

City Administrators Report

March 6-20, 2025

Keystone

Keystone has started excavating for the three houses scheduled to be built at 11th and D Avenue, they are projected to come in at or below 300k. They do plan on building more but NEDC will need to work with Burke to figure out the next moves with the building and parking lot.

RR Tracks

Joe and I met with Frank last week and went over every RR track to discuss what was needed. We will need to get traffic counts on all the tracks so we can calculate what the risks will be. This tells the RR what we need to do to keep the quiet zones compliant. Joe or I will reach out to surrounding communities to see if we can borrow their traffic strips to get counts. Some small requirements will be easy to accomplish such as barricades or curbing required on a few areas and some channelization devices but the main thing we will need to do is eliminate the credit we take for 11th and South 8th Street as they do not qualify for credit because of the roadways being too close to the tracks. They will still be part of the quiet zone but just won't be part of the future reports.

Sponsored Project

Seem to be getting good traction on this project and companies have been reaching out to HRGreen with questions. I am hoping this means we will have several companies to choose from. We are still on track for the timeline below. You will see the resolution for the public hearing on Monday's agenda. Excited to see the outcome of this project as it is overdue and we need to alleviate some of the long-term issues we are seeing, including the erosion and sediment issues. Here is the current schedule.

1. 3/31 – Project A bid opening
2. 4/3 – Project B bid opening
3. 4/8 – Recommendation to award Projects A&B
4. 4/14 - Council approval to award Projects A&B

Accessibility

There is a new federal law in place requiring communities to make sure their websites are more accessible which will require us to add improvements to our website. Marlys has been researching this and talking with several companies to help provide this service. We will be meeting within the next couple of weeks with these companies to decide the route we want to take. Visibility and speech are the two main things required to improve so she has been talking with companies that can recite text on websites.

8th Street Bridge

Met with Gene from JEO to discuss the 8th Street bridge project. We will most likely request funding again for it but only if we are able to repave and get new support beams underneath. The sides of the bridge are still in great shape and we do not want to change the look of it since it is the oldest bridge in town and has a lot of character to it. They are looking into what the DOT requires for construction. We will be closing that area off so only vehicles and pedestrians will be able to access the cul-de-sac since there is a trailhead there. The main concern the DOT had was the weight limit and the fact larger trucks were using it but once the new WWTF opens, there will not be any reason to keep that road open behind.

Field house Tour

Part of the Ames City Council, City Admin and Asst. City Admin came over to tour the field house. They seemed impressed. It has been nice to showcase our community assets off and we have received a lot of feedback as well as many visitors from other communities.

Splashpad

Sewerage Testing

Harold, Devin and Ed have tested one business in town and will test another next week. The results will tell us who will be required by the DNR to be on a Treatment agreement.

Embark

The staff has installed the TV mount and will put up the TV when Embark gets here to run all the wires. The amount has changed and this is the last part of the council chambers renovation. We hopefully will not need to make any more improvements for some time now.

Saltech

They are finishing up the software on the voting for the council members, we will run through how to do this once all is said and done.

Development Agreement

The water review came back positive for us, the DA has been sent off and the plans have been reviewed.

DOT

Still waiting on the agreement from the DOT.

Windmill

The removal should be coming down the pipeline soon, I will provide an update once I hear back from Joe.

Monthly Meetings

WW Progress Meeting

NEDC Exec

LHD



STAFF MEETING AGENDA

March 17th, 2025

A. Old Business

a. City Administrator

- i. Update and status of all projects happening in the city and area.**

City Council:

Continuing to process permits.

We will be going live with the new permitting software in the middle of March.

Continuing to finalize the rental inspection start. That will take place at the same time as the new permitting software.

Getting ready for a busy spring and summer for new homes and projects people will be starting.

I have added a Tax Abatement to the agenda.

Respectfully,

Ryan Hutton
Building and Zoning Official