City Council Minutes

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

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

Minutes

Mike Wigley moved to accept the minutes, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the October minutes passed.

New Business

a. Resolution Authorizing Bid Advertisement for Lake Trail Phase II

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Cedric Leonard seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mark Tiner asked if it was a 100% grant, Vickie Norris answered that it is an 80/20 grant, the City would owe \$128,500.00. Clarissa Pace moved to accept the resolution, Al Peer accepted. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

b. Resolution Authorizing Overtime Compensation for Detectives

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Police Chief Carlos Garcia explained to the council that the detectives are currently being compensated with comp time when they work over their scheduled hours. However, they still have to work their normal hours even if they have comp time, so they don't have time to use it. Mike Wigley asked how it would impact the budget. Chief Garcia answered that the impact would be minimal since there is already an overtime fund worked into the police budget. Mark Tiner moved to accept the resolution, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

c. Resolution Imposing Lien on 401 S Pine St.

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only. Clarissa Pace moved to accept the resolution, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

d. Resolution Imposing Lien on 104 Falls St.

Mark Tiner introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Crasig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. City Inspector Brian Rodgers informed the council that the lot had to be bush hogged and then mowed. The owner promised to take care of the property, and didn't fulfill her promise after 2 months. Craig McRae moved to accept the resolution, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

e. Resolution Declaring 410 E College St. a Nuisance

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Mark Tiner seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Brian Rodgers informed the council that the mail came back unclaimed and a letter was posted to the property. He also added that there is a strong smell coming from the property and there might be squatters living in the building. Mike Wigley asked if the church was active in another location. Mr. Rodgers answered that churches are not registered under a specific person's name at the courthouse. Clarissa Pace added that Bishop Michael Jones might be able to help him find the owner. Clarissa Pace moved to table the resolution for 60 days, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution was tabled.

f. Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Disputed Claim

Clarissa Pace introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mayor Akers explained that a contract was signed 3.5 years ago with Unifirst Uniform Company. The City needed out of the contract due to several issues, including ripped uniforms, wrong sizes, and wrong quantities, and poor service. The City broke off the contract, and Unifirst is suing the City. The City and Unifirst reached a settlement of \$7,000.00, after the initial amount was close to \$30,000.00. Cedric Leonard moved to accept the resolution, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

Public Comment

County Judge Jesse Griffin made a brief statement thanking the City Council and the Mayor for working together with the county on projects that are making the county better.

Mr. Camarino addressed the council on his intent to open a new restaurant, Superior Crab, in the old Bella Luna building. He is wanting to apply for an alcohol license with the city. Mark Tiner moved to have an alcohol ordinance drafted for the next council meeting, Mike Wigley seconded. The council went to a vote, there were 6 "yes" and 1 "no", with Craig McRae in opposition.

Jeff Newton introduced the inaugural mountain biking team. He expressed his gratitude to the council for working on the trail system in Monticello. He has plans of expanding the team and possibly hosting a race in Monticello.

Mayor Comments

Mayor Akers informed the Council that Weyerhauser will be expanding in Monticello's Intermodal facility. It is a 500 million dollar investment and will bring over 200 jobs.

Meeting Adjourned

Cedric Leonard moved to adjourn the meeting, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the meeting was adjourned.

Japa Wigley

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