CITY OF INDIANOLA COUNCIL STUDY MEETING
October 12, 2026
6:00 PM
City Council Chambers
110 N 1st St., Indianola, IA
Minutes

The Indianola City Council met in study session at 6:00 PM on October 12, 2026 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 (via Teams), Ron Dalby, Steve Armstrong, Tiffany Davis, Mellisa Sones. Absent: Bob Lane.

Hotel/motel funding applicants presented their requests to the Council. Those applicants were Des Moines Metro Opera Director Scott Arens; Indianola Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Kristy Brouillet; Indianola Concert Association Treasurer Joe Weinman; Rusti Wood, Maximillion's Muddy Puddles Foundation; The National Balloon Classic Director and CEO Staci Scheurenbrand; Warren County Agricultural Association (Warren County Fair) General Manager Jo Reynolds; Warren County and Economic Development Executive Director Rachel Gocken; Cathy Ayers, Warren County Fair Association; Jerry Beatty, Warren County Historical Society. Council Member Lane joined the meeting at 6:17 PM.

Council directed staff to provide a three-year history of hotel/motel tax revenue and expenses detail, history of allocation process and a calculator tool to help determine funding ahead of the October 19, 2026 Council meeting.

City Manager Jacob Meshke presented options for facility and infrastructure planning and financing.

Council unanimously supported investing in renovated or new facilities; agreed to separate City Hall from Public Safety, unless there is an opportunity to keep City Hall with the Fire Department at the current Indianola Municipal Building site; unanimously supported merging the Activity Center with the IWC at the IWC facility and conducting a needs assessment/feasibility, and concept design study on a potential addition, agreed to use the current City properties and not explore the purchase of other properties.

The Council also supported the issuance of an RFP for an Owner’s Rep and moving forward with a condition assessment of the library property. Funding sources include local option sales tax, reserves and proceeds of the sale of 110 N Howard.

Clerk/Finance Director Jackie Raffety presented information regarding the internal loan from the Stormwater Utility Fund used to finance the acquisition of 110 N Howard property in 2023. Council directed staff to bring forward a resolution at a future meeting to forgive the outstanding internal loan payable to the Stormwater Utility fund.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM on a motion by Lane and seconded by Sones. Question was called for and on voice vote the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

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Steve Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jackie Raffety, City Clerk