

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
December 2, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: 5:01 pm, Council Chambers, City Hall by Mayor Fitzgerald

ROLL CALL: Present & answering to roll call were Commissioners Morse, Prentice, Hedrington and Mayor Fitzgerald. Commissioner Adleman absent.
City Attorney Roxanne Sosnowski was present
City Administrator Sonya Hoppes was present
Deputy Clerk Karen Brandenburg recorded the minutes
Department Heads in attendance:
Wastewater Superintendent Jeff Reininger
Street Superintendent Steve Haas
Police Chief Adam Truman
Community Development Director Shawna Henthorn

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

INVOCATION: Finance Director, Don Elliott delivered the invocation.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: Josh Loyd was present. Mr. Loyd voiced numerous concerns and questions regarding the Fire Department.
Commissioner Prentice said he would like to see a Townhall meeting scheduled for a back and forth conversation about the Fire Department.
Mayor Fitzgerald agreed and asked City Administrator to organize this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
1. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 18, 2024. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:
1. Finance:
Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve the claims paid from November 16 – 27, 2024 in the amount of \$350,556.59. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.
2. Attorney Report:
3. Reports:
City Administrator Report and Staff Report
Accounts and Finance-Commissioner Ryan Adleman
Health & Public Safety-Commissioner Ken Morse
Streets & Public Improvement-Commissioner Brian Hedrington
Public Properties-Commissioner Courtney Prentice
Mayor-Tom Fitzgerald

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:

- a. From the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting held on November 20, 2024 a positive recommendation was given regarding a Zoning Variance in the Two-Family Residential Zoning District (R2a), from the required front yard setback of 15' down to 5' for the property located at 539 Roscoe Ave., South Beloit, Illinois, Winnebago County, with PIN No. 04-05-305-001. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2827 Approving a Zoning Variance in the Two-Family Residential Zoning District (R2a), from the required front yard setback of 15' down to 5' for the property located at 539 Roscoe Ave., South Beloit, Illinois, Winnebago County, with PIN No. 04-05-305-001. Community Development Director Henthorn explained the property is unique in that the house and garage are built in the right of way. The property owner received a Notice of Violation from the City of South Beloit. The property owners came in to complete the paperwork. Ms. Henthorn said a variance is needed for the property owners to repair the original cement stairs that was under the porch to then be in compliance. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.
- b. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2828 Adopting the 2025 Budget. Finance Director Elliott said the Budget amount is \$20,039,450.00. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.
- c. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve Ordinance 2829 Adopting the 2024 Tax Levy. Finance Director Elliott said the Tax Levy amount is \$1,857,000.00. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.
- d. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2830 Establishing the 2025 Meeting Schedules and the 2025 Holiday Schedule. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.
- e. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6573 Approving the Release or Continued Hold of Executive Session Minutes and Destruction of Executive Session Audio. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.
- f. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6574 Approving an Agreement for services with Municipal Code Enforcement. City Attorney Sosnowski said this contract is for additional assistance for Code Enforcement. The rate is \$49.00/hour and not to exceed 10 hours per week. The contract will begin January 1, 2025 and end December 31, 2025. The contract is set for auto renewal. Allyson was present and said she was excited to work with the City of South Beloit. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.
- g. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve Resolution 6575 Approving an Agreement with McMahon Engineering to complete survey work to vacate a list of alleys. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.
- h. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve the City Administrator to draft and send a termination letter to Mercy for Services. City Administrator Hoppes said the termination letter would be sent out the beginning of January 2025 once the City of South Beloit and Winnebago County Board approve the Winnebago County Dispatch Center contract for the Police and Fire to dispatch together. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.
- i. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve Resolution 6576 Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with Winnebago County for Fire Dispatch. Commissioner Morse second the motion. City Attorney Sosnowski said Council packets included a red lined draft of the Agreement with Winnebago County for Fire

Dispatch. Fire has not seen the revisions and a Resolution has not been repaired. Mayor Fitzgerald asked for this item to be laid over. Commissioner Prentice asked for Resolution 6576 to be laid over until December 16, 2024. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.

- j. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6577 Approving an Interagency Agreement with Youth Services Network, Inc. Police Chief Truman said this is an annual agreement. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.
- k. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve the Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Justice Information Services Security Addendum. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Adleman.
- l. Discussion regarding Feather Flags. Community Development Henthorn said the City of South Beloit is having issues with enforcement of these flags. The Ordinance states they have to be brought in every night, they have to be approved by an annual application. Blackhawk Blvd and Gardner Street do not have green space for these flags to be placed. Business owners are putting them in the right of way. Ms. Henthorn is asking if we should allow these flags anymore. The surrounding areas do not allow these flags. City Attorney Sosnowski asked if Council wants to do away with the flags. Commissioner Hedrington said he would be in favor of removing the feather flags completely. Commissioner Morse agreed with Commissioner Hedrington. Commissioner Prentice said he was 60% in favor of removing the flags, but that he is still on the fence about removing them completely. Mayor Fitzgerald said the original intent was only for a new business to utilize the feather flags, and only on a temporary basis. City Attorney Sosnowski said she will draft an Ordinance and the Council will revisit this in January 2025.

ADJOURN:

At 5:55 pm on a motion by Commissioner Prentice second by Commissioner Morse
Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor

City Clerk

Approved: