

Coralville City Council

Work Session

April 13, 2021

Via Electronic Meeting because a meeting in person is impossible or impractical due to concerns for the health and safety of Council members, staff, and the public presented by COVID-19

Present: Mayor John Lundell; Council Members Laurie Goodrich, Meghann Foster, Jill Dodds, Hai Huynh, Mitch Gross

Staff Present: City Administrator Kelly Hayworth, Assistant City Administrator Ellen Habel, City Attorney Kevin Olson, Police Chief Shane Kron, and Director of Finance Tony Roetlin

Others Present: Megan Johnson-Gott

Mayor Lundell opened the meeting at 9:10 pm.

1. Discussion of TNR Ordinance: City Attorney Kevin Olson said he included in the council packet a draft ordinance for a TNR program that would be very similar to Iowa City's and North Liberty's. Olson explained that currently dogs and cats cannot be at large and the proposed ordinance would allow feral cats without owners to become community cats after they were neutered and vaccinated for rabies. Olson said the cats' ears are clipped so they can be returned to the community. He said the cat colonies would be managed by volunteers and the animal control office would not be involved. Olson said the city would not pay for expenses and the cats would otherwise go to the animal shelter. Hayworth noted the animal control staff is opposed to any colonies or any feeding stations on or near city property because a rabies vaccination is only effective for one year and they will be unable to capture an animal for testing after a bite.

At this time Johnson-Gott left the meeting.

2. City Administrator's Time: Hayworth reported on the following:
- Assistant City Administrator Ellen Habel provided updates on the City's exterior housing rehabilitation and down payment assistance programs, which are funded by the state and administered by ECICOG. Habel said the six homes to be rehabilitated have been inspected and work specifications written, and environmental review is pending for four of them. She said 20 applications have been received for the five available down payment assistance opportunities, with income qualification ongoing.
 - Habel also said the City is exploring a partnership with Habitat for Humanity for a property on 9th Avenue.
 - Hayworth said City Engineer Scott Larson is working on the storm sewer project for 5th Avenue.
 - Hayworth said he, Habel, Larson, and others are working on a proposal for earmarking by members of the House of Representatives at the federal level. He said each

Congressional district can advance up to 10 projects at \$15 to \$20 million total, and the deadline for proposals is Friday. Hayworth said the best project appears to be infrastructure in the Southeast Commercial District. He said staff is also looking at other projects that could be ready for potential infrastructure programs.

- Hayworth said the City's application for the Shuttered Venue Program is ready and will request about \$200,000, but the site was overwhelmed and is not working yet.
- Habel said she is working with United Way on the utility assistance donation program.

Adjourned at 9:55 pm.

Notes taken by Ellen Habel, Assistant City Administrator