

Minutes of the Special Council meeting held February 28, 2023 at 5:00pm. Present council members Joe Buffington, Brandon Berg, Austin Miller, Ted Teel, and Mary Moore. Mayor Sally Rodriguez, Public Works Director Josh Ferkel, Bill McCullough, Josh Bujalski, Jesse Cole (Union Rep), Zach Carson, and Judy Blessings.

Meeting called to order at 5:02p.m. by Mayor Rodriguez.

CDL Requirements

Per Iowa Code Section 21.5(1), Zach Carson was given the opportunity to have a closed session and he chose not to have it as a closed session.

Mayor Rodriguez explained that we were in session to discuss the CDL license for Zach Carson.

Ferkel stated that Zach did not have a CDL and it was a requirement of the job. He was not given a timeframe to obtain the CDL. The CDL requirements have now changed that you now have to go to a 8-week, 5 days a week, class at a cost of \$4,800. Mayor Rodriguez stated that the Iowa DOT had an online course, but she did not know how much it cost or the time it took to take the courses.

The Personnel Committee had already meet and they suggested that the city pay him to go to class but that he pay for the class. Also, they stated that a contract would be required to state that he would stay with the city for 3 years and he would have until July 19th, 2023 to obtain the CDL.

McCullough reminded the council that the police sign for 5 years and the city pays for it all, thereby precedent had already been set by the city. McCullough let the council know that if he leaves, not get fired, but just leaves for another job, he would have to pay back what it cost for the class.

Carson replied that he got his permit but didn't get any drive time to learn. He also said he didn't think he should have to pay for anything. He was given 1 time in a truck to practice.

McCullough said it sounds like bad communication between Ferkel and Carson. We cannot completely blame Carson for no training.

Teel asked Carson what he wanted from the city and he replied that he just wanted to be trained at work.

Teel said it was obvious that Carson thought he would get all his training at work. He stated that he would be willing to give him until January 1, 2024 to get his CDL with the city paying for the class, paying for him to go to class and asking for a commitment of 3 years, to sign a contract stating that.

Carson, Cole and Bujalski left the room to discuss his options.

When they returned, Carson said he was putting in his 2 weeks notice.

Teel reminded him what was going to be offered to him and he just wanted to make sure he understood.

Carson said he understood and it was more than the CDL.

McCullough asked Carson if he would have his resignation to the council prior to the next council meeting, which Carson stated he would.

Teel motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:46 pm. Seconded by Moore. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor, Sally Rodriguez

Deputy City Clerk, Judy Blessing