

STATEMENT OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

January 16, 2024 6:00 p.m.

Budget Work Session

The City Council of Boone, Iowa, met in a work session in the City Hall Council Chambers on January 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Stines presiding. The following Council Members were present: Byrd, Henson, Moorman, Hilsabeck, Williamson, and Angstrom. Absent: none.

Moorman moved; Williamson seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Henson, Moorman, Hilsabeck, Williamson, Angstrom, and Byrd. Nays: none.

Mayor Stines began the Hotel/Motel Grant discussion by presenting his recommendation for funding. Skare advised that the City's revenues and cash balance is doing very well, and that staff recommends using \$100,000.00 of the cash balance from previous years to repay the General Fund for 2.5 Boulder Inn payments; this catches the City up on the internal loan obligation and leaves one (1) payment left. Council went on to discuss several of the applications, with the following individuals addressing the Council for further clarification regarding their applications: Laura Hutchcroft – Hive Coalition for the Arts, Jennifer Hanson – Boone County Chamber of Commerce, and Kelley Molitor – Downtown Boone.

Moorman moved; Williamson seconded to approve the following Hotel/Motel Grant allocations: Boone County Agriculture Association (Fairgrounds) \$3,000.00, Camp Hantesa \$2,000.00, Boone County Convention and Visitors Bureau \$90,000.00, Seven Oaks Ski Patrol \$2,500.00, Fourth of July \$13,000.00, Ames Economic Development Commission \$55,000.00, Boone County Chamber \$3,000.00, Boone County Economic Growth \$10,000.00, Boone Farmers' Market \$3,000.00, IA Railroad Historical Society \$5,000.00, Downtown Boone \$4,000.00, Pufferbilly Days \$7,500.00, Hive Coalition for the Arts \$2,000.00; in addition \$100,000.00 shall be transferred from Hotel/Motel Fund to the General Fund for the repayment of Boulders Inn's internal loan. Ayes: Moorman, Hilsabeck, Williamson, Angstrom, Byrd, and Henson. Nays: none.

Skare provided a recap of Fiscal Year 2025 Budget and stated that staff is presenting a balanced budget with the recommendation to make no changes to the tax levy. Skare went through and highlighted any significant changes in each department's budgets, noting the significant decrease in health insurance and increases in salaries, chemicals, utilities, and liability insurance. Skare commented on the amount of interest the City is receiving and is the reason we are able to submit a balanced budget.

Council discussed the Recreation Budget and whether or not to move forward with the hiring of a Recreation Director, no recommendation was made.

Skare advised that there is a deadline for the American Rescue Plan funds and recommended to reallocate the remaining funds towards the Downtown Paving Project instead of the wellness facility. Moorman moved; Henson seconded to reallocate the remaining \$582,487.00 of American Rescue Plan funds towards the Downtown Paving Project. Ayes: Hilsabeck, Williamson, Angstrom, Byrd, Henson, and Moorman. Nays: none.

Elmquist stated that if there is no objection to the proposed Certification of Tax Levy form, she would proceed with moving forward with the budget process. No objections were made.

Skare presented the Department's request for Local Option Sales Tax funding.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

ATTEST:

Ondrea Elmquist, Clerk/Finance Officer

Elijah Stines, Mayor