MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL WORK SESSION

March 10, 2026

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL: Mayor Cavanaugh called the meeting to order at 1:00p.m. in the Clarion Room of the Security Bank Building, 1102 Willis Avenue, Perry Iowa. This meeting was also held electronically via a Zoom virtual meeting, meeting ID 894 1502 4787. This meeting was recorded and public access to the virtual meeting was obtainable, through request to City Hall.

Council members present were: Shelly, Mahler, Wolling, Klein, Andorf
Absent: None
A quorum was present to conduct business.

Staff members present:
City Clerk, Elizabeth Hix
Finance Officer, Susie Moorhead
City Administrator, Sven Peterson
Public Works Director, Josh Wuebker
Marketing and Engagement Coordinator, Chris Cohea
Bolton & Menk Engineers, Matt Ferrier and Jacob Ahrens.
Bolton & Menk Traffic Senior Project Engineer, Jennifer McCoy

Motion Andorf Second Mahler to approve the meeting agenda. MCU

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion with the Iowa Department of Transportation on the Topic of Highway 141 and Willis/Soumas Ave Intersection: Motion Shelly Second Wolling to open the discussion. Bolton & Menk Engineer, Jacob Ahrens, and City Administrator, Sven Peterson, provided background on the intersection area, its inclusion in the RISE Grant Application, and the involvement with the Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) as having the jurisdiction over the area. Bolton & Menk had prepared a presentation on intersection concepts for the Council that was detailed and led by their Traffic Senior Project Engineer, Jennifer McCoy. Various concepts with statics were broken down with involvement from Iowa DOT staff members Austin Yates, Traffic Operations Engineer, District 4 and Scott Schram, P.E., PhD, District 4 Engineer. The discussion rested heavily on the concept of a roundabout at the intersection as it provided the best option for reduction in accidents as well as Level of Service ratings (LOS). Austin and Scott both provided details and explanations on why this type of intersection was supported and how it would be implemented in the future for the area if not included during the RISE Application. Councilmember Mahler asked several questions on why an overpass, or grade change as referred to by the Iowa DOT, wasn't looked at. DOT staff stated it was dismissed early on and provided reasoning that included relevance to projected growth, the land impact, and costs not just for construction but future maintenance. There was discussion on pedestrian crossings as well and the possible use, along with the RISE Application being a great opportunity for the State and Local levels to work together for improvements. A lot of discussion was held liberally on the studies and safety improvements that come with roundabouts, along with the Iowa DOT's plans to install them in nearby communities and across the State. The Iowa DOT also spoke briefly on their planning and programming process for various projects to help illustrate their discussion making for programmed projects. Discussion was held on the conceptional design of the roundabout and the addition for the "slip lane", and when said option would be implemented,

or if it could be built with it from the start. Maintenance costs were also discussed and comparisons to the other options were made, with the roundabout being the most cost effective. Details of the design, signage, and completion were also discussed, however it was again stated what was being shared was a conceptional design, as the actual design had not been completed. Iowa DOT staff had brought an interactive diagram that had been used for the Boone roundabout project meetings with scaled vehicles which was setup for review by Council. Open conversation was held on traffic flows with additional questions on pavement markings and signage. The Mayor asked what could possibly be placed in the middle of the roundabout with the Iowa DOT stating they weren't opposed to art, or objects, however it couldn't be large and wouldn't be allowed to have any type of logo or writing, due to it being a distraction. After the conclusion of the discussion the next steps for the Council were discussed, which included the need for an amendment to the resolution approving the RISE Application to include costs estimates for a roundabout, which would need Iowa DOT Commission approval.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to conduct Mayor Cavanaugh adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m.

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Dirk Cavanaugh, Mayor

Attest:

_____
Elizabeth Hix, City Clerk

Clerk's Certification

Date Published: March 19, 2026

Certified By: _____
Elizabeth Hix, City Clerk