City Council Minutes

Thursday, December 14th, 2023

Call to Order

Mayor Akers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., City Clerk Taryn Wigley called the roll.

Attendees

Council members present were Cedric Leonard, Michael James, Al Peer, Mark Tiner, Craig McRae, Mike Wigley, and Claudia Hartness were present. Clarissa Pace was absent.

Approval of Minutes

Mike Wigley moved to approve the minutes, Mark Tiner seconded. A yay/nay vote was called, and the minutes passed unanimously.

Old Business

New Business

a. Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Scrap Metal

Mark Tiner introduced the resolution and motioned to suspend the rules and read by title only, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Craig McRae motioned to accept the resolution, Mike Wigley seconded. A yay/nay vote was called, the aye's had it and the resolution passed.

b. Sidewalk Project Update with Tim Lemmons

Mayor Akers introduced Tim Lemmons with Lemmons Engineering to give an update on the two pending sidewalk projects that the City has contracted with the company. Mr. Lemmons opened with an apology to the council, mentioning issues with the Highway Dept. and his own staff. He then gave an update on the two sidewalk projects. The Hwy 425 project has received environmental clearance and ArDOT has received and accepted the City right of ways certifications. All that remains on this project is having a meeting with ArDOT's new review engineer concerning planned comments. This meeting is January 4th in Bentonville. Once the comments have been resolved, this project can be put out for bid. Mr. Lemmons will also be having a meeting with the Highway Dept., because they want a 3 foot "green buffer" between the sidewalks and the road. The current sidewalk to do not a green buffer and adding this would accrue and extra cost. Mark Tiner asked how long it would take to complete the project. Mr. Lemmons answered that it would take about 6 months to complete after the project is put out for bid

Mark Tiner asked about the Jordan Park sidewalk project. Mr. Lemmons clarified that there are no design issues, but he has had issues with right of ways. There are 25 driveways in a platted subdivision that need research done by a title company. He has spoken to Drew County Title Company, and he has been told that they would not be able to help him with this project, due to

time restraints. He asked the council to give him ideas about where to look for a title company. Mark Tiner asked Mr. Lemmons if he had reached out to any surrounding areas find a title company. Mr. Lemmons answered that he was trying to shop locally. City Attorney Whit Barton mentioned possibly using the Edge software that the City already in possession of to reduce the time that a title company would have to spend searching for parcel numbers. Mayor Akers stated that the City paid \$51,000.00 for this project and finding a title company is not a problem that the Council should have to solve, they need the sidewalks, or they need the money back. Mr. Lemmons understood Mayor Akers and told the council that moving forward, he will be giving monthly updates on both projects.

Public Comment Section

Meeting Adjourned

Cedric Leonard motioned to adjourn; Mark Tiner seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the meeting was adjourned.

Thep Wighey