

The following is a synopsis of the minutes of the West Branch City Council meeting. The full text of the minutes is available for inspection at the City Clerk's office. The minutes are not approved until the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.)

**West Branch, Iowa
Council Chambers**

City Council Meeting

**July 20, 2015
7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Pro Tem Miller opened the West Branch City Council meeting at 7:08 p.m. by welcoming the audience and the following City staff: City Administrator Matt Muckler, Police Chief Mike Horihan, Park & Recreation Director Melissa Russell, Public Works Director Matt Goodale and City Attorney Kevin Olson. Council members: Jordan Ellyson, Colton Miller, Brian Pierce, Tim Shields and Mary Beth Stevenson.

Mayor Pro Tem Colton Miller asked the Council, staff and members of the audience to stand and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE AGENDA/CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve minutes from the June 29, 2015 City Council Meeting.
- b. Approve claims.
- c. Resolution 1333, approving print advertising up to \$2,200.00 in the West Branch Times and other regional newspapers in advance of the 2015 Hoover's Hometown Days Celebration.
- d. Resolution 1364, approving the purchase of trash receptacles in the amount of \$540.00 for the Hoover's Hometown Days Celebration on August 8, 2015.
- e. Resolution 1365, approving the purchase of two Big Wheels with Amazon.com in the amount of \$115.98 for the Hoover's Hometown Days Celebration on August 8, 2015.
- f. Resolution 1366, approving the purchase of promotional materials up to \$913.55 for the Hoover's Hometown Days Celebration on August 8, 2015.
- g. Resolution 1367, approving the rental of a sound system in the amount of \$350.00 for the Hoover's Hometown Days Celebration on August 8, 2015.
- h. Resolution 1368, approving an agreement for additional radio advertising with KKRQ-FM in the amount of \$391.00 for the 2015 Hoover's Hometown Days Celebration.
- i. Resolution 1369, approving the rental of an additional tent with Big Ten Rental in the amount of \$679.90 for the Hoover's Hometown Days Celebration on August 8, 2015.
- j. Approve Class B Beer Permit (includes wine coolers) with Outdoor Service for West Branch Firefighters Inc. on August 7, 2015 and August 8, 2015.
- k. Approve street closures for the 2015 Hoovers Hometown Days Celebration.
 - i. 2nd Street from Main Street to the Water Street Parking Lot from 5:00 p.m. on Friday August 7, 2015 to 1:00 a.m. on Sunday August 9, 2015.
 - ii. Main Street from Parkside Drive to 2nd Street from 12:00 a.m. on Saturday August 8, 2015 to 12:00 a.m. on Sunday August 9, 2015.
 - iii. Main Street from Parkside Drive to Poplar Street and N. Downey Street from Main Street to Green Street from 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday August 8, 2015.

Motion by Pierce to approve the agenda/consent agenda, second by Shields. AYES: Pierce, Shields, Stevenson, Ellyson, Miller. Motion carried.

Date 7-20-15	City of West Branch Claims Report	
Alison Jeffries	Park & Rec	75.00
Alliant Energy	Various Depts - Utilities	8,127.41
Amazon	Library - Supplies	741.22
Amber Corso	Park & Rec – Umpire	25.00
Baker & Taylor Inc.	Library - Books	916.10
Barron Motor Supply	Fire/Water/Sewer - Supplies	741.85
Best Buy	Police – Computer Supplies	72.98
Big Ten Rentals	HHTD Tent	1,142.42
Bluetarp Financial Inc.	Cemetery - Supplies	243.11

BP Amoco	Fire/Streets - Fuel	313.32
Brick, Leslie	Admin - Reimb For Mileage	8.90
Brush and Barrel	Park & Rec – Summer Camp	390.00
CCEDCO	Eco Devo – FY16 Dues	6,223.00
Cedar Co. Sheriff's Office	Police – Service Fees	169.49
Cedar County Auditor	Solid Waste – FY16 Assessment	14,331.78
Cedar County Cooperative	Fire – Diesel Fuel	391.44
Cedar County Engineer	Streets - Rock	1,845.87
Cedar County Recorder	Legal – Recorded Documents	116.00
Cedar Rapids Photo Copy, Inc.	Library - Copies	76.12
Centurion Technologies, Inc.	Library - Smartshield	92.00
City of Tipton Rec Department	Park & Rec - Daycamp	136.00
Coleman Fenner	Park & Rec – Umpire	25.00
Coralville Park & Rec Dept	Comm & Cult – HHTD Stage	475.00
Costco Wholesale	Library/P&R - Supplies	799.09
Croell Redi-Mix	Water - Concrete Main	7,212.81
Culligan Water	Fire - Water Cond Rental	37.90
Danika Holmes	Comm & Cult – HHTD Entertainment	1,000.00
Demco	Library - Supplies	38.00
Deweys Jack & Jill	Park & Rec/Lib/Water - Supplies	164.31
Dorsey & Whitney	Legal Services Thru 6-30-15	29,096.89
East Central Intergov. Assn.	Admin – FY16 Dues	1,393.20
Eastern IA Brass Band	Comm & Cult – HHTD Entertainment	3,000.00
EBSCO Industries	Library - Supplies	13.50
ECIVIS, Inc.	Park & Rec – Grant Service	3,500.00
ED. M. Feld Equipment	Fire – Boots and Helmets	771.00
EFTPS	GF/Lib/Trust/Water/Sewer- Withhold.	14,961.95
Emily Dunham	Water - Utility Deposit Refund	70.34
ETS Corporation	GF/Water/Sewer – Credit Card Fees	570.16
F&B Communications	Admin –Email & Web Hosting	29.95
Financial Adjustment Bureau	Library - Service	9.09
Funny Face Designs by Lori	Comm & Cult – HHTD Entertainment	600.00
Gierke-Robinson Company	Streets - Supplies	80.70
Goodale, Matthew	Streets – Reim for Barrels	540.00
Grout Museum District	Park&Rec – Summer Camp	440.00
Hawkeye Photo Booths	Comm & Cult – HHTD Entertainment	400.00
Hawkins, Inc.	Water – Azone 15	1,364.27
HD Cline Co	Cemetery – Fuel Cap	96.42
Iheartmedia	Admin - Advertising	334.00
IMWCA	Streets – Work Comp Deposit/Payment	15,557.00
Iowa City Press Citizen	Library - Subscription	215.94
ICAP	Various Depts. – FY16 Liability Ins	38,166.64
Iowa DNR	Water – FY16 Water Supply	271.03
Iowa League Of Cities	Admin – FY16 Member Dues	1,288.00
Iowa Library Services	Library – FY16 Bridges EBooks	65.00
Iowa Military Veterans Band	Comm & Cult – HHTD Entertainment	1,000.00
IMFOA	Admin – Finance Officer Certification	75.00
Iowa One Call	Water/Sewer	58.50
ISWEP	Stormwater - Dues	520.00
J&M Displays	Comm & Cult – HHTD Fireworks	20,000.00
Jab Ink Graphics & Designs	Fire – New Truck Lettering	1,213.22
Joey Dean Wenndt	Fire – July Fire Training	150.00
Johnson Co. Refuse	Recycling – June 2015	3,762.00
Kevin Olson	Legal Services June 2015	1,500.00
Kevin Stoolman	Fire – Mileage Reimbursement	214.94
Kid Again	Comm & Cult – HHTD Entertainment	5,500.00
Kingdom Graphics	Park & Rec – Summer Camp	1,162.00
Koch Brothers, Inc	Admin - Copies	158.27
L.L. Pelling Co.	Streets – Cold Patch Mix	11,187.00
Legacy Girls	Comm & Cult – HHTD Entertainment	1,200.00
Lenoch & Cilek	Park & Rec - Supplies	140.40
Liberty Communications	Various Depts - Phone Service	1,187.04
Librarica LLC	Library – Support Renewal	156.67
Lin Rhines	Water - Utility Deposit Refund	38.64

Linn County R.E.C.	Streets - Utilities	138.00
Lynch's Excavating	Streets/stormwater – Service projects	7,719.40
Lynch's Plumbing	Sewer - Service	145.00
M&M Golf Cars LLC	Comm & Cult – HHTD	470.00
MacBride Raptor Project	Library – Summer Program	150.00
Matt Hudson	Park & Rec – Refund	35.00
Menards	Streets - Supplies	116.39
Midwest Janitorial Service	Lib/TH/Adm/Police - Cleaning	646.56
Mike & the Ike Turners	Comm & Cult – HHTD Entertainment	350.00
Niabi Zoo	Comm & Cult – HHTD Entertainment	550.00
Nick Tate	Water - Utility Deposit Refund	26.16
Overdrive	Library – Audiobooks & EBooks	552.94
Parkside Tire & Wrecker	Streets – Tires for Skidloader	1,067.07
Payroll Expense	Payroll Expense - 7/1 - 7/17/15	62,442.58
Paul Stagg	Water – Mileage Reimbursement	385.82
Physio-Control Inc.	Fire – Power Supply	269.40
Pitney Bowes Global	Library – Postage Machine	120.00
Pitney Bowes Inc	Admin – Postage Machine	208.50
Pitney Bowes Purchase	Adm/Water/Sewer – Postage	500.00
Plunkett's Pest Control	Admin/TH - Pest Control	95.18
Port 'O' Jonny	Cemetery/Park & Rec/Comm - Service	1,042.00
Pyramid Services	Fire/cemetery - Supplies	1,863.44
Qc Analytical Services	Sewer – Testing	647.00
Quill Corp	Police/Library/Admin/Water - Supplies	337.40
Rick E Brammer	Comm & Cult – HHTD Entertainment	175.00
River Products	Streets – Roadstone	865.44
Richard Giese	Water - Utility Deposit Refund	71.34
S & G Materials	Streets – Gravel	364.80
Shanelle M Peden	Cable - Video meetings	75.00
Supplyworks	Town Hall/Lib/Adm/Police - Supplies	410.46
Susan Soper	Water - Utility Deposit Refund	70.34
Terence J Goerdt	Admin - Building Inspections	350.00
The Gazette	Library – Subscription	16.33
Thomas Litterer	Water - Utility Deposit Refund	58.50
The Shedd Aquarium Society	Park & Rec – Summer Camp	1,179.00
Trans-Iowa Equipment	RUT – Street Supplies	768.87
Treasurer State Of Iowa	Iowa Sales Tax & state W/H	2,803.00
Trugreen Processing Center	Park&Rec - Service Lions Field	370.00
Tyler Technologies	Adm./Water/Sewer/Cemetery - Software	8,378.00
University Of Iowa: State	Water - Testing	125.00
UPS	Library/Sewer - Shipping	93.78
Upstart	Library - Supplies	10.00
US Bank Corporate Card	Water – Lodging & Meals	729.58
US Bank Equipment Finance	Library - Copier Contract	300.80
Veenstra & Kimm	GR/Water – various eng.	2,150.78
Verizon Wireless	Various Depts - Phone Service	781.28
Wageworks	Flex - Hcfsa2014	20.00
Walmart	Library - Supplies	308.84
West Branch Animal Clinic	GF – Animal Contract	125.00
West Branch Ford	Police - Service	42.14
West Branch Repairs	Fire - Batteries	164.95
West Branch Times	GF/Water -Publications	1,778.76
Westech Engineering	Water – Fan Blade	448.45
WEX Bank	Police/Cem/Streets - Fuel	1,655.83
Wildwood Smokehouse	Comm & Cultural – HHTD Entertainment	800.00
Windstar Lines	P&R - Bus Trip Balance	1,078.20
Zephyr Copies & Design	Admin/Comm & Cult - Banner	1,025.00
	Grand Total	315,462.19

Fund Totals		
001 General Fund		169,620.34
022 Civic Center		662.40
031 Library		15,809.55
036 Tort Liability		44,280.67

110 Road Use Tax	17,683.00
112 Trust and Agency	3,407.97
600 Water Fund	30,770.98
610 Sewer Fund	32,161.88
740 Storm Water Utility	1,045.40
950 BC/BS Flexible Benefit	20.00
Grand Total	315,462.19

COMMUNICATIONS/OPEN FORUM

Sally Peck, 223 N. Downey, asked the City Council to impose a moratorium on tree trimming in West Branch by Alliant Energy. Ms. Peck suggested that a committee be formed to investigate the issue. She asked how many more trees were going to be trimmed and whether or not homeowners were notified.

PUBLIC HEARING/NON-CONSENT AGENDA

Second Reading of Ordinance 731, amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Branch by transferring the responsibilities of the Zoning Board of Adjustment into a New Chapter of Said Code of Ordinances./Move to action.

Motion by Stevenson, second by Pierce to approve Ordinance 731. AYES: Stevenson, Pierce, Miller, Ellyson, Shields. Motion carried.

Third Reading of Ordinance 732, amending the Standards for Signage Design and Display found in the Appendix to the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Branch, Iowa./Move to action.

Shields requested that the city staff look into the enforcement of sign maintenance. Motion by Shields, second by Pierce to approve Ordinance 732. AYES: Shields, Pierce, Ellyson, Stevenson, Miller. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 732

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE STANDARDS FOR SIGNAGE DESIGN AND DISPLAY FOUND IN THE APPENDIX TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WEST BRANCH, IOWA.

1. BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of West Branch, Iowa, that the Appendix of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Branch, Iowa is hereby amended by deleting the last sentence in Section II of the *Standards for Signage Design and Display* in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof: **Only the following signs shall be permitted in the Heritage Square area, including South Downey Street and the intersections of South Downey with Wetherell Street and Main Street:**
 - a. Applied signs.
 - b. Projecting signs on the east side of the Heritage Square area.
2. This amendment to the ordinance shall be in full effect from and after its publication as by law provided.
3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.
4. If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole or any part, section, or provision thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

Passed and approved this 20th day of July, 2015.

First Reading: June 1, 2015
 Second Reading: June 29, 2015
 Third Reading: July 20, 2015

 Colton Miller, Mayor Pro Tem

Attest: _____
 Matt Muckler, City Administrator/Clerk

Second Reading of Ordinance 733, adopting the existing City Code of the City of West Branch, Iowa as the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Branch, Iowa, 2015./Move to action.

Motion by Pierce, second by Ellyson to approve Ordinance 733. AYES: Pierce, Ellyson, Miller, Stevenson, Shields. Motion carried.

Resolution 1356, suspending the Class C Liquor License with Living Quarters, Outdoor Service and Sundays Sales in the name of Pamela Miller, D/B/A Greenview Cocktail Club./Move to action.

Pamella Miller, 3064 Wintergreen Drive, Iowa City, IA, apologized for not being in attendance for the June 29, 2015 City Council Meeting. Ms. Miller reported that there were trespassers recently at night at Fox Run Golf & Country Club. She stated that several items were damaged by students of Regina and West Branch High School, including golf carts. The ownership of the golf course is seeking restitution from the people that they feel are responsible for the damage. Ms. Miller reported that her son and granddaughter were both present for a bonfire that was held on a night when noise complaints were made. Councilperson Stevenson stated that City Council Members had expressed concern when the liquor license was issued at the June 29, 2015. Ms. Miller claimed no knowledge of this concern. Councilperson Pierce stated that the concern from the Council was a pattern of alcohol-related incidents over the last two years, which has required a considerable amount of staff time from West Branch Police Department. This has led to questions about whether or not the business was responsible enough to handle a liquor license. Stevenson asked how directly Ms. Miller was involved in the day-to-day operations of the business. Ms. Miller responded that her son, Derrick Miller, is currently in charge of the day-to-day operations of the business, but that she planned to take a more pronounced role in the management of the facility in the future. Pierce stated that he had visited the facility several times during normal operating hours over the last few weeks and was concerned that the clubhouse was not staffed and locked up, citing a lack of on-site management of the facility. Mayor Pro Tem Miller stated that he was concerned that the license holder was not present at June 29th Council Meeting and was unaware of the City's concerns with this license. Councilperson Ellyson asked for the dates of the noise complaints. Ms. Miller stated that the first complaint took place on July 1st and that the ownership allowed her granddaughter and friends to be present on the golf course that evening. At least one other complaint took place the following week. City Attorney Olson reviewed the administrative code with the council and discussed the following issues: 1) cleanliness of the premises, 2) working toilet facilities, 3) water facilities, 4) financial standing and reputation, and 5) problems that have required the attention of the West Branch Police Department. Olson stated that the Greenview Cocktail Club has had deficiencies in all of these areas. The Cedar County Environmental Health and Zoning Office, West Branch Public Works Department, West Branch Police Department, and West Branch Administrative Office were all involved in a recent inspection of the building. An illegal water connection from a well was made to the clubhouse earlier in 2015. That resulted in the water being turned off in the building and a lack of restroom availability to patrons. Utility bills have routinely gone unpaid over the last several years and the West Branch Police Department has been called to the scene for noise complaints and parties that involved underage drinking. Olson expressed concern with the two recent noise complaints and the numerous complaints in various aspects of the business. Ellyson stated that the day-to-day manager of the facility has failed to manage the facility properly and that situation has an adverse effect on the entire community. Pierce expressed concern that the day-to-day manager was present the night of July 1, 2015 when complaints were made about noise recently. Peirce also stated that he has no confidence that the recent complaints were out of character, rather he was more concerned about the pattern of multiple problems over a period of several years.

Motion by Stevenson, second by Ellyson to approve Resolution 1356. AYES: Stevenson, Ellyson, Miller, Shields, Pierce. Motion carried.

Resolution 1357, approving Change Order Number Two, increasing the contract amount by \$500.00 to L.L. Pelling Company, Inc. for the Parkside Drive Road Improvements Project./Move to action.

Eric Gould, Veenstra & Kimm stated that the change order was necessary to raise a sanitary sewer manhole about six inches that was in the travelled portion of the driveway.

Motion by Ellyson, second by Stevenson to approve Resolution 1357. AYES: Ellyson, Stevenson, Shields, Miller, Pierce. Motion carried.

Resolution 1358, approving a Federal-aid Agreement for a City Highway Bridge Program Project with the Iowa Department of Transportation./Move to action.

Larry Spellerberg, with the West Des Moines, IA Veenstra & Kimm Office stated that his firm has reviewed the agreement and stated that the agreement is a standard federal aid agreement provided by the Iowa Department of Transportation. The City has been awarded \$1 million, which can be used for engineering, right-of-way acquisition (if needed) and construction. The City is required to match 20% of the total project cost up to \$1 million. Muckler stated that the City's match is planned for year three of the City's Capital Improvement Plan. Spellerberg stated that the City has three years to complete the letting of the project and that construction could take place after that.

Motion by Pierce, second by Ellyson to approve Resolution 1358. AYES: Pierce, Ellyson, Stevenson, Shields, Miller. Motion carried.

Resolution 1359, approving a user agreement with the Iowa Department of Public Safety./Move to action.

Chief Horihan stated that the agreement is for the system that allows officers to view driver's licenses, criminal histories and vehicle registration information.

Motion by Pierce, second by Shields to approve Resolution 1359. AYES: Pierce, Shields, Miller, Ellyson, Stevenson. Motion carried

Resolution 1360, approving the purchase of radio equipment by the West Branch Fire Department in the amount of \$145,753.69./Move to action.

Chief Stoolman stated that this would replace the Fire Department's portable radios. Currently, each firefighter carries two radios, one for Cedar County and one for Johnson County. The new radios will communicate with both counties and are P-25 compatible. Muckler stated that this would spend out the remainder of the local option sales tax funds that were approved by the voters for the West Branch Fire Department in 2010.

Motion by Ellyson, second by Shields to approve Resolution 1360. AYES: Ellyson, Shields, Stevenson, Miller, Pierce. Motion carried.

Resolution 1361, hiring three youth counselors as temporary Parks and Recreation employees for the City of West Branch, Iowa and setting the salary for the positions for fiscal year 2015-2016./Move to action.

Parks & Rec Director Russell stated that all three candidates have experience working as staff to summer camps and/or athletic camps.

Motion by Pierce, second by Ellyson to approve Resolution 1361. AYES: Pierce, Ellyson, Miller, Stevenson, Shields. Motion carried.

Resolution 1363, approving Beranek Park volleyball court upgrades./Move to action.

Rob Decker, HBK Engineering, stated that he would work with Volunteer Roger Laughlin to lay out the corners of volleyball courts so that the volunteers and city staff can complete the project. Lights will come later.

Stevenson asked about the cost. Muckler stated that local option sales tax would pay for the project, which was estimated at \$22,000, but that the project would cost less due to the fact that volunteer would be involved in the construction of the project. The Parks and Recreation Commission voted on July 16, 2015 to move forward with the project. Shields asked if Alliant poles could be used on the project. Pierce spoke in favor of providing temporary lighting for this year's end of the season volleyball tournament. Roger Laughlin spoke about how he would go about completing the project. Russell stated that poles and netting system would cost \$3,700. HBK will provide funding options for lighting.

Motion by Shields, second by Pierce to approve Resolution 1363 in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 on the construction costs of the project, excluding the cost for lights, without further approval from the Council. AYES: Shields, Pierce, Stevenson, Miller, Ellyson. Motion carried.

Resolution 1370, awarding \$855,000 General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, Series 2015./Move to action.

Olson stated that the ten-year bond issue is callable in June of 2021 and the low bidder was Bankers' Bank, Madison, WI in association with Community State Bank, West Branch, IA. Miller spoke about the options that the call feature provides the Council in terms of future financing decisions.

Motion by Stevenson, second by Shields to approve Resolution 1370. AYES: Stevenson, Shields, Miller, Ellyson, Pierce. Motion carried

CITY STAFF REPORTS

Park & Recreation Director Melissa Russell – Hoover’s Hometown Days

Russell and Muckler spoke about the schedule of events and provided vendor information. Friday evening activities will start at 4:45 p.m. on August 7th with a full slate of events. KCRG will be broadcasting their “Our Town” series from West Branch that evening. Muckler complemented the job that has been done by Library Director Nick Shimmin in the development of the Hooverdays.org website. Pierce asked about parade entries and Russell responded that we have only received fifteen parade thus far. Registrations are available on the Hooverdays.org website.

Parks & Recreation Director Melissa Russell – August 3, 2015 City Council Work Session at Heritage Square, 6:00 p.m. on Monday August 3, 2015.

Muckler stated that this work session will discuss various design options for the Heritage Square area. Preservation Commission members Lou Picek and Peggy Jeffries will make presentations to the Council. The Work Session will take place at Heritage Square.

Public Works Director Matt Goodale – Paul Stagg’s Certification from the Association of State Floodplain Managers, Inc. (ASFPM) as an ASFPM Certified Floodplain Manager.

Goodale stated that Stagg traveled to Kansas City, MO and spent a week training and testing. He congratulated Stagg for his certification. Olson stated that this certification is important to have on staff. Stevenson stated that she felt this certification will be important for future development projects in West Branch.

Public Works Director Matt Goodale – Utility Truck/Snow Plow Purchase

Goodale stated that this truck would replace a gas engine snow plow that is less efficient. The truck can also be used for leaf pick-up and other projects.

Public Works Director Matt Goodale – College Street Bridge Repair Update

Goodale stated that Iowa Bridge & Culvert provided an estimate of approximately \$15,000 to repair the void located under the east side of the bridge. Spellenberg stated that a large void is located underneath the approach pavement on the east side of the bridge. He stated that a heavy wheeled load could cause the bridge to collapse, drop down into the creek, pushing forward on the abutment and possibly shear off the pile. A temporary repair that is being proposed by Iowa Bridge & Culvert is to drive steel pile on the sides of the bridge, run a steel beam sideways between those pile, shim between the beam and the existing timber pile on the bridge, which has a considerable amount of decay. That will allow Iowa Bridge & Culvert to backfill the void with lean-mix concrete. When the concrete is poured, it will push against the abutment, trying to shear off those decayed pile. The steel beam will reduce the risk of those piles shearing off, but Spellenberg emphasized that there was no guarantee that the pile will not shear. If the pile were to shear off during this process, one side of the bridge would likely drop into the creek. While this repair is relatively inexpensive compared to other options, there is some risk. Shields asked about the maximum load rating on the bridge after the repair. Spellenberg stated that current load rating is 15,000 pounds and the bridge should be monitored for movement after the repair is made. If there is some movement of the bridge, the load rating may need to be reduced even further. A school bus is an example of a vehicle that would be allowed on the bridge. Not many vehicles that weigh more than a school bus would weigh less than 15,000 pounds. Spellenberg stated that this repair will hopefully allow the City to re-open the bridge until the new bridge is constructed. Construction of the new bridge is expected to take place in approximately two years.

Public Works Director Matt Goodale – Letter from Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources regarding a complaint concerning dead grass on the east side of Baker Avenue, south of Tidewater Drive.

Goodale stated that an Iowa DOT truck was stuck in this area during the past winter and dumped a load of salt in this ditch. The salt killed a large grassy area in front of the Day’s Inn. The contamination has also affected a nearby farm field. Iowa DNR is asking the City to remediate this contamination. Muckler stated that the purpose of this staff report was to inform the Council of the situation and that city staff will follow-up on the IDOT, DNR and the city engineer concerning the spill. The contaminated area is in the project area for proposed road improvements on S. Downey Street.

Police Chief Mike Horihan – Cedar County E-911 Service Board

Horihan stated that the E-911 Service Board elected to postpone the implementation of P-25 digital until August of 2016. This will allow the police department to research other potential options that could reduce the expected service level reduction that is expected to coincide with the implementation of the incomplete P-25 digital system. Chief Horihan will continue to research potential options and will report back to the Council when more information is available.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilmember Tim Shields – Summer League MOU

Shields met with Russell and Superintendent Kevin Hatfield and came to some agreement on the extension of the Memorandum of Understanding between the West Branch Community School District and the City of West Branch, Iowa regarding the Summer League Ball Program.

Councilmember Tim Shields – Mayoral Appointment

Shields recommended that Roger Laughlin be considered for the vacant mayoral position. Shields stated that Laughlin is well-versed in current city projects, as he currently serves as Chair of the West Branch Planning & Zoning Commission. Shields also stated that Laughlin is a regular at city council meetings. Laughlin stated that if appointed, he would campaign to be elected as Mayor at the November 3, 2015 election. Pierce stated that he felt Laughlin had the best interest of the City in mind and would be a good choice for this position. Stevenson felt that the Council should appoint from a City board or commission. She served with Laughlin on the Planning & Zoning Commission and thought highly of his efforts in his role as Chair of that Commission. Laughlin stated that he would accept the duties of the Mayor if appointed. Olson explained the appointment process and stated that the appointment would only run up until the November 3, 2015 election. After that, the voters will select a candidate to fill the unexpired term of Mayor Mark Worrell. Miller asked that Laughlin's appointment be placed on the August 3, 2015 Council Agenda.

Councilmember Brian Pierce – Floodplain Manager Certification

Pierce congratulated Paul Stagg on his ASFPM Floodplain Manager Certification.

Mayor Pro Tem Colton Miller – West Branch Village Trail Project

Miller provided the Council with news on an updated design for the West Branch Village Trail Project. Miller thought that the new design would make the bridge easier to maintain.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting by Ellyson, second by Stevenson. Motion carried on a voice vote. City Council meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Colton Miller, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST: _____
Matt Muckler, City Administrator/Clerk