

The first meeting of January for the Denver City Council, Bremer County, Iowa was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at the Denver City Hall Council Chambers. Council Members present were Sean Hartman, Josh Larson, Mark Richmann, Joel Wikner, Matt Wittenburg. No one from the public was in attendance.

Mayor Diercks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Motion Wittenburg, second Richmann to Approve the Agenda. AYES: Hartman, Larson, Richmann, Wikner, Wittenburg. NAYS: None.

Motion Hartman, second Larson to approve the Minutes of the Special City Council Meeting on December 19, 2022. AYES: Hartman, Larson, Richmann, Wikner, Wittenburg. NAYS: None.

Motion Wikner, second Richmann to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting on December 19, 2022. AYES: Hartman, Larson, Richmann, Wikner, Wittenburg. NAYS: None.

There was no Public Forum.

Motion Richmann, second Larson to approve Resolution No. 1-2023 Mayor and City Council Appointments for 2023. ROLL CALL VOTE AYES: Hartman, Larson, Richmann, Wikner, Wittenburg. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1-2023**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS FOR 2023.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of Denver, Iowa.

The following persons are appointed to the following positions for 2023. These appointments are made in conformance with the Denver City Code that prescribes who the appointing authority is either the Mayor or City Council.

**2023 City of Denver Elected Officials**

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Mayor                | Rod Diercks   |
| Mayor Pro-Tem        | Joel Wikner   |
| City Council Members | Sean Hartman, Josh Larson, Mark Richmann,<br>Joel Wikner, Matt Wittenburg |

**Council Committee Members**  
**Chairperson\***

|                                       |                  |                 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Public Safety:                        | Sean Hartman*    | Joel Wikner     |
| Public Works, Health, Social Service: | Joel Wikner*     | Matt Wittenburg |
| Culture & Recreation:                 | Matt Wittenburg* | Josh Larson     |
| Personnel:                            | Mark Richmann*   | Sean Hartman    |

Finance / General Government: Josh Larson\* Mark Richmann

**2023 City of Denver Appointments**

|                              |                        |                               |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Mayor Pro-Tem                | Joel Wikner            |                               |
| City Clerk / Administrator   | Larry Farley           |                               |
| Chief of Police              | Gary Everding Jr.      |                               |
| Electric Superintendent      | Ryan Petersburg        |                               |
| Streets/Parks Superintendent | Brent Platte           |                               |
| Water/Sewer Superintendent   | Larry Farley           |                               |
| Librarian                    | Kelly Platte           |                               |
| Public Health Officer        | Amy Gehrke             |                               |
| Fire Chief                   | Todd Seelhammer        |                               |
| Ambulance Chief              | Amber Heller           |                               |
| City Attorney                | Pat Dillon             |                               |
| City Engineer                | Firm: AECOM            | Engineer: Mark Durbahn        |
| Arborist                     | Gene Leonhart          |                               |
| Official City Newspaper      | Denver Forum           |                               |
| City Electrician             | Firm: New Age Electric | Electrician: Jeremy McPherson |

**Mayor Appointed Boards with City Council Approval**

**Planning & Zoning**

5 yr. Vacant  
 4 yr. Randy Thurm\*Vice Chair  
 3 yr. John Bartling  
 2 yr. Gene Leonhart\*Chairman  
 1 yr. Dave Haugen

**Board of Adjustments Park & Recreation**

|                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 5 yr. Matt McCallum         | Darcy Wittenburg-Chairwoman |
| 4 yr. Mary Scharnhorst      | Sarah Bartling              |
| 3 yr. Corey Arians*Chairman | Candi Hild                  |
| 2 yr. Kyle Durant           | Natalie Gomez               |
| 1 yr. Beth Hartman          | Vacant                      |

**Department Appointments**

**Library Trustees**

Barb Joblinske  
 Kelly Kirchoff \*Chairwoman  
 Becky Miller  
 Cheryl Moeller  
 Mary Neuendorf  
 Craig Rash  
 Sandy Sabelka  
 Kerri Thies

**Denver Ambulance**

Crew Chief – Amber Heller  
 Maintenance – Josh Heller

**Denver Fire**

Chief- Todd Seelhammer  
 Asst Chief-Mike Buss  
 Captain-Chris Klinghammer  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant-Dave Leonhart  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant-Bill Westendorf

**Tree Board**

Jim Franzen  
 Mandy Gesme  
 Josh Jensen  
 Gene Leonhart  
 Brian Mahoney

Treasurer-Keith Oltrogge  
Secretary-James Knoll

Dan McCreary  
Jim Moeller  
Alton Midthus  
Jeremie Peterson  
Scott Stout  
Tommy Stout  
Dennis Thurm

**Electric Apprenticeship Committee**

Rod Diercks  
Larry Farley  
Joel Wikner  
Matt Wittenburg

**Bremer County E911 Board**  
**Black Hawk County E911 Board**

Rod Diercks     Alt. Gary Everding  
Rod Diercks     Alt. Gary Everding

\*Denotes Chairperson

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Denver City Council hereby approves these appointments for 2023.

Motion Richmann, second Wittenburg to approve the Bills Presented for Payment for January 3, 2023.  
AYES: Hartman, Larson, Richmann, Wikner, Wittenburg. NAYS: None.

**Bills Presented for Payment for January 3, 2023**

|                                 |                                      |    |          |                  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----|----------|------------------|
| 3E                              | 50W LED Bulbs-City Hall Foyer        | \$ | 288.25   | General          |
| AECOM                           | Iowa St Reconstruction               | \$ | 7,527.35 | Capital Projects |
| AeroMod                         | Freight                              | \$ | 18.00    | Sewer            |
| AFLAC                           | Employee Paid Insurance              | \$ | 788.94   | All Funds        |
| American Express                | Decoration Lights, P&R-Sports Engine | \$ | 1,156.21 | General/Electric |
| B & G Sales                     | Trash Cans                           | \$ | 6,622.00 | General          |
| Baker & Taylor                  | Books                                | \$ | 230.37   | Library          |
| Barnes & Noble                  | Books                                | \$ | 152.86   | Library          |
| Black Hawk Waste Disposal       | December Solid Waste & Recycling     | \$ | 9,137.75 | General          |
| BMC                             | Roadstone & Sand                     | \$ | 770.11   | RUT              |
| Bound Tree                      | Ambulance-Patient Care Supplies      | \$ | 683.45   | General          |
| Bremer County Building & Zoning | Quarterly Fees, P&Z & BOA Meetings   | \$ | 390.00   | General          |
| Brothers Market                 | Misc. Supplies & Utility Refund      | \$ | 2,949.24 | All Funds        |
| Campbell Supply                 | Fire-M18 Battery                     | \$ | 279.00   | General          |
| Capital Sanitary                | Windex & Vacuum Bags                 | \$ | 26.57    | General          |
| Cedar Bend Humane Society       | Surrendered Stray Cat                | \$ | 54.00    | General          |
| Cenage Learning                 | Books                                | \$ | 167.18   | Library          |
| Center Point Large Print        | Books                                | \$ | 46.74    | Library          |
| City Laundering                 | Mats & Hand Soap                     | \$ | 299.96   | All Funds        |
| Crescent Electric               | LED Bulbs for Shop                   | \$ | 587.41   | RUT              |
| Crexendo                        | January Telephone                    | \$ | 340.08   | All Funds        |
| Davis Farm & Auto               | Vehicle Maintenance                  | \$ | 828.34   | All Funds        |
| Demco                           | Misc. Supplies                       | \$ | 151.63   | Library          |

|                                   |                                       |              |               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Denver Ambulance                  | Crew Fund Reimbursement-Lodging       | \$ 345.64    | General       |
| Denver Forum                      | November Publications                 | \$ 831.53    | General       |
| Denver Postmaster                 | December Billing & Stamps, Box Rent   | \$ 534.74    | Electric      |
| Denver Savings Bank               | G.O. Bond Interest                    | \$ 143.00    | Debt Service  |
| Denver Underground & Grading      | Sewer Site Maintenance                | \$ 2,280.00  | Sewer         |
| DGR                               | Electric UG Distribution Conversion   | \$ 47.00     | Electric      |
| Diamond Lake Book Co              | Books                                 | \$ 93.75     | Library       |
| Digital Ally                      | Police Body Camera Repair             | \$ 290.00    | General       |
| Dillon Law                        | Attorney Fees                         | \$ 30.91     | General       |
| William Ederly                    | Shipped Rubber Goods for Testing      | \$ 62.84     | Electric      |
| EFTPS                             | FICA Withholding                      | \$ 21,541.15 | All Funds     |
| ESRI                              | ArcGIS Renewal                        | \$ 500.00    | Sew/Wat/Elec  |
| Larry Farley                      | Mileage Reimbursement                 | \$ 120.00    | General/Water |
| Farmers Win                       | Diesel & Gasohol                      | \$ 5,010.46  | General/RUT   |
| Forte                             | November ACH Fess                     | \$ 104.00    | Electric      |
| Hawkeye Alarm                     | Ambulance-Door Access Control         | \$ 1,852.00  | General       |
| Health Equity                     | HSA Contributions & Fees              | \$ 1,630.30  | All Funds     |
| ICMA                              | Retirement Contributions              | \$ 500.00    | Sewer/Water   |
| Ingram                            | Books                                 | \$ 164.88    | Library       |
| Iowa Assoc of Municipal Utilities | Superintendent Meeting-Petersburg     | \$ 425.00    | Electric      |
| Iowa Dept of Natural Resources    | Drinking Water Dist. 1 Operator Cert. | \$ 40.00     | Water         |
| Iowa Law Enforce Academy          | Training                              | \$ 55.00     | General       |
| Iowa Medicaid Enterprise          | Jan 23 GEMT MCO Payment               | \$ 323.43    | General       |
| Iowa One Call                     | Locates                               | \$ 24.40     | Electric      |
| Iowa Workforce Development        | Iowa Unemployment Tax                 | \$ 43.01     | General       |
| IPERS                             | Retirement Contributions              | \$ 10,373.31 | All Funds     |
| Kids Reference                    | Books                                 | \$ 260.81    | Library       |
| Keith Kuenstling                  | Utility Deposit Refund                | \$ 150.00    | UDR           |
| Kustom Signals                    | Police-Equipment Repair               | \$ 154.00    | General       |
| Kwik Trip                         | Amb-Gas & Diesel                      | \$ 712.87    | General       |
| Deb Manross                       | Mileage Reimbursement                 | \$ 11.50     | Electric      |
| MEAN                              | Wholesale Electric Power              | \$ 84,657.52 | Electric      |
| Menards - Cedar Falls             | Shelving & Heater for UV Room         | \$ 724.97    | Sewer         |
| MercyOne                          | Ambulance-Patient Care Supplies       | \$ 32.35     | General       |
| Micro Marketing                   | DVD & Audio                           | \$ 228.22    | Library       |
| MidAmerican Energy                | Natural Gas & Electric                | \$ 2,679.63  | All Funds     |
| Jeff & Molly Morrow               | 2022 Solar Net Metering Payout        | \$ 75.55     | Electric      |
| Rosanne Murphy                    | Utility Overpayment                   | \$ 100.08    | Electric      |
| One Solutions                     | Technology                            | \$ 116.25    | Library       |
| Oriental Trading                  | Programming                           | \$ 52.05     | Library       |
| Premier Technology                | Technology                            | \$ 60.00     | Library       |
| Primus, Jon                       | Utility Deposit Refund                | \$ 150.00    | UDR           |
| RSPN                              | January - IT & Backup Services        | \$ 909.00    | General       |

|                         |                                      |              |                  |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Sandry                  | Fire-Air Pack Bottles                | \$ 11,925.50 | General          |
| Brandon Sauerbrei       | Utility Deposit Refund               | \$ 150.00    | UDR              |
| Paige Struck            | Utility Deposit Refund               | \$ 250.00    | UDR              |
| The Hartford            | Employee Life & Disability           | \$ 436.10    | All Funds        |
| Treasurer State of Iowa | Iowa Withholding Tax                 | \$ 2,467.00  | All Funds        |
| US Cellular             | Cell Phones, Pep Links, & Cameras    | \$ 373.41    | All Funds        |
| Verizon                 | Police Car Computers & Utility iPads | \$ 160.04    | Electric/General |
| Vernon                  | Misc. Supplies                       | \$ 121.99    | Library          |
| Visa                    | Lib-Zoom, Programming, Amb-Lodging   | \$ 899.04    | Library/General  |
| Wages-Various Persons   | December Wages                       | \$ 46,253.62 | All Funds        |
| Waverly Tire Co         | Tires for '21 Police Explorer        | \$ 815.20    | General          |
| Wellmark                | December Health Insurance            | \$ 5,612.42  | All Funds        |
| Wertjes Uniforms        | Police Uniforms                      | \$ 1,066.60  | General          |
| Wesco                   | Pole Mount Flag Holder               | \$ 79.08     | Electric         |
| Westrum Leak Detection  | Water Leak Detection-Fayette & Eagle | \$ 795.00    | Water            |
| Mark Widdle             | Community Room Deposit Refund        | \$ 75.00     | CCR              |
| Joel Wikner             | Mileage                              | \$ 82.50     | General          |
|                         |                                      | Total        | \$ 243,499.09    |

**PG.3057**

Motion Larson, second Wittenburg to approve Resolution No. 2-2022 to destroy Utility Billing Information from previously written off bad debt. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Hartman, Larson, Richmann, Wikner, Wittenburg. NAYS: None.

The City Council reviewed property valuations, Taxable Value to Retire TIF Debt and the historical perspective of the City of Denver Tax Rates, General Fund Levy and Road Use Tax Revenues.

**City of Denver Property Valuations/Tax Rate History**

| Fiscal Year | Property Taxable Valuations | Debt Service | 100% Valuations |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| FY2023      | \$78,308,804 3.66%          | \$88,198,895 | \$150,475,918   |
| FY 2022     | \$75,547,538 3.51%          | \$86,649,811 | \$147,448,806   |
| FY 2021     | \$72,986,946 5.85%          | \$84,379,606 | \$138,085,957   |
| FY 2020     | \$68,954,634 2.20%          | \$82,299,322 | \$137,054,618   |
| FY 2019     | \$67,466,113 12.05%         | \$80,477,395 | \$130,663,420   |
| FY 2018     | \$57,533,738 (-11.69)%      | \$76,233,738 | \$126,416,690   |
| FY 2017     | \$65,152,210 0.345%         | \$74,852,210 | \$122,385,535   |
| FY 2016     | \$64,927,627 6.51%          | \$71,047,627 | \$118,799,455   |
| FY 2015     | \$60,957,711 1.58%          | \$63,925,711 | \$106,423,374   |
| FY 2014     | \$60,011,673 5.65%          | \$62,191,673 | \$104,291,381   |
| FY 2013     | \$56,800,319 1.87%          | \$60,310,172 | \$102,175,690   |
| FY 2012     | \$55,756,662                | \$57,556,662 | \$100,864,649   |

**Taxable Valuations Needed to Retire TIF Bond Debt**

|         |              |   |
|---------|--------------|---|
| FY 2023 | \$9,980,091  | This is the amount of Property Value needed to pay TIF Debts in FY 2024 |
| FY 2022 | \$11,109,074 |   |
| FY 2021 | \$11,399,273 |   |
| FY 2020 | \$13,344,688 |   |
| FY 2019 | \$13,011,282 |   |
| FY 2018 | \$18,700,000 |   |
| FY 2017 | \$9,700,000  |   |
| FY 2016 | \$6,120,000  |   |
| FY 2015 | \$2,968,000  |   |
| FY 2014 | \$2,968,000  |   |
| FY 2013 | \$3,509,853  |   |
| FY 2012 | \$1,800,000  |   |

**City of Denver Tax Rates**

|         | <u>General Fund Levy</u> | <u>Ag Land</u> | <u>Library</u> | <u>Debt Serv.</u> | <u>Total Tax Rate</u> |
|---------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| FY 2023 | \$7.14782                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$2.57106         | \$9.98888             |
| FY 2022 | \$5.96615                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$1.72977         | \$7.96592             |
| FY 2021 | \$6.01789                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$1.75013         | \$8.03802             |
| FY 2020 | \$5.58769                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$2.10454         | \$7.96223             |
| FY 2019 | \$6.87529                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$0.81696         | \$7.96225             |
| FY 2018 | \$5.81953                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$0.87272         | \$6.96225             |
| FY 2017 | \$5.63554                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$0.919645        | \$6.82499             |
| FY 2016 | \$5.63555                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$1.05670         | \$6.96225             |
| FY 2015 | \$5.73272                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$0.95953         | \$6.96225             |
| FY 2014 | \$5.87983                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$0.97662         | \$7.12645             |
| FY 2013 | \$6.05685                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$1.30524         | \$7.63209             |
| FY 2012 | \$6.50001                | \$3.00375      | \$0.27000      | \$1.16450         | \$7.93451             |

**Residential Rollback**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| FY2015 General Levy \$5.73272/\$1,000 and that generated \$360,233 in revenues. | 54.4002% |
| FY2016 General Levy \$5.63555/\$1,000 and that generated \$343,530 in revenue.  | 55.7335% |
| FY2017 General Levy \$5.63554/\$1,000 and that generated \$365,902 in revenue.  | 56.6259% |
| FY2018 General Levy \$5.81953/\$1,000 and this generates \$379,155 in revenue.  | 56.9391% |
| FY2019 General Levy \$6.59013/\$1,000 and this generates \$379,155 in revenues  | 55.6209% |
| FY2020 General Levy \$5.58769/\$1,000 and this generates \$376,980 in revenues  | 56.9180% |
| FY2021 General Levy \$6.01789/\$1,000 and this generates \$414,696 in revenues  | 55.0743% |
| FY2022 General Levy \$6.01789/\$1,000 and this generates \$435,451 in revenues  | 56.4094% |
| FY2023 General Levy \$7.14782/\$1,000 and this generates \$540,000 in revenues  | 54.1302% |
| FY 2024 General Levy \$6.89578/\$1,000 and this generates \$540,000 in revenues | 56.4919% |

**Tax Rate/\$1,000 and Revenue Generated for General Fund Levy**

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| \$8.10/\$1,000    | \$634,301 |
| \$7.14782/\$1,000 | \$559,737 |
| \$1.00/\$1,000    | \$78,309  |

FY 2017 RUT Funding \$120/Capita \$213,600  
FY 2018 RUT Funding \$119.50/Capita \$212,710  
FY 2019 RUT Funding \$121.50/Capita \$216,270  
FY 2020 RUT Funding \$121.50/Capita \$216,270 (11-2019) \$126.00/Capita \$224,280  
FY 2021 RUT Funding \$127.00/Capita \$226,060  
FY 2022 RUT Funding \$113.16//Capita (8% Reduction Iowa League of Cities Projection) \$201,425  
FY 2023 RUT Funding \$126.50/Capita \$242,753  
FY 2024 RUT Funding \$128.50/Capita \$246,592

In Other Business Councilman Hartman the positive Public Comments on Facebook regarding snow removal the past few weeks.

Motion Wikner, second Richmann to adjourn. AYES: Hartman, Larson, Richmann, Wikner, Wittenburg.  
NAYS: None. The City Council Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

---

Rod Diercks, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Larry Farley, City Clerk/Admin.