

New Providence City Council Meeting, June 8th, 2026 6:00 pm

Attendees: Scott Gleason, Lynn Cave, Melissa Berends, Dan Whitehead, Darin Tool, Denise Lange, Citizens: Steve Teske, John Gray, Kathie Hammond, Sandie Creech

Mayor Gleason called meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Cave made a motion to approve the agenda, Berends 2nded, MC. Berends made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 11th, Whitehead 2nded, MC.

Citizens' Concerns:

206 Orange St. presented a plan to grade the house on the north, west, and south sides; work involved will require bringing dirt in, hydroseeding and will be going into the easement. Cave made a motion to accept the proposal, Berends 2nded, MC. 205 Orange shared a sketch of their plan to extend the panels they have and the layout of the yard. Since the panels aren't considered permanent, approval isn't needed. A drawing was shared for plans at 119 Walnut St. They want to add on to existing garage toward their extra lot and add dormers to 2nd floor. Offsets appear fine. Tool made a motion to accept their plan, Cave 2nded, MC. 404 Pear St. asked about the easement on the side of their property and that they continue to keep access across it, wouldn't be a problem. It was mentioned another pond is being dug at 405 Grape St. Concerns still about the fox near town. Mayor asked DNR if they would relocate, and they don't do this. There's junk in the alley way by 405 Pear and the corner garage. Junk belongs to homeowner and the owner of the garage, mayor will talk to owners and see if it can be addressed.

Old Business -

Addition of 3.07 to Ordinance Chapter 3 Municipal Infraction: The 3rd reading of the proposed addition to this ordinance was read. The new ordinance #1-2026 will be posted and published.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tool	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Berends	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Cave	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Schafer	___	___	<u> x </u>	___
Whitehead	<u> x </u>	___	___	___

Discussion about the fence at 305 Apple St. The city got a quote to resurvey the street, but regardless of the current surveyed street, it is a right of way and would stand. The water meter reading device will need to be relocated. Alliant said they could work around it. The concern remains that the fence is too close to the street and damage could occur due to farm equipment or plowing, etc. The mayor will consult with legal counsel on a document to the homeowner.

City Zoning Map – Berends color coded and marked up the current large map with the residential, industrial, and agricultural zoning. The completed map will go back to the county, we'll get a final copy back that will be filed as official.

Cement Blocks by City Shed – Estimate of \$1,500 was received from Dave's Crane to move cement blocks and position by the city shed. Whitehead made a motion to go forward with the bid, Cave 2nded, MC.

Drainage -The county has a work order for this to be taken care of. John will clean out for now to prevent more flooding.

Trees – The tree at 112 Walnut was taken care of. Mayor is talking to the owner on corner of Pear and W. Main before a notice goes out. A nuisance abatement letter will go out for 201 E. Main. The tree service has quoted \$3,000 for the several city trees in the alleyways. Cave motioned the city accept the bid to remove the trees in the alley, Berends 2nded, MC. An updated COI was forwarded. Providential Homes helped with the two dead trees at 406 Quince St.

Fence and Building Permit Forms - The city will start mandating use of the forms as noted in Ordinance 155. The forms will be revised with the comments made by the council that include not allowing front yard fences. Requests for changes to this can be appealed to the council. Pdf copies will be available on the website, and physical copies will be made available in the post office and possibly the hardware store. The code sections need to be looked up. Another draft will be presented at the July meeting.

New Business –Heritage Days, Porta Potties, Advertising? The city typically rents the porta potty for the weekend, a wash station was requested too. Porta potty and wash station are approved, due to guidance from the League of Cities, the advertising expense is not.

SEC Holdings Letter for 405 Pear St. - Received by the city, so any nuisance abatements issues would need to go to owners on record.

Request to Add VBS Note on Water Bill - Not approved by the council, they can advertise other ways.

Nuisance Abatements – it was noted that the vehicles and junk were removed at 407 Pear St. The mayor will talk to the owner of the garage on the corner and the junk around 405 Pear St. The structure at 408 Pear St. appears to becoming dangerous. Mayor will talk to others in town to see what can be done. Work earlier in the year did help.

Financials – For 11 months of the current fiscal year. General government remains over budget due to insurance bill, but revenue overages make up for it. No time for a budget amendment before new fiscal year. Water should continue to be watched. Lowest water expense per bill is \$14.43. Berends made a motion to pay the bills, Cave 2nded, MC. Berends made a motion to approve the financial statements, Whitehead 2nded, MC.

Utility Report – Rhonda’s monthly report was reviewed. There is concern over the comment that residents with lead service lines will need to be contacted. Maintenance says the city has any left, and it isn’t believed any residence in New Providence has lead pipes either. One account was turned off due to nonpayment; it’s been turned back on.

Committee Reports –

Vet’s Memorial – Whitehead replaced a clip for a flag flapping around.

Solid Waste – The city hadn’t gotten bill for the last two quarters and they will be advised. No comments back on reducing recycle bin frequency. They are still working on plans.

City Improvements, Streets – When Apple St. is done, they will be milling the asphalt, mayor will offer the material to those in the city to save the hauling fees. Flags hung for Memorial Day looked nice.

Park & Rec – There is a spare spring to help repair the broken frog in the park. Teske was looking for cranks for the nets. 911 – Cave reported no meeting in May due to school activities. The county’s emergency plan was updated. For New Providence it is the responsibility of the fire chief. Not getting responses to questions, but meeting is scheduled 6/16. Tornado warnings are issued by sheriff’s office and sounded from the water tower.

Website – Nothing to report.

Tool made a motion to adjourn, Berends 2nded, MC at 7:45 pm.

Financials thru 5/31/26 and Bills paid: Alliant Energy-\$764.76, Heart of IA - \$104.81, IRS-\$763.82, IPERS – \$579.67, Times Citizen-\$353.44, POM-\$468.00, Sheriff Hardin Co.-\$449.27, Microbac Labs-\$39, Knight’s Sanitation - \$1.175, Hardin Cty Solid Waste - \$3,953, AAA Septic Service - \$90, Eldora Library - \$855, Nationwide Ins. - \$175, USPS - \$505, Scott Gleason (Wages & Website Expense Reimbursement) - \$1,111.16, Melissa Berends - \$258.58, Lynn Cave - \$295.52, Lou Schafer - \$184.70, Darin Tool - \$258.58, Dan Whitehead - \$184.52, John Gray - \$341.57, Steve Teske - \$1,702.96, Denise Lange - \$1,557.98, Rustic Rose - \$207.88, Total Bills: \$16,379.22. May Receipts General - \$1,040.02, Employer Tax Levy - \$38.67, Capital Improvement - \$1,494.76, Community Service - \$1,494.76, Garbage - \$2,635.75, Roads - \$1,520.85, Sewer - \$1,624.73, Water - \$2,354.79, Total Receipts: \$13,831.31, Expenses: General - \$2,544.26, Employer Tax Levy-\$147.91, Comm. Svc. - \$449.27, Garbage - \$1,966.13, Roads - \$749.99, Sewer - \$726.72, Water - \$2,194.87, Total Expenses: \$9,053.80.

Approved by Scott Gleason, Mayor

Attested by Denise Lange, City Clerk