

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
August 2, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 pm, Council Chambers, City Hall by Mayor Rehl.

ROLL CALL: Present & answering to roll call were Commissioners Adleman, Fitzgerald, Hedrington, Morse, and Mayor Rehl.  
City Attorney Wiktor Goscik was present  
City Clerk Tracy Patrick recorded the minutes  
Department Heads in attendance:  
Police Chief Adam Truman  
Fire Administrator Dan Zerfass  
Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Jeff Reininger

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Rehl and recited by all members present.

INVOCATION: Mayor Rehl asked for a moment of silence.

APPROVE AGENDA: Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jim Hessel was present, and spoke to Council about the Conditions of his application for a Special Use Permit for 1302 Gardner Street that is Item # 1. c. under New Business. Mr. Hessel reviewed the items listed as conditions for the Special Use Permit recommended by Staff and approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals that he does not agree with. Mr. Hessel said his business is a small Mom and Pop business, and would like to have the City work with him for the items. Mr. Hessel said he is a member of the South Beloit Businessmen's Club, and there is a letter being drafted to the City regarding businesses.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 1. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on July 19, 2021. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

1. Finance:  
Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the claims to be paid from July 17-30, 2021 in the amount of \$327,321.48. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
2. Attorney Report:  
None
3. Commissioner's Report:  
Accounts & Finance-Commissioner Tom Fitzgerald  
Health & Public Safety-Commissioner Brian Hedrington  
Streets & Public Improvement-Commissioner Ryan Adleman  
Public Properties-Commissioner Ken Morse

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:
  - a. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2636 amending Chapter 6, Alcoholic Beverages, Article IV, Employees, Section 6-111 of the City of South Beloit Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Attorney Goscik said the ordinance would allow for 18 years and older to carry and deliver alcohol to serve at tables. Mayor Rehl explained bars and restaurants are having issues due to the low number of employees. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he is not in favor of allowing due to the Illinois Law drinking age being 21. Attorney Goscik explained if allowed, employees who are 18 would only be able to serve. Establishments would still be required to have 21-year old bartender on duty.

- Commissioner Adleman said at the last meeting there was discussion of requiring the employee to have a nametag or something distinguishing them as an employee. Commissioner Morse said he is in favor of allowing. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 nay by Commissioner Fitzgerald.
- b. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2639 amending Chapter 86 – Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places, Article III, Construction of Sidewalks of the South Beloit Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Attorney Goscik explained the ordinance would amend the sidewalk code requiring an application to be submitted with a site plan for sidewalks constructed on private property. Council members had concerns with being too restrictive, and infringing on resident’s private property. WWTP Superintendent, Jeff Reiningger explained the ordinance is not meant to infringe on the property owner, but to make them aware of things they may not be aware of regarding utility or drainage issues as well as saving them from possible issues down the road. The ordinance would not have a fee, and would be helping the property owner with a possible obstacle. Commissioner Adleman said he believes residents would be upset with the review time more than with the application itself. Roll call vote showed 5 nays. The ordinance failed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:

- a. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve a request for a Car Show at Didier Hall-St. Peter’s Church from 8 am – 2 pm on September 11, 2021 by the Knights of Columbus. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Council discussed the original request that was submitted included a food truck, but was revised to hold the event without a food truck. The Knights of Columbus representative said he was informed there were no food trucks registered with the City, so the request was withdrawn. Council determined the fee for mobile food trucks would be revisited at a future meeting. Voice vote carried the motion.
- b. Attorney Goscik explained the reconsideration for an ordinance motions can only be made by Commissioners Fitzgerald and Adleman since they made the original motions when the Ordinance was initially brought before Council. Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion for the Reconsideration of Ordinance 2635 amending Chapter 6 Alcoholic Beverages, Article III, Retail License, Section 6-82 of the City of South Beloit Code of Ordinances. The motion died for a lack of a second.
- c. From the Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting held on July 21, 2021 a positive recommendation was given regarding a Special Use Permit in the (CR) Commercial Retail Zoning District for an Antique Store for the property located at 1302 Gardner Street, South Beloit, Illinois, Winnebago County, with PIN Nos. 04-05-427-002 and 04-05-427-001. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2640 approving a Special Use Permit in the (CR) Commercial Retail Zoning District for an Antique Store for the property located at 1302 Gardner Street, South Beloit, Illinois, Winnebago County, with PIN Nos. 04-05-427-002 and 04-05-427-001. Mayor Rehl said Council is not able to take new information regarding the item. Attorney Goscik said the Ordinance is based on staff recommendation and the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) recommendations and findings. Any changes made to the conditions would be made by the Council. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he would like to see a timeline regarding the conditions and believes the sign should be allowed with the 2 poles as the current sign has. Commissioner Fitzgerald said the sign with 2 poles is similar to many other signs in the City. Attorney Goscik said the recommendation for the sign with 1 pole was due to the sign being partly in the state right of way. Commissioner Adleman said he previously spoke with the applicant, and would like to give the applicant a timeline. Applicant, Jim Helsell requested a timeline of 2-3 months for the conditions to be met. Mr. Helsell said the sign would be the same size as the current sign. Mayor Rehl said the City’s corridor looks the same as it did 15 years ago. The City needs to make it look better, having better curb appeal. Mayor Rehl said some businesses have already improved their façade and curb appeal. Mayor Rehl said the City is working on plans to improve the corridor. Council reviewed and discussed the conditions for approval. Consensus showed the sign would be allowed with 2 poles, and a 3-month timeline would be granted to complete the conditions for approval. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- d. From the Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting held on July 21, 2021 a positive recommendation was given regarding a request for a Zoning Variance in the (R2) Two-family Residential Zoning District to allow for a variance of the front yard setback of 30 feet down to 13 feet for the property located at 533 Northwestern, South Beloit, Illinois, Winnebago County, with PIN No. 04-05-306-009. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2641 approving a Zoning Variance in the (R2) Residential Zoning District to allow for a variance of the front yard setback of 30 feet down to 13 feet for the property located at 533 Northwestern, South Beloit, Illinois, Winnebago County, with PIN No. 04-05-306-009. Commissioner

Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 abstain by Commissioner Hedrington.

- e. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve Resolution 6259 approving a Hotel/Motel Funding Grant Application to the South Beloit Firefighters Association. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Commissioner Hedrington suggested increasing the amount to \$10,000.00 due to the Corn Boil being a City event. Commissioner Morse made a motion to amend the amount to \$10,000.00. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Firefighter, Max Rude thanked Council. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- f. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6260 approving the purchase of a phone system from Spectrum Enterprise for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. WWTP Superintendent, Jeff Reiningger said Council previously approved Meridian IT, however; there was no signed contract, and he was unhappy with the changes that were made to the contract. Superintendent Reiningger said the contract with Spectrum will have everything needed for the WWTP. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- g. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve Resolution 6261 approving a Settlement Agreement with Gregory Tracy. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- h. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve hiring a Full-Time Firefighter. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Fire Administrator, Zerfass said the hire is to fill a vacancy in the department. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:31 pm on a motion from Commissioner Hedrington second by Commissioner Fitzgerald the council approved going in to executive session. The purpose for Executive Session is to:

- 1. Discuss ongoing, prior, or future criminal investigations as provided by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(14) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Voice vote carried the motion.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION:

At 6:48 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call showed all members at the reconvening of the meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURN:

At 6:48 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Fitzgerald. Voice vote carried the motion.

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Mayor

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City Clerk

Approved: