**City Council Meeting**

**Minutes**

**03/02/2021**

Pledge of allegiance was led by Council President Dauner.

Meeting started at 7:10PM in person and on Zoom.

Sheriff Jacobs.

4 officers on staff and 2 in Law Enforcement School.

Health Director Nancy Marihugh.

Health Department issued 520 first round doses of Maderna Vaccine and second doses scheduled. Johnson and Johnson were approved for emergency use. COVID cases are dropping.

Still have a waiting list for more vaccines.

Alex Stephenson from South Central Sealing.

Introduced a five-year plan to the council. The cost was high. Council learned a lot from Alex but will continue to look at alternatives including Alex’s company. Council asked Administrator to continue to look at other options.

Jeff Cheek requested to use the stage to host two bands in May. Council President Dauner asked Jeff to give Attorney Miller a schedule and an application. Wayne Gardner said that he will sponsor Jeff and the VENUE. Attorney Miller said that it will need to be non-profit due to it is on City Property which is tax exempt. Wayne asked how he can apply for non-profit. Attorney Miller said that they will need their own insurance if they hold the venue at the park.

Council President Dauner asked that we take the Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal contract out of the consent agenda for further discussion. Councilman Becker motioned the consent agenda be approved minus the Health Plan. Councilwoman Abel seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Administrator asked that the CDBG Water Improvement Contract 21-PT-024 be approved. Attorney Miller looked at the contract and suggested it be approved. Councilman Becker motioned to approve the contract and Councilwoman Abel seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

City Administrator proposed that Alan Davis be approved for fulltime. Council suggested we evaluate him for another 6 months. Council agreed to increase Alan’s pay from $12/hour to $13/hour. Councilman Becker motioned to approve the dollar per hour increase and Councilman Tyler seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

Council discussed delinquent accounts. Attorney Miller said that he and the Administrator will have a presentation for the April council meeting.

Attorney Miller updated the council on the disposition of the Jewell grocery Store. He said that Kevin Thompson owes $4000 in back taxes. Kevin Thomson will be the seller of the property since he still holds the deed. Council asked Attorney Miller to continue to work on the Jewell Grocery and work on auctioning items that are in the store.

Attorney Miller asked council to approve the Rural Water Contract. Councilman Becker motioned to approve the contract and Councilman Klos seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

City Administrator updated council on RLF contracts. All contracts are up to date accept the Truck Wash. They still owe $2500.

Councilman Klos asked the Council to approve a splash pad at the swimming pool. The splash pad will use funds from fundraisers throughout the year. The pad may be installed next year if enough funds are raised. Councilman Klos motioned to approve the splash pad and Councilman Tyler seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

City Administrator asked council to approve Engineering and Environmental fees of $230,000 for the water contract. These funds will come from water utilities and water utility reserve funds. These funds do count for our local match. Council agreed this is necessary to complete the project. Councilman Klos motioned to approve the funds and Councilman Becker seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney Miller discussed a webinar he had attended earlier in the day regarding the extremely high utility bills received in 14 states. Attorney Miller said the Governor issued a State of Emergency and is investigating why utility bills are so high. FEMA does not cover price spikes. Attorney Miller said the high Utility bill the city received for Fuel Adjustments are the citizens responsibility and not the cities. Council suggested this matter be discussed further in a Special Meeting.

Council also suggested to talk about our Medical Plan in the same Special Meeting.

Councilwoman Abel suggested we look at Inland Marine to insure our new SCADA system.

Councilwoman Abel said there were no February Landbank meeting held and the next Landbank Meeting will be on the 17th of March at 5PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM

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Justin Schoonover Barry K. Parsons

Mayor City Administrator