

Meeting: REGULAR Date: January 3, 2012

THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING IN <u>REGULAR</u> SESSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM BY <u>MIKE ALFERS, MAYOR</u>, WITH THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Council Member: Adam Wright Council Member: Paula Scott

Council Member: John Mitchell Council Member: Don Etchison

Council Member: Don Ford.

Others: Leslie Warden, Allen Blake, Rob Pell, Dennis Pogue, Fred Solis.

No one provided public comment, and no additions to the agenda were made.

Executive Session

Wright moved for the Council to enter into executive session pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception in order to discuss wage reviews / employee performance, with Leslie Warden, Allen Blake, and Rob Pell present, the open meeting to resume at 7:15 PM. Mitchell seconded, and all voted in favor of the same.

Regular session resumed at 7:15 PM with no action taken during executive session. Then Etchison moved that the Council re-enter executive session pursuant to the same exception for the same discussion purposes, with the same individuals present, the open meeting to resume at 7:25 PM

At 7:25 PM, regular session resumed with no action taken during executive session.

Then Ford moved to provide a 3.5% COLA to the salaries of Merritt Wright, Recreation Director, Buck Palmatier, Summer Maintenance Help, Dennis Pogue, Burn Site Attendant, Erin Peterson, Meter Reader, and Sandra Wright, Building Inspector. Councilman Wright seconded, and the motion passed. Wright abstained from voting.

Ford also moved to provide a \$.50 per hour increase to Josh Wright, Electric Superintendent, retroactive to May 1, 2011, and a 3.5% COLA for 2012. Mitchell seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Wright then moved to increase Officer Rush's yearly salary to \$35,000 and to provide him with a 3.5% COLA starting 1/1/2012. Mitchell seconded, and the motion passed four to zero.

Then Ford moved for the Council to enter into executive session pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception to discuss employee performance with Dennis Pogue, Allen Blake, and Rob Pell present, the open meeting to resume at 7:45 PM. Wright seconded, and the motion passed with four "yes" votes.



At 7:45 PM, regular session resumed with no action taken during executive session. (Council member Paula Scott arrived shortly before this.)

Chief of Police Updates

Chief Pell reported little to no activity on New Year's Eve.

City Administrator / Public Works Director Updates

City Administrator, Allen Blake, provided the following updates:

- The electrical upgrade at the Kwik Shop is now entirely complete, and staff is now back working on the ball diamond bathrooms.
- The Deutz Allis tractor has been repaired, and the blade is affixed and ready for snowy weather.
- Due to the efforts of Chris Scott, Refuse Superintendent, Stutzman's has agreed to provide a cardboard only recycle hopper at no charge, which they will empty as needed. This will leave more room in the recycle trailer for other recyclables.
- New employee, Dale Milleson, is working out well.
- *Drainage Project:* Scott moved to accept a bid of \$30,025 for excavation work by Inman Excavating. Ford seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Then Ford moved to accept a \$5,640.00 bid for erosion control work from Seeders, Inc. Wright seconded, and the motion carried.

Approve Planning Commission's Recommended Changes to Zoning Code Tabled.

GAAP Waiver

Though this is something the Council has historically adopted each year, Mitchell requested further clarification as to what the City is waiving. He was unsatisfied with the explanations of the City Clerk and Council President. The Clerk will obtain a detailed explanation from auditor, Jan Nolde.

Review City Participation in Neighborhood Revitalization Program

The governing body reviewed the City's participation in the Neighborhood Revitalization Program and briefly discussed re-approaching the County to encourage their participation.

Appointments

Scott moved to approve the appointments as listed on the agenda. Etchison seconded, and the motion passed five to zero. Those appointments were as follows:

Stephanie Carlson to the Tree Board for a 2-year term
David Chamberlain to the Recreation Board for a 1-year term
Christopher Scott to the Recreation Board for a 2-year term
Doug Murphy to the Ambulance Board for a 2-year term
Roger Meier to the Ambulance Board for a 2-year term
Thomas Blankenship to the Planning Commission for a 2-year term.

Review of Council Action Since Last Election

Wright said he received positive feedback on three newsletters the City distributed. Etchison noted citizens' appreciation of the upgrade work being done to the electrical system. Ford said he



thought the ball diamond bathrooms would be a nice addition to the City ball diamonds. As the water project nears, Scott suggested sending out the same information about it to keep citizens apprised. Mitchell suggested having the City's official minutes available at the Library. Warden advised she would make this happen.

Review BCBS's Bid on Health Insurance

Health insurance rates for 2012 will be less than what the City is paying now. Blake suggested keeping the employee contribution the same and adding dental insurance to the package, which would essentially make the rates equal to what the City is paying now. Scott moved and Etchison seconded to approve the same. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Minutes from the December 19, 2011, meeting were unanimously approved by motion from Scott and a second from Mitchell.

Accounts Payable

Scott moved to approve the accounts payable totaling \$39,335.08. Wright seconded, and the motion carried.

The governing body was provided with a comparison of the JUS receipts to the funds deposited into utility accounts in QuickBooks for the month of December 2011.

Council Concerns

Scott noted no action was taken at the last meeting on obtaining new Christmas decorations. She moved to have the Mayor ask PRIDE to handle this project, noting the Council would have final approval of the decorations and expenditure. Wright seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

At 8:38 PM, Etchison moved and Mitchell seconded for adjournment. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/ Mike H. Alfers, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Leslie Warden, City Clerk