayor
Lexi Houston, City Clerk

**Snow Ordinance is in effect 11/1/22 to
3/31/23. No parking on streets from
midnight to 7:00 AM.**

EARLY FOCUS NEWS

Early Crossroads Days JULY 15, 2023

ALL DAY- Softball Tourney- Dana Morris 712-346-8918
10AM- BIG PARADE Registration @ 830AM Abu Bekr
Rat Patrol - Ridge View Middle School line up
11AM- 1PM Noon Meal- Shelter House- (Friends of the Library)
11AM- 1PM Hayrides & Special K'z Balloon Artist- Shelter House- (Friends of the Library)
11AM-4PM Bingo- City Hall Basement (Schaller Crestland Rec)
12:30PM Kid's Water Fights (Early Fire)
2PM Water fights- (Early Fire)
5PM - 7PM Evening Meal - City Hall Basement (Early FOCUS)
5PM Cow Pie Bingo- Winner Wait & Watch- (Early Fire)
8PM-12AM- Beer Garden (Merton V Hair Legion)
Entertainment: Cotton Creek Entertainment DJ

Registration Forms found at www.earlyia.com under Community & Events/ Early Crossroad Days

We are still needing Donations to help fund our annual events. Donations can be sent to PO BOX 117 Early, IA 50535.

MAYOR'S NOTES

To start out my article this month, I want to congratulate our City Clerk, Lexi Houston, on receiving her Iowa Certified Municipal Clerk designation. This has taken three years of training and study on her part to qualify for this. I have been asked in the past how this is any help to Early. From my own experience, it makes you much more knowledgeable in the position and gives you many more contacts in the state that can possibly help you in the future with any number of issues.

The Council had a presentation concerning our Tree Management Plan that was implemented last summer by the Iowa DNR. A gentleman did an inventory of ALL the trees within the community and the Early Union Cemetery. He told us that Early has a very good tree inventory and canopy of trees. We have 34 species of trees in Early. The vast majority are maple varieties and ash trees amount to about 17%. He strongly recommended that trees being planted in the future should be more diversified. This should be encouraged for the city and also for private properties. He had done 22 communities in Iowa last year and he said Early's tree population was in the top three.

An ordinance adopting the recodification of City Ordinances was passed on first reading. Then second and third readings were skipped and it was passed on first and final. This has been close to a two-year process this time.

The Drainage District 59 project is at a standstill until the archeological study can be done. The area has to be free of snow cover before this study can be done.

City Clerk's Office

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER BEFORE CIVIL ACTIONS ARE TAKEN.

The new registration forms are available on our website or contact City Hall to grab a copy. Please make sure you bring an updated copy of your rabies vaccinations and a small picture. As a reminder Licenses for fixed animals are \$10.00 per pet and \$20.00 for non fixed animals.

NO ATV REGISTRATIONS



!!!ATTENTION!!!

City Hall will be closed on February 20th in observance of President's Day.

Water Shut off door tags will go out Friday 17th and non payments will be immediately turned off on Tuesday 21st.

PLAN ACCORDINGLY TO AVOID FEES

Early Public Library

Events

Story Time- Every Wednesday at 10AM (recommended for ages 0-6)

(Sac County Naturalist visiting story time on February 8th)

Koffee Klatch- Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month

February 7th & February 21st

Daddy Daughter Dance- February 11, 2023 6-8PM

Register

Meetings

Friends of the Library Meeting- February 14th @ 9AM

Board Meeting- Moved to February 28th @6PM

Announcements

The Library will observe President's Day Tuesday, February 21st.

Our Koffee Klatch is looking to gather together favorite recipes and create a cookbook. If you'd like to have some of your recipes featured, come join us at our next coffee group or bring your recipes into the library!

Recipes are due by May 1st.