

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010
5:30 P.M. CIVIC CENTER / CITY HALL**

OFFICER PRESENT: WILSON

COUNCIL PRESENT: HUSTON, PRIOR, KAALBERG, DUNCAN, PIERCE

Meeting called to order by Mayor.

CONSENT AGENDA

Previous minutes, claims and liquor license request for renewal by New York Dollar Store, also request for six month license from CJ Speedway.

Motion to approve consent agenda by Huston, second by Duncan.
Approved.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS – None

1st READING WATER RATES ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS –

Amendment to include a fee of \$25.00 to any water customer receiving a 24 hour notice.

Motion to approve 1st reading of Water Rates Ordinance Amendment by Prior, second by Pierce. Roll call vote. 5 – Yes Approved.

Second reading at next regular meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Utilities – Huston reported that the flood pump not running at capacity level, this is a good thing.

Streets & sidewalks – none

Public Safety – Chief Orr received letter requesting the City help fund a second full-time Officer for the Drug Task Force. Chief Orr feels this is a worthwhile investment for the City. Columbus Junction's share would be \$4294.00 in addition to amount already in the 2010 -11 budget.

Three junk vehicles have been towed to date with more letters and notifications to be sent out.

Mayor Wilson reported on meeting with Jeff Hanan & Mike Norris of SEIRP about rental properties and housing issues. Areas in the City may need to be re-zoned and ordinances addressed and amended.

Finance – None

Community Development Group – Mallory Smith reported on activities from her office:

**Small Business Academy – Successful 8 week course, second 6 week course in Wapello, starting March 31st. \$7500.00 grant covered administration costs.*

**Strengthening Rural Iowa – Received a grant in the amount of \$20,000.00 for CDC activities in collaboration with LIFE Microlending. \$4000.00 is designated for administration, the remainder will go toward training, equipment, travel and LIFE start up costs.*

**Keep Columbus Beautiful – Activities for Earth Day Week are being planned. Beautification week in May along with clean up throughout the spring, summer and fall. University of Iowa students will be taking the lead on Earth Day Week activities. A local group will plan a beautification week in a similar fashion. Downtown group for KCB met this afternoon, they will most likely set the tone for regular clean up throughout the year.*

**Farmers Market – Met with the market vendors, set rules for this year and vendors all agreed to keep the Market at the Am. Legion parking lot. So far 14 vendors have committed. Market will start May 7th, 2010.*

**Website – Nitza has added photos of city employees and council minutes.*

**Newsletter – Weekly e-newsletter.*

**Horizons – Attending training in Ames, April 7th.*

**Poster – Starting a history project with the High School kids. Seeking a mini grant from Humanities of Iowa.*

MAYOR'S REPORT – None

Meeting adjourned by Mayor.

Mayor

Attest: Deputy City Clerk