



CITY OF INDIANOLA COUNCIL MEETING

June 16, 2025

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

110 N 1st Street, Indianola, IA

Minutes

Call to Order

The Indianola City Council met in regular session at 6:00 PM on June 16, 2025, in the City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Steve Richardson called the meeting to order and on roll call the following members were present: Josh Rabe, Steve Armstrong, Christina Beach, Mellisa Sones, Bob Lane. Absent: Ron Dalby.

Public Comment

There were no public comments offered.

Consent Agenda

Council Member Beach moved to approve the Consent Agenda, with the CIRTPA policy resolution adding Mellisa Sones as primary policy representative, and Lane seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously. The consent agenda was as follows:

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Claims
- Approval of Minutes of the prior meetings
- Resolution 2025-101 setting a public hearing and bid letting for the Indianola Downtown Facade Revitalization Program.
- Approval of tobacco permits for Fiscal Year 26.
- Consideration of the issuance of a special event permit for the Indianola Elks Lodge #2814 for a classic and custom car show to be held on July 27, 2025.
- Approval of Payment Application Number 1 to Sternquist Construction for the West Clinton Avenue Reconstruction Project.
- Resolution 2025-102 setting the Fiscal Year 26 meeting schedule for the Indianola City Council.
- Resolution 2025-103 approving salaries for Fiscal Year 26.
- Resolution 2025-104 appointing representatives to the Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance for Community Development (MIPA).
- Resolution 2025-105 appointing the City of Indianola representation to the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Central Iowa Regional Transportation Planning Alliance.
- Notice of upcoming Change Order for Indianola Industrial Park Public Improvements Project.
- Receive and file the 2024 Indianola Police Department Annual Report.
- Resolution 2025-106 determining property at 704 North 6th Street to be surplus and authorizing sale of said property.
- Resolution 2025-107 suspending enforcement of Indianola Code 47.01(11) regarding the sale and consumption of alcohol in city parks for the Indianola Summer Arts Festival in Buxton Park.

- Resolution 2025-108 authorizing the submission of a FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grant for a fire safety house trailer.
- Resolution 2025-109 authorizing emergency repairs to the Indianola Public Library.
- Approval of Urban Revitalization Designations.
- Resolution 2025-110 approving salaries.

Council Reports

Council Member Sones and Lane reported on recent IMU Board meetings.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Richardson reported on recent events. He then proclaimed June as Small Cities Month in Indianola.

Council Member Armstrong moved to approve the reappointment of Clint Hagedorn to the Veteran's Memorial Building Commission for a term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending July 1, 2028. Beach seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Sones moved to approve the reappointment of Jess Tom to the Veteran's Memorial Building Commission for a term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending July 1, 2028. Lane seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Council Member Lane moved to approve the second consideration of an ordinance amending Chapter 41.14, Fireworks, of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Indianola and Armstrong seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Lane moved to waive the third reading and adopt Ordinance 1781, amending Chapter 41.14, Fireworks, of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Indianola and Sones seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Armstrong moved to open the public hearing for Jay Ambika (ABC Smoke) regarding the mandatory \$300.00 civil penalty prescribed by 453A.22.(2)(a) for the violation of Iowa Code Section 453A.2(1), selling, giving or otherwise supplying any tobacco, tobacco products, or cigarettes to any person under twenty-one years of age. Beach seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

There were no public comments offered.

Sones moved and Lane seconded to close the public hearing. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Beach moved to approve the consideration of the violation of Iowa Code Section 453A.2(1), selling, giving or otherwise supplying any tobacco products, or cigarettes to any person under twenty-one years of age and assessing a civil penalty in the amount of \$300.00 against Jay Ambika (ABC Smoke), the retail permit holder. Sones seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Beach moved to strike the public hearing for complaints filed on tobacco sales permit violations for Hy-Vee Fast & Fresh from the agenda and accept acknowledgment/settlement agreement for cigarette civil penalty and Sones seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Sones moved to strike public hearing for complaints filed on tobacco sales permit violations for the Indianola Country Club from the agenda and accept acknowledgment/settlement agreement for cigarette civil penalty. Lane seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

City Manager Jacob Meshke reported on recent meetings and provided departmental updates.

Council Member Rabe discussed updates to the former bank building in order for the administration to use the space. The Council directed staff to review the CMAR contract for this project.

City Manager Jacob Meshke requested authorization to fill the Community and Economic Development Director position. The Council directed staff to proceed with the recruitment process.

Council directed staff to cancel the contract with Service Line Warranties of America and to request no letters be sent. They also directed staff to add information on sewer line responsibility to the website.

City Manager Meshke proposed a policy statement to establish an official position of the City of Indianola. The Council directed staff to clarify the language in the policy and return it to the council for approval. Council Member Armstrong moved to table a resolution approving policy statements to establish an official position of the City of Indianola until an indefinite time. Sones seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

The Council discussed topics for upcoming agendas and study sessions. They requested presentations on annual reports; an update to development agreements; project updates; discussion on 12-month city manager goals; an updated vicious animals ordinance; truck routes and speeding issues; street types/uses; strategic planning session; joint meetings with school board; township EMS payments; pro bono grant writing; sidewalk installation policy; paving of gravel roads; and recreational vehicle parking on private property.

Council Member Sones moved to enter into closed session at 7:36 PM in accordance with Iowa Code Section 21.5 (1)(c) to discuss strategy with legal counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent and where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the government. Beach seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Beach moved to exit the closed session at 8:22 PM and Sones seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

There was no action taken on items discussed in closed session.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM on a motion by Armstrong and seconded by Lane. Question was called for and on voice vote the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Steve Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jackie Raffety, City Clerk