West Des Moines City Council Proceedings Monday, June 21, 2021

Mayor Steven K. Gaer opened the regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council of West Des Moines, Iowa, in the Council Chambers of the West Des Moines City Hall on Monday, June 21, 2021 at 5:30 PM. Council members present were: R. Hardman, G. Hudson, M. McKinney, K. Trevillyan and R. Trimble.

On Item 1. Agenda. It was moved by Trimble, second by Trevillyan approve the agenda as presented.

Mayor Gaer stated a letter was received earlier today from Mediacom objecting to Items 6(b), and 7(m).

Vote 21-286: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 2. Public Forum

D.T. Magee, Superintendent of the Norwalk Community School District, provided an update on his district, and he expressed appreciation to the city for the additional property tax revenue generated by the Microsoft Osmium data center, which helped the district fund a high school renovation and expansion project sooner than anticipated.

Gary Leffler, 1235 11th Street, commended the City Council for the Amendment to the Google Fiber Conduit Network License Agreement, which reduces the validation period from 18 months to 6 months. He requested the City consider eliminating the validation period altogether. He also spoke in opposition to the United Way's "21 Day Equity Challenge", which the City had participated in during 2020.

On Item 3. Council/Manager/Other Entities Reports:

Council member Trimble reported the Finance and Administration Subcommittee met and discussed proposed adjustments to the schedule of fees and charges and a proposed ordinance amendment to make the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board an appointed position, as opposed to elected.

Council member Hudson reported he attended a meeting of the Greater Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau, where discussion was held on the recovery of the Des Moines metro's tourism industry as we come out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council member Hardman expressed appreciation to Captain Jody Hayes for his responsiveness to a recent issue. She also thanked the Human Rights Commission for hosting a successful

Juneteenth celebration last week.

City Manager Tom Hadden reported West Des Moines Water Works has enacted its Stage 1 Drought Management Plan, due to the ongoing drought and low water levels of the Raccoon River. He requested that everyone be cognizant of their water usage and pay attention for further updates from West Des Moines Water Works.

On Item 4. Consent Agenda.

Council members pulled Item 4(m) for discussion. It was moved by Trimble, second by Hudson to approve the consent agenda as amended.

- a. Approval of Minutes of June 7, 2021 Meeting
- b. Approval of Bill Lists
- c. Approval of Liquor Licenses:
 - 1. The Cheesecake Factory Restaurants, Inc., d/b/a The Cheesecake Factory, 101 Jordan Creek Parkway #12550 Class LC Liquor License with Sunday Sales and Outdoor Service Renewal
 - 2. Decades, LLC d/b/a Decades, 1208 Grand Avenue Class LC Liquor License with Sunday Sales and Catering Privileges Renewal
 - 3. Foundry Distilling Company, LLC d/b/a Foundry Distilling Company, 111 South 11th Street, Suite 100 Class C Native Wine Permit with Sunday Sales and Outdoor Service Renewal
 - 4. P2C2 Investments, LLC d/b/a Global Brew Tap House and Lounge, 9500 University Avenue, Suite 1118 Class BW Permit with Sunday Sales and Outdoor Service Renewal
 - CTCC Rentals, LLC d/b/a Grand Junction Bar & Grill, 1970 Grand Avenue, #29
 Class LC Liquor License with Sunday Sales, Brew Pub, Outdoor Service, and Catering Privileges Renewal
 - 6. Hy-Vee, Inc. d/b/a Hy-Vee Market Grille #4, 555 South 51st Street (Grille Area) Class LC Liquor License with Sunday Sales Renewal
 - 7. Maxie's Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Maxie's Restaurant & Lounge, 1311 Grand Avenue Class LC Liquor License with Sunday Sales Renewal
 - 8. OTB Acquisition, LLC d/b/a On The Border, 140 South Jordan Creek Parkway Class LC Liquor License with Sunday Sales and Outdoor Service Renewal
 - 9. Pragathi International, LLC d/b/a Persis Indian Grill, 6925 Mills Civic Parkway, Suite 142 Class BW Permit with Native Wine and Sunday Sales Renewal
 - Target Corporation d/b/a Target Store T-1901, 5405 Mills Civic Parkway Class LE Liquor License with Carryout Wine, Carryout Beer, and Sunday Sales -Renewal
 - Hy-Vee, Inc. d/b/a Wahlburgers, 7105 Mills Civic Parkway, Suite 160 Class LC Liquor License with Sunday Sales, Outdoor Service, and Catering Privileges -Renewal

- 12. West Des Moines Hotel Associates, LLC d/b/a West Des Moines Marriott, 1250 Jordan Creek Parkway Class LB Liquor License with Sunday Sales, Outdoor Service, and Catering Privileges Renewal
- d. Approval of Tobacco Permits
- e. Approval of Special Event Lane Closure Flatland Cup Triathlon, July 11, 2021
- f. Approval of Revised 2020-21 Committee and Other Assignments
- g. Approval of Change in Employee Complement EMS Department
- h. Acceptance of Grant Funding:
 - 1. American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
 - 2. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 2018 Flood and 2020 Derecho Events
- i. Approval of Agreement Renewal with Iowa Department of Transportation Maintenance and Repair of Primary Roads
- j. Approval of Change Orders:
 - 1. Grand Avenue Reconstruction, 1st Street to 6th Street
 - 2. MidAmerican Energy RecPlex, Synthetic Turf, #2
 - 3. MidAmerican Energy RecPlex, General Construction, #21
- k. Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Professional Services Agreement Raccoon River Pedestrian Bridge
- 1. Approval and/or Ratification of Fees and Charges Effective July 1, 2021
- n. Accept Work:
 - 1. 1211 Vine Street Demolition
 - 2. 301 Grand Avenue Demolition
 - 3. Grand Avenue, South Jordan Creek Parkway to South 88th Street
 - 4. Grand Avenue West Sewer Segments 3 and 4
 - 5. Raccoon River Park Boathouse
- o. Approval of Professional Services Agreement Construction Testing Services
- p. Approval of Proposal from MidAmerican Energy Company for Underground Electric Extension 88th Street and Ashworth Road Traffic Signals
- q. Approval and Acceptance of Property Interests High Street Storm Sewer Improvements Project
- r. Proclamation Park and Recreation Month, July 2021

Vote 21-287: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 4(m) Order Construction - South Grand Prairie Parkway, Stagecoach Drive to Grand Avenue

Council member McKinney stated he will abstain on this item due to a potential conflict of interest.

It was moved by Trimble, second by Hardman to approve Item 4(m) Order Construction - South Grand Prairie Parkway, Stagecoach Drive to Grand Avenue.

Vote 21-288: Hardman, Hudson, Trevillyan, Trimble ... 4 yes
McKinney ... 1 abstain due to potential conflict of interest
Motion carried.

On Item 5(a) Village on Jordan Creek, southwest corner of Jordan Creek Parkway and Ashworth Road - Amend the Planned Unit Development (PUD) to Designate and Regulate Support Commercial within Development Parcel 'A' and Modify Parcel 'B' from RM-8 to RM-12 for Medium Density Residential Development, initiated by Jordan Creek Associates, LLC

Mayor Gaer noted there is a memorandum from staff recommending a change to the ordinance from its first reading to reduce the number of parking stalls required from 542 to 467.

It was moved by McKinney, second by Trevillyan to consider the second reading of the ordinance, with the number of parking stalls required amended to 467.

Vote 21-289: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

The City Clerk read the preamble to the ordinance.

It was moved by McKinney, second by Trevillyan to approve the second reading of the ordinance, with the number of parking stalls required amended to 467.

Vote 21-290: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

It was moved by McKinney, second by Trevillyan to waive the third reading and adopt the ordinance in final form, with the number of parking stalls required amended to 467.

Vote 21-291: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 5(b) Microsoft DSM 14, east of Veterans Parkway at SE Maffitt Lake Road - Amend the Zoning Map to Consistency Zone the Property to Light Industrial Zoning, initiated by Microsoft Corporation

It was moved by Trimble, second by Hudson to consider the second reading of the ordinance.

Vote 21-292: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

The City Clerk read the preamble to the ordinance.

It was moved by Trimble, second by Hudson to approve the second reading of the ordinance.

Vote 21-293: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

It was moved by Trimble, second by Hardman to waive the third reading and adopt the ordinance in final form.

Vote 21-294: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 5(c) Amendment to City Code - Title 6 (Motor Vehicles and Traffic), Chapter 9 (Traffic Schedules), Section 1 (Official Traffic Controls) - Intersection of Mills Civic Parkway and 41st Street, Intersection of 88th Street and Ashworth Road, Intersection of South 88th Street and Raccoon River Drive, and Intersection of Grand Avenue and Raccoon River Drive, initiated by the City of West Des Moines

It was moved by McKinney, second by Hudson to consider the second reading of the ordinance.

Vote 21-295: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

The City Clerk read the preamble to the ordinance.

It was moved by McKinney, second by Hudson to approve the second reading of the ordinance.

Vote 21-296: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

It was moved by McKinney, second by Hudson to waive the third reading and adopt the ordinance in final form.

Vote 21-297: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 6(a) Mayor Gaer indicated this was the time and place for a public hearing to consider King's Grove, 1590 South Kings Grove Avenue - Establish the King's Grove Planned Unit Development (PUD) for Development of Residential Single Family and Existing Multi-Family Units, initiated by King's Grove, LLC. He asked for the date the notice was published and the City Clerk indicated the notice was published on June 4, 2021 in the Des Moines Register. Mayor Gaer asked if any written comments had been received. The City Clerk stated on a vote of

6-0, with one member absent, the Plan and Zoning Commission recommended City Council approval of the PUD ordinance.

Mayor Gaer asked if there were any public comments.

Becky Hauder, 1590 South King's Grove Avenue, Unit 1104, spoke in opposition to the PUD ordinance, citing concerns that the developer could construct more condos or apartments that would be rented.

Erik Fagerstrom, 1590 South King's Grove Avenue, Unit 1006, stated he is not necessarily opposed to the PUD ordinance, but he expressed concerns about the lack of enforcement of the signed covenants for this development.

Mayor Gaer asked if there were any public comments; hearing none he declared the public hearing closed.

Lynne Twedt, Development Services Director, reported this request would allow the remaining parcels of this development to be constructed as traditional single-family detached homes, as opposed to the multi-family that would be allowed currently.

Mr. Fagerstrom expressed opposition to the PUD ordinance upon learning that it would allow for the construction of single-family detached homes instead of multi-family residences, as he believes there is a shortage of affordable housing in this area near the future campus of Des Moines University.

Council member McKinney noted the Development and Planning Subcommittee has had recent discussions about a significant multi-family residential development going in near Des Moines University, which he believes will help fulfill the demand for affordable housing in that area.

It was moved by Trimble, second by Hardman to consider the first reading of the ordinance.

Vote 21-298: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

The City Clerk read the preamble to the ordinance.

It was moved by Trimble, second by Hardman to approve the first reading of the ordinance.

Vote 21-299: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 6(b) Mayor Gaer indicated this was the time and place for a public hearing to consider Amendment No. 1 to Conduit Network License Agreement, initiated by Google Fiber, Inc. He

asked for the date the notice was published and the City Clerk indicated the notice was published on June 16, 2021 in the Des Moines Register. Mayor Gaer asked if any written comments had been received. The City Clerk stated two correspondences were received today, copies of which have been placed on the dais.

Mayor Gaer requested staff provide an overview of this proposed amendment.

Jamie Letzring, Deputy City Manager, reported this proposed amendment would reduce the validation period from 18 months to 6 months, which would be applied separately to each of the network segments of the main conduit and the drops leading to the homes and businesses. The purpose for this validation period is to use Google Fiber as a test case to help identify and address any issues with the conduit system prior to making it available to other providers.

Brian Hemesath, City Engineer, reported this proposed amendment also includes a number of adjustments that had been identified by the consultant throughout the design and construction process to this point.

Mayor Gaer asked if there were any public comments.

Peter Cunningham, General Manager of the North Region for Google Fiber, reported Google Fiber has spent the last year designing and planning their fiber network for West Des Moines, ordering materials, hiring staff, and securing an office location in Valley Junction. He noted the City's conduit network project is currently on schedule, so Google Fiber is planning its schedules accordingly. He stated they are excited to be one part of this innovative project to bring high-speed internet service and a new choice of providers to the citizens of West Des Moines.

Mayor Gaer asked if there were any additional public comments; hearing none he declared the public hearing closed.

It was moved by Trimble, second by Hudson to adopt Resolution - Approval of Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement.

Council member McKinney stated he will abstain on this item due to a potential conflict of interest.

Vote 21-300: Hardman, Hudson, Trevillyan, Trimble ... 4 yes
McKinney ... 1 abstain due to potential conflict of interest
Motion carried.

On Item 6(c) Mayor Gaer indicated this was the time and place for a public hearing to consider Valley Junction Levee Trail Connection, initiated by the City of West Des Moines. He asked for the date the notice was published and the City Clerk indicated the notice was published on June

11, 2021 in the Des Moines Register. Mayor Gaer asked if any written comments had been received. The City Clerk stated none had been received.

Mayor Gaer asked if there were any public comments; hearing none he declared the public hearing closed.

It was moved by McKinney, second by Hardman to adopt Resolution - Approval of Plans and Specifications, Motion to Receive and File Report of Bids, and Resolution - Award Contract to Jasper Construction.

Vote 21-301: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(a) Ginger West Plat 1, 11100 Booneville Road - Approval of Final Plat to Create Two Lots for Industrial Development, Two Outlots and Two Street Lots, initiated by Microsoft Corporation

It was moved by Hudson, second by Hardman to adopt Resolution - Approval and Release of Final Plat, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements and the conditions of approval listed in the Resolution.

Vote 21-302: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(b) Des Moines University, 8025 Grand Avenue - Approval of a Preliminary Plat to Create Three Lots for College Campus Development, Three Street Lots, Two Outlots for Stormwater Detention, One Outlot for Floodplain Areas and One Outlot for Future Development, initiated by Des Moines University Osteopathic Medical Center

It was moved by McKinney, second by Hudson to adopt Resolution - Approval of Preliminary Plat, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements and the conditions of approval listed in the Resolution.

Council member Hardman stated she will abstain on this item due to a potential conflict of interest.

Vote 21-303: Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble ... 4 yes
Hardman ... 1 abstain due to potential conflict of interest
Motion carried.

On Item 7(c) Microsoft Ginger East (aka Microsoft DSM 14), east of Veterans Parkway at SE Maffitt Lake Road - Approval of a Preliminary Plat to Create Two Lots for Industrial Development, One Outlot and One Street Lot, initiated by Microsoft Corporation

It was moved by McKinney, second by Trevillyan to adopt Resolution - Approval of Preliminary Plat, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements and the conditions of approval listed in the Resolution.

Vote 21-304: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(d) Glen Oaks Plat 10, east side of Burr Oaks Drive between Beechwood Terrace and the north entrance - Approval of a Preliminary Plat to Create Four Lots for Multi-Family Residential Development and One Lot for Single Family Development and Approval of a Site Plan to Allow Construction of Two Bi-attached Dwellings, initiated by G.O.C.C. Investments, LLC

It was moved by Hudson, second by Trimble to adopt Resolution - Approval of Preliminary Plat and Site Plan, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements.

Vote 21-305: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(e) Manchester Village Townhomes, 9076 Lindas Lane - Approval of a Preliminary Plat to Create 68 Footprint Lots and Approval of a Site Plan to Allow Construction of 68 Attached Townhome Units, initiated by Stanbros Development, LLC

It was moved by Hudson, second by Trimble to adopt Resolution - Approval of Preliminary Plat and Site Plan, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements.

Vote 21-306: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(f) MidAmerican Energy Company SE Soteria Substation, 3455 SE Soteria Avenue - Approval of a Site Plan to Allow Construction of an Electric Substation, initiated by Microsoft Corporation

It was moved by McKinney, second by Hudson to adopt Resolution - Approval of Site Plan, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements.

Vote 21-307: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(g) Microsoft DSM 40, 11100 Booneville Road - Approval of a Full Site Plan to Allow Construction of a Data Center Building, initiated by Microsoft Corporation

It was moved by Trimble, second by McKinney to adopt Resolution - Approval of Site Plan, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements and the conditions of approval listed in the Resolution.

Vote 21-308: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(h) Wendy's, 225 and 301 Grand Avenue - Approval of a Site Plan to Allow Construction of a 2,500 Square Foot Fast Food Restaurant, initiated by King Enterprises

It was moved by Trevillyan, second by Hudson to adopt Resolution - Approval of Site Plan, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements and the conditions of approval listed in the Resolution.

Vote 21-309: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(i) Light Valley Junction Public Art Project, pedestrian way between 210 and 214 5th Street - Approval of a Site Plan to Allow Installation of an Art Exhibit on City-Owned Property, initiated by the City of West Des Moines

Matt Hauge, Executive Director of the Historic Valley Junction Foundation, expressed appreciation to the City for its continued involvement with public art in Valley Junction, and he stated the purpose of this project is to add visual interest to the neighborhood during the evenings.

Council member Hardman expressed appreciation to Mr. Hauge for his service to the Historic Valley Junction Foundation.

It was moved by Hardman, second by Trimble to adopt Resolution - Approval of Site Plan, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements.

Council member Trevillyan inquired about the selection process for these public art displays.

Sally Ortgies, Parks and Recreation Director, responded there was a project work group made up one representative from the Public Art Advisory Commission, one representative from the Historic Valley Junction Foundation, and three other citizens from Valley Junction. This work group reviewed the proposals submitted by artists and selected the artist that came to the Commission. The artist agreement was approved by the Commission and then later by the City Council.

Council member McKinney stated he initially had concerns about approving this site plan with a temporary moratorium in place on certain development activities in Valley Junction; however,

after discussing the matter with City Attorney Scieszinski, he has confirmed the moratorium would not apply to this public art project, so he is now supportive of this project.

Council member Hardman commended staff for engaging the voices of a diverse group of individuals through the process, and she expressed support for this project.

Council member Trimble suggested that, due to the sensitivity towards projects in Valley Junction, City staff should consider including a broader group for public input that would include a diverse group of multiple Valley Junction residents.

Vote 21-310: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(j) Triple J Logistics, 1800 Industrial Circle - Approval of a Full Major Modification to a Site Plan, initiated by Triple J Logistics, LLC

It was moved by McKinney, second by Trimble to adopt Resolution - Approval of Major Modification, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements and the conditions of approval listed in the Resolution.

Vote 21-311: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(k) Slumberland, 350 Jordan Creek Parkway, Suite 100 - Approval of Level 1 Minor Modification to Site Plan for Architectural Modifications to the South Façade of the Building, initiated by Ryan Companies, US

It was moved by Trimble, second by Trevillyan to adopt Resolution - Approval of Minor Modification, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements.

Vote 21-312: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(l) Grand Valley Plat of Survey Parcel 2021-33, east of South 35th Street and north of Grand Avenue - Approval of a Plat of Survey to Create Two Lots for Transfer of Ownership, initiated by Engel Associates, Inc.

It was moved by Hudson, second by Trevillyan to adopt Resolution - Approval and Release of Plat of Survey, subject to the applicant complying with all applicable City Code requirements.

Vote 21-313: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

Mayor Gaer stated, due to a potential conflict of interest related to Item 7(m), the Council will need to elect a Presiding Officer to preside over this portion of the meeting.

It was moved by Hudson, second by Trimble to appoint Council member Trevillyan as Presiding Officer for Item 7(m).

Vote 21-314: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(m) Financing Agreement with West Bank - \$29,000,000 Taxable General Obligation Urban Renewal Capital Loan Note Anticipation Project Note, Series 2021, initiated by the City of West Des Moines

It was moved by Trimble, second by Hudson to adopt Resolution - Authorize Issuance of Capital Loan Note.

Council member McKinney stated he will abstain on this item due to a potential conflict of interest.

Vote 21-315: Hardman, Hudson, Trevillyan, Trimble ... 4 yes
McKinney ... 1 abstain due to potential conflict of interest
Motion carried.

Mayor Gaer resumed presiding over the meeting.

On Item 7(n) Amendment to City Code - Title 2 (Boards and Commissions), Chapter 7 (Parks and Recreation Advisory Board), Section 1 (Board Created; Election; Term) - Transition the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board from an Elected Position to an Appointed Position and Increase the Number of Seats from Five to Seven, initiated by the City of West Des Moines

It was moved by Trevillyan, second by Trimble to consider the first reading of the ordinance.

Vote 21-316: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

The City Clerk read the preamble to the ordinance.

It was moved by Trevillyan, second by Trimble to approve the first reading of the ordinance.

Vote 21-317: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 7(o) Amendment to City Code - Title 4 (Health and Safety Regulations), Chapter 5C (Solid Waste Control) - Modification of Fees and Charges, initiated by the City of West Des Moines

It was moved by Trimble, second by Trevillyan to consider the first reading of the ordinance.

Vote 21-318: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

The City Clerk read the preamble to the ordinance.

It was moved by Trimble, second by Trevillyan to approve the first reading of the ordinance.

Vote 21-319: Hardman, Hudson, McKinney, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes Motion carried.

On Item 8(a) West Des Moines Water Works Audit - 2020 - Received and Filed

On Item 9 - Other Matters

Council member Hudson stated Juneteenth has now been recognized as a federal holiday, and he thanked Council member Hardman for her role in initiating a West Des Moines celebration for that significant historical event when the last group of African-American slaves were emancipated on June 19, 1865. He noted the United Stated has a bad history of discrimination, but the City of West Des Moines rejects all forms of discrimination.

Council member Hardman stated this elected body is more than just a group of policymakers, as they are also individuals that stand up for the causes that are important to them. She noted respectful discussions about the difficult issues is how we will move forward.

Mayor Gaer requested an update on the hiring of a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director.

City Manager Tom Hadden responded the applicants have been narrowed down to a group of finalists, and staff anticipates having someone hired in time to start in August.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan T. Jacobson, CMC City Clerk

J	une	21.	2021

ATTEST:	
Steven K. Gaer. Mayo	