

COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, July 8, 2021

Present: Mayor Mark Petterson

Council Members: Gary Haehn, Rhonda Taylor, Richard Croll, Jeanne Haas & Jim Weeks

Staff Present: Steven Dwight - Maintenance Operator, Lana Johnson – City Clerk, Philip Wright – City Attorney

Others Present: David Christiansen, Ethan Johnson

Call to Order: Mayor Mark Petterson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Agenda Additions and/or Amendments:

City Clerk Johnson added under Mayor’s Report e. ARPA Authorization

Haehn moved, seconded by Weeks, to approve the agenda with the addition of ARPA Authorization. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- Move to approve meeting minutes of June 10, 2021.
- Move to approve the special meeting minutes of June 24, 2021
- Move to approve the Warrants dated June 8, 2021 through July 6, 2021 in the amount of \$20,895.20
- Move to approve the June, 2021 Payroll in the amount of \$9,241.53.

Haas moved, seconded by Haehn, to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Warrants

Council Member Taylor commented on an additional warrant of \$1,000 paid to EMC Insurance for an insurance deductible. She said it was too bad that even though the City was in the right on a zoning lawsuit brought on by some residents, the City was still punished by having to pay a deductible.

Haas moved, seconded by Haehn to approve additional warrants of \$1,367.40. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Audit Report

Haehn moved, seconded by Haas to approve the 2020 Audit Reports as presented. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Staff Reports:

Zoning Administrator Report

- Building/Zoning Permit revisions
Council Member Taylor questioned if the Zoning Board should be making revisions to the Zoning Permit. Attorney Wright – It should be as a suggestion from the board. Weeks – only suggested items that Zoning should do. Taylor – there are items on the suggested permit that the county can't even ask, it's too invasive. Wright – if it's not a zoning requirement it shouldn't be there. Weeks – it's in the ordinance. Taylor – it's overreach, we are not an HOA town. Haas – we need to have a meeting and revisit the ordinances. Petterson – a work meeting is needed to go over ordinances. Wright – Zoning should be zoning and not building. Have a note at the bottom of the zoning permit that states you must comply with ordinances and provide those ordinances. Croll – anything on the zoning permit should be what would qualify for the zoning permit and nothing extra. Weeks – we need to change ordinances. Haehn – keep the zoning administrator from having to go through the ordinance book each time. Wright – some want to regulate the appearance of buildings and that's not zoning. Wright – also need something set in place for zoning permit and contractors license saying the contractor must be licensed before work is started. Ordinances need to be enforced but no matter the size of the city resources are limited for code enforcement. Haas – would like for the council to take a look at the code book first then invite the Zoning Board.

Haas moved, seconded by Weeks to have a work session on Thursday, August 5th at 6:00 pm to look over building ordinances. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Code Enforcement Officer

Weeks- going forward we should post when we are looking for code enforcement etc.

Maintenance Operator Report

- Keeping up with mowing
- Dug out a couple of water pits
- Fountain at park quit Sunday, July 4

Croll moved, seconded by Taylor to approve a quote from Pentair not to exceed \$1,422 to replace the lake fountain/aerator to be paid out of the Park Fund. **Motion carried 4-1. Haehn opposed.**

City Clerk Report

- Insurance Deductible
- June HWY Funds
- Infrastructure Funds & Park & Rec Funds
- Citywide Garage Sale/Fall Cleanup
- DUNS & Sam.gov registration
- Jane Hartley wanted to thank Steven for having the flags out for July 4th
- Building Calendar – rentals

July - 10th – 15th – Radiant Life VBS, 16th – IEBW, 20th – IBEW, 24th – Private Event, 29, 30 & 31st – Auction on 31st
August - 8th – Private Event, 14th – Private Event, 17th - IEBW

City Attorney Report

- Resolution Number 102

Clerk Johnson confirmed that in this case the City Clerk would simply write, sign and mail letters.

Croll moved, seconded by Haehn to approve Resolution Number 102 authorizing the city clerk to fulfill duties of the public officer. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- Personnel book – Ethan put a lot of work into updating the book. It had been sent to council members earlier in the week and if there are questions or concerns, please send them to Mayor Petterson.

Mayor's Report

- Mayer Specialty Services, LLC

Taylor moved, seconded by Weeks to authorize Mayor Petterson to sign the Mayer Specialty Services, LLC maintenance program proposal/agreement for years 2022 – 2024 funds to be used from the Sewer Fund. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- Utility Service Co., Inc.

Received updated rates for 2022. Steven said the water tower will be inspected and painted in 2022.

- Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips, PA 2023 engagement letter for budget preparation

Haas moved, seconded by Haehn to authorize Mayor Petterson to sign the Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips, PA 2023 engagement letter for budget preparation for \$1,600 plus mileage. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips, PA 2021 auditor scope and objectives

Croll moved, seconded by Haehn to authorize Mayor Petterson to sign the Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips, PA 2021 auditor scope and objectives not to exceed \$5,200 funds to be used from General Fund.

- ARPA Authorization

Haehn moved, seconded by Weeks to move forward with the ARPA Funds. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Finance and Economic Development: Jeanne Haas – No report

Community Building Report: Richard Croll

Council Member Croll provided metal color samples from Precision Metal in Lyndon. Ash grey and rustic red were the general consensus for colors to be used for both the community building and the park restroom.

Utility Report: Jim Weeks

Water Usage & Loss Report

Street Report: Rhonda Taylor

- City Shop, culvert added by Haehn. Council Member Taylor said she was holding off on the culvert replacement due to the current prices. Council Member Haehn said the current one is rusted out. How long will we wait to replace it since we talk about things and nothing gets done? Council Member Taylor responded that it would cost an additional \$580 with current pricing.
- Maintenance Operator Dwight said he hasn't received an update from Complete Pavement on their schedule.

Public Relations : Jeanne Haas

- Strawnfest 2021 Update – Strawnfest went well and bills are being paid. Council Member Taylor complimented Council Member Haas on a job well done.

Parks and Recreation Report: Gary Haehn

- Pickleball – Council Member Haehn said Fred would charge \$1,000 to ramrod the upgrade to pickleball courts. We would need 6 – 12 volunteers to do 2 courts hopefully in late September or early October. \$6,000 should cover most everything. City Attorney asked what the warranty was on the paint. Mayor Petterson asked Haehn to pin down a firm cost and to suggest a time line and list of tasks.
- New Strawn Sports Complex – Council Member Haehn said Scot Jeffers with Burlington USD 244 Recreation Center would like to work together on the sports complex. Would the council be interested? Possibly a committee of 2 council members and 2 Burlington Recreation Center board members to look over things. Council Member Taylor - who would be paying for all of the upgrades. Council Member Haehn said it would be a shared cost. Council Member Taylor – residents in the area do not want lights up out there. Council Member Haehn – day time only, no lights but will need restrooms and concessions. Council Member Haas – would be interested in having Scot talk to the council and will be placed on the August agenda. Council member Croll – what would a base for parking cost? Steven estimated \$50,000.
- City boat – has a leak.
- Lake island
- Park restroom doors, paint – Maintenance Operator Dwight – it's time for new doors. The old ones are beat up and if we are replacing the siding the doors should be replaced. Steven is to get quotes for new doors.

Public Safety Report:

- Law/Code Enforcement – Mayor Petterson said the budget was increased for this line item since we are up in the air on plans for law enforcement.

New Business:

- City Image – Council Member Weeks – it’s time for a letter to be sent for lack of siding and weeding to the owner of the building on Arrowhead Dr. One of the doors have been open and the roof is coming off the lean to. There is a building on 1st Street that needs to clean the clutter from their lawn, a house on 4th Street that needs cleaned up and mowing in several areas including the old golf course. Council Member Haehn asked again about the drop off by Casey’s General Store. City Attorney Wright informed him it was the land owners responsibility.
- Housing – Council Member Weeks – there aren’t many building lots left. Council Member Taylor – if there is a demand for housing we should want to work with developers.

Old Business:

Correspondence: N/A

Mayor Petterson adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.