The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on December 19th at 500 N. 20th Street. Mayor Thomas L. Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. There were six council members present, three absent. Mike O’Connor, John Helenthal, Larry Mortimer, Michael Greenwald, Roger Bryant and Susan Dunek were present. Mike Moore, Ron Payne and Devon Dade were absent. Staff in attendance: City Administrator Cole O’Donnell, City Clerk Jean Ludwig and Community Development Director Pam Broomhall.

MAYOR’S CORRESPONDENCE: Presented outgoing 4th Ward Councilman Larry Mortimer with a plaque recognizing his service to the city. Encouraged everyone to drive through the City of Christmas.

Motion made by Helenthal, second by Mortimer to approve the agenda, including the consent agenda. (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

- Minutes of the Council Workshop & regular City Council meeting of December 5, 2019;
- Cash Receipts & Treasurer’s Report for November 2019;
- RESOLUTION NO. 364-19: Approving a Liquor License for V’s Restaurant, 3461 Main Street, effective January 1, 2020 – Class C Liquor License with Brew Pub, Catering Privilege, Outdoor Service and Sunday Sales;
- RESOLUTION NO. 365-19: Approving a Liquor License for Rascal’s Pub & Grub, Inc., 820 Main Street, 820 Main Street, effective January 2, 2020 – Class C Liquor License with Outdoor Service;
- RESOLUTION NO. 366-19: Approving a Liquor License for Hy-Vee Food Store, 3111 Main Street, effective January 2, 2020 – Class E Liquor License with Class B Wine Permit, Class C Beer Permit (Carryout Beer) with Sunday Sales;
- Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.’s 5112-5114;

Mayor Richardson opened the public hearing at 6:33 p.m. on the Fiscal Years 2021 through 2025 Capital Improvement Plan. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on December 6, 2019.

COMMENTS: O’Donnell asked the Council to review the CIP and give input. It will come up for approval on January 2, 2020.
No further comments were received, Mayor Richardson closed the public hearing at 6:35 p.m.

Motion made by O’Connor, second by Bryant to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 367-19: “A RESOLUTION APPROVING INCREASING SALARY FOR THE CODE ENFORCEMENT/HOUSING OFFICIAL POSITION.” (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by O’Connor, second by Helenthal to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 368-19: “A RESOLUTION APPOINTING COLE O’DONNELL TO THE SOUTHEAST IOWA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SEIRPC) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.” (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Dunek, second by Mortimer to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 369-19: “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION’S TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A TRAIL ALONG THE RIVERFRONT CONNECTING VICTORY PARK TO HUBINGER LANDING.” (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Bryant, second by Mortimer to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 370-19: “A RESOLUTION APPROVING A STREETLIGHT ON MIDDLE ROAD AND MAHASKA DRIVE.” (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by O’Connor, second by Dunek to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 371-19: “A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE KEOKUK MUNICIPAL 5-YEAR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (AIP).” (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Helenthal, second by Bryant to approve the resignation of Phil Caropreso from the Library Board of Trustees. (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Final report on nominations: Dianne Stanley – Human Rights Commission (3-year term). Jay Kruse – Keokuk Housing Authority (2-year term). Motion to approve the nominations by Helenthal, second by Mortimer. (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

O’Donnell said the Airport Commission is subject to gender balance and needs a female. The current nominee is male, and we must give due diligence to finding a female. If no one is found before the next meeting he will nominate the current male candidate.

STAFF REPORTS: Broomhall said she notified the council of a possible development opportunity for 629 Main Street. She will prepare a resolution setting a public hearing for the property.
O’Donnell reported on the following: Progress on new City Hall, reminder on Goal Setting session, SID Center progress, Barge demolition and vacation.

City Clerk Ludwig swore in Mayor Richardson. Richardson then swore in Councilman At Large (2) Helenthal, 2nd Ward Councilwoman Linda Altheide, 4th Ward Councilman Steve Andrews, and 6th Ward Councilman Roger Bryant.

Motion by Helenthal, second by Mortimer to enter closed session Pursuant to the Iowa Open Meetings Law (Iowa Code Section 21.5.1(i), a governmental body may hold a closed session to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual’s reputation and that individual requests a closed session.

ROLL CALL VOTE: (6) AYES – O’Connor, Helenthal, Mortimer, Greenwald, Bryant and Dunek. (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Entered closed session at 6:57 p.m.

Re-entered open session at 7:15 p.m.

There being no further business, Mayor Richardson adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m.