

MINUTES OF THE OKOBOJI CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON JUNE 25, 2024

Mayor VanderWoude called the meeting to order at 8:30AM on June 25, 2024. Councilmembers Mendenhall, Sanders, Delperdang, and Andres were presented. Councilmember Hentges was present via telephone. Other attendees were City Administrator Michael Meyers, Kelly Norland, Denise Norland, Daniel G'Sell, Brigid Wilkening, Steve Schwaller, Aaron Jones, Nancy Everist, and Sarah Shomshor

NEW BUSINESS

City Administrator Meyers provided updates on the flood events that occurred during the evening of June 21 and the morning of June 22. He discussed specific areas of concern and presented the Council with photos and videos of various locations. Key areas included Chalstrom Circle, Summer Circle, various locations on Lake Shore Drive, and multiple lakeshore bank collapses within the City of Okoboji.

Kelly and Denise Norland discussed specific damages to their property due to sediment runoff and stormwater runoff from an adjacent park construction project.

Meyers updated the Council on actions taken by the City during and after the flood events and outlined plans for the coming week. He expressed gratitude to City Staff members Tim Jensen, Thad Thomas, Neal Houge, and Okoboji Police Officers Zigrang, Clayton, and Sexton for their active response, as well as John Hight from Beck Engineering.

The Council discussed the City's lakeshore landscaping ordinance. Meyers suggested that, given the current emergent situation, the City should consider waiving certain aspects of the ordinance to streamline the process. Aaron Jones mentioned his intent to form a community group for those affected.

Meyers discussed cleanup efforts and informed the Council that City Staff would pick up limited items from the curb. Additionally, the City secured two 30-yard dumpsters available to residents for debris removal.

Meyers stated he was in close contact with Dickinson County Emergency Management.

He informed the Council about the Iowa Great Lakes Sanitary District's online reporting form for sewage backups and the Iowa DNR's online reporting form for bank collapses.

The City Council directed City Staff to review the lakeshore landscaping ordinance and present recommendations for potential waivers.

A follow-up meeting was scheduled for 8:30 AM on Friday, June 28 to continue the discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 AM.

Mary VanderWoude, Mayor

Michael Meyers, City Administrator