

FALLS CITY CITY COUNCIL**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022**

The Falls City City Council met in regular session on Monday, September 12, 2022 at 6:01 p.m. in the Community Center located at 320 N. Main Street

Council Members Present:

Council President Amy Houghtaling, Councilor Nick Backus, Councilor Martha Jirovec, Councilor Tony Meier, Councilor Dennis Sickles, Councilor Lori Jean Sickles

Staff Present:

City Manager AJ Foscoli, City Recorder Jeremy Teal

AGENDA**ACTION****Announcements, Appointments, Appreciations & Proclamations****Public Comment**

Mayor Bailey opened public comments at 6:03 p.m.

Chris Martin, 112 Bridge St

Mr. Martin noted that the activity at city lot on Bridge Street had become a huge nuisance to the surrounding neighborhood. He reported the RVs that seem to come and go, the donuts by 4x4 trucks that are throwing dust all over the neighborhood, and the vandalism. He suggested finishing the cable fence around the property and have access to only city employees.

Mayor Bailey read a petition from concerned citizens regarding concerts at Josh Rowton's home on S Main for the record.

Mayor Bailey closed the public comments at 6:13 p.m.

Public Hearing

Mayor Bailey opened the public hearing at 6:17 p.m. regarding Variance 22-02 for 325 Montgomery.

Staff Report

Mr. White gave a brief staff report regarding the setback variance at 325 Montgomery. He advised that he had met with Mr. Day at the site and felt much more comfortable with the allowance of the 10 ft setback. He noted that after measuring the site there was 23 ft 6 inches from the front of the house to the right of which allowed for a vehicle with additional room.

Mr. White stated an approval to the variance had one condition. He indicated that Mr. Day would

<p>Councilor Questions</p>	<p>need to submit a modified plan to the city and county before home is placed.</p> <p>Councilor Jirovec asked how far it was from the house to the road. Mr. White noted the distance was 31 feet.</p> <p>Council President Houghtaling asked if his concerns were alleviated. Mr. White noted all of his concerns were cleared up regarding the site.</p>
<p>Applicant Report</p>	<p>Mr. Day noted he was asking for a 10 foot front setback, but the west side was 11 feet, and the east side was 15 feet. He stated the home would be 27 feet wide by 48 feet long, and there would be landscaping around the pole and guide wire incorporating the stump. He reported the compaction and engineering testing had passed, and the redundant ATT septic system was installed.</p>
<p>Public Comments</p>	<p>Mayor Bailey read a letter into record from Walter Osborne regarding the setbacks for 325 Montgomery.</p>
<p>Rebuttal</p>	<p>Mr. Day noted he had not poured the slab awaiting the decision of the Council on the setbacks. He commented that the septic system was installed according to County's sanitarium standards.</p>
<p>Mayor Bailey closed the public hearing at 6:39 p.m.</p>	<p>Councilor Jirovec explained that what Mr. Day had done was bring value to the area, and all his hard work shows good faith. She noted homes were better than empty lots.</p> <p>Councilor Meier stated that Mr. Day took all the right steps and completed all work at his own risk.</p> <p>It was moved by Council Jirovec to adopt Variance 22-02, based on additional testimony and exhibits that may be conveyed to Council at the hearing. In that event, staff recommends one condition. The motion was duly seconded by Council President Houghtaling and carried with a roll call vote of 6-0 with Councilors Backus,</p>

	<p>Falls City and it needed to be a council member or the city manager.</p> <p>Council President Houghtaling volunteered to be on the committee to take the pressure off the city manager.</p> <p>It was moved by Councilor Jirovec to appoint Council President Houghtaling to the Polk County Homelessness Committee. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor LJ Sickles and carried with a vote of 6-0 with Councilors Backus, Jirovec, Meier, D Sickles, LJ Sickles, and Council President Houghtaling voting YES.</p>
<p>Good of the Order</p>	<p>Councilor D Sickles advised that code services and police enforcement cost money and the community had to understand that safety wasn't free. He noted that Council couldn't do anything if there were no resources.</p> <p>Councilor LJ Sickles asked if the sheriff showed up at Mr. Rowton's concert. Mayor Bailey noted there was no agreement in place with the Sheriff to enforce ordinances.</p> <p>Councilor Meier reported he was told they were selling alcohol and marijuana at the concerts. He suggested turning the case over to the OLCC.</p> <p>Mayor Bailey stated the council and residents were trying to expedite this issue as residents are entitled to peaceful place. Council President Houghtaling noted that the City Manager had addressed past concerts and tried to work with Mr. Rowten.</p> <p>Mayor Bailey asked about emergency routes. Mr. Foscoli noted that there had been no meeting, and was speaking with fire chief and reconnecting and restarting conversations.</p> <p>Councilor Jirovec asked about the progress of the coffee house on Main Street. Mr. Teal stated that the owners had all their permits from the County.</p> <p>Councilor Jirovec reported some issues she observed over the weekend regarding the mill</p>

lot. Mr. Foscoli explained that a drunk driver knocked the wire fence down and was told not to put up as it was a challenge for people to knock it down. He noted it was difficult to secure the lot with limited funds and with a way to withstand vandalism.

Council President Houghtaling commented that the mill lot had been a difficult situation for years. She noted there had been all kinds of fencing around the lot, but it had always been cut, vandalized, or stolen. She stated that a permanent fence would not be good as other agencies use the lot for staging and other events. She suggested a call to the sheriff and that this lot had always been a difficult situation.

Dawn martin, 112 Bridge St., noted that she worked at Polk County Behavioral Health and offered her services anyway she could help with any of the homelessness in Falls City. She stated she wanted to invest in her community.



Council President Houghtaling stated that the problem was the City doesn't know when trailers show up.

Mayor Bailey indicated that the mill lot had always been a problem and the City had tried a lot and nothing had worked. He stated the lot needed some sort of fence and more signs and barricades.

Councilor Jirovec asked about the rumble strips for South Main Street. Mr. Foscoli noted he was working on them.

Councilor Jirovec asked if anyone had submitted a camping application for the next concert. Mr. Foscoli mentioned that the city had not received any applications.

Councilor Jirovec asked for the first quarter budget vs. actual reports for next Council Meeting. Mr. Foscoli stated he would make those available.

	<p>Councilor Jirovec indicated there were \$50,000 grants available for rural communities. Mr. Foscoli stated the city would use ARPA dollars to purchase the grant program and get one step closer. Councilor Jirovec noted the RDI grant could help with strategic planning and training.</p> <p>Mayor Bailey asked for some resolution on the mill lot. Councilor LJ Sickles suggested replacing the wire. Councilor Jirovec suggested new signage. Councilor Backus suggested listing the ordinance number on the signs. Council President Houghtaling asked for some numbers to assess what future plans may be.</p>
Adjourn	There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.
<p>Read and approved this <u>18</u> day of <u>October</u> 2022.</p> <p>Mayor: <u></u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>City Recorder: <u></u></p>	