

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Early, Iowa was held on the 3<sup>RD</sup> day of February, 2026. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor William Cougill called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with roll call as follows, Present: Brian Pickhinke, Brandon Scadden, Christine Madden. A motion was made by Brian and seconded by Christine to approve the consent agenda including the agenda and bills for payment. The minutes of the prior meeting were approved. All ayes: Pickhinke, Scadden, and Madden. Motion passed. Xavier Delao joined the meeting at 6:07 p.m. Cory Tiefenthaler joined the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Fire Department: Fire Chief, Keith Horan was in attendance to give his report to the Township Trustees who were invited to our meeting. The Fire Budget for FY27 was presented with correction to remove the amount allocated for physicals for the firemen as that was budgeted for in FY26. The council set a meeting date of May 7<sup>th</sup> to meet with the Township Trustees to review 28E agreement and debt formula. The Fire Chief also presented information on a new program for the fire fighters call LOSAP. It is a way for fire fighters, paid or volunteer, to receive a benefit of a retirement fund. More information is needed to make a resolution to approve. More information was sent to the council via email for their perusal. Brian Pickhinke made a motion to accept the FY27 Fire Budget. Brandon seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Sac County Sheriff's Report: Sheriff was not in attendance. 105 total records were reported for the month of January.

City Clerk Report: Utility Billing Report, Treasurer's Report were shared with the council. Brian made a motion to approve the reports. Christine seconded. Motion carried.

There was a discussion regarding insurance and that will be reviewed and looked over at the next meeting. There was also discussion regarding the full time employees HSA benefit.

Mayor's Report: The consideration of renaming the park for the Early Achievers 4-H Park was discussed. Xavier suggested we ask the 4-H kids what they would like it to be named. Brandon moved to get that information from the 4-H kids and then we'll create a resolution to change the park name. Christine seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Retaining a Financial Advisor was put on the table. Motion was made by Brian to reach out to the 3 recommended Financial Advisors and see what type of proposals they come up with.

Wes Boyer was at the meeting representing Bolten and Menk Engineering to update us on the well discussion and where we sit at the moment. In researching, it was found that if well site #2 doesn't work, our second possible site could be SW of the baseball diamond. Brian made a motion to move forward on the well project. This would be approving the well site location, preliminary design and financing plans. Brandon seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Brian to reach out to DA Davidson to retain their services of Financial Manager for the Well Project as required by law. Cory seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Brian made motion to contact Dorsey & Whitney as Bond Council for the Well Project. Brandon seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reminder that the League meeting is Thursday evening at 6:30 in Wall Lake. Please let Bill or Julia know asap if you plan to attend.

Water Department Report: Dillon was in attendance and let us know that when Kris gets ready to retire that he would sell his tools or new tools will need to be purchased for the Public Works Department.

The water problem behind the Post Office wasn't a water line problem. Just setting water.

Citizens Forum: Loren Misko, citizen who resides on Karr Ave outside the city limits, asked about the garbage charge on his city bill. It was discussed that if he lived outside city limits and doesn't pay for sewer, that he could manage his garbage with a dumpster or contact Rudd directly. And the city will take that charge off his bill.

Sharon Irwin was in attendance representing the Sac County Solid Waste Commission. A new end loader has been purchased and they are in the process of purchasing a new 80 ft scale. Tipping fee has been reduced!

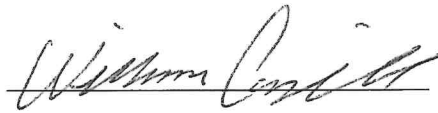
Brian moved to approve the Liquor License for the Pheasants Forever Banquet. Brandon seconded the motion.

Christine moved to approve the amendment to the Liquor License for Casey's. Brandon seconded the motion.

Brian moved to adjourn the meeting. Cory seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.



City Clerk, Julia Drost



Mayor, William Cougill