

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

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

ROLL CALL: Present & answering to roll call were Commissioners Baden, Chambers, Duffy, Fitzgerald, and Mayor Rehl.
City Attorney Roxanne Sosnowski was present
City Clerk Tracy Patrick recorded the minutes
Department Heads in attendance:
Fire Chief Mike Davenport
Police Chief Dean Stiegemeier
Public Works 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 Chambers made a motion to approve the agenda second by Commissioner Duffy. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Marlene McCarter spoke to Council regarding the inconsistencies and policies of the Villa's of Oakfield by laws and covenant requirements. Ms. McCarter stated she was speaking to the Council as a taxing body and shared several issues she is unhappy with. Attorney Sosnowski stated the issues Ms. McCarter has concerns with are not enforceable by the City, and Covenant issues are only able to be enforced by the Villa's of Oakfield board unless there are any City of South Beloit code violations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
1. Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on September 5, 2017. Commissioner Chambers second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

1. Finance:
 - a. Commissioner Chambers made a motion to approve the claims to be paid from September 2-15, 2017 in the amount of \$387,877.82. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
2. Attorney Report:
Attorney Sosnowski introduced Attorney Kristine Gibbons, who will be joining the firm of SosnowskiSzeto.
3. Commissioner's Report:
Accounts & Finance-Commissioner Linda Chambers
Public Health & Safety-Commissioner Tom Fitzgerald
Streets & Public Improvements-Commissioner Lori Duffy
Public Properties-Commissioner Sonya Baden

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion and/or Motion Items:

1. a. Council discussed the interpretation of the sign ordinance. Zoning and Planning Officer, Jessica Roberts was present. Ms. Roberts stated Council previously adopted a new Sign Ordinance. The City has begun to enforce the sign violations based upon the new ordinance. Ms. Roberts asked Council to discuss the ordinance as it relates to allowing LED rope lighting. It was Ms. Roberts and Attorney Sosnowski's understanding that the Sign Committee, which included Commissioner Jeff Redieske that the intent was to prohibit LED lighting. Council will need to determine if they

want to allow the lighting or prohibit this type of lighting. If Council determines the lighting is prohibited the language in the Ordinance would need to be more clearly defined.

Attorney Sosnowski said warning letters were sent to the first 12 businesses regarding signage that is in violation of the code. The letter explained any violation the business has along with pictures showing the signage in violation. One of the business managers does not want to remove the lighting. Attorney Sosnowski said if the lighting is going to be allowed, the ordinance would need to have regulations specifying how bright, how long to flicker as well as other specifications for the lighting.

Council had various opinions regarding the lighting which included the possibility of allowing, to the opinion of not wanting the lighting to not have a “Vegas or trashy appearance”.

Ms. Roberts recommended looking at the zoning districts that would allow this type of lighting due to the potential of every business having the option for the lighting.

Council determined Commissioner Duffy would contact Jeff Redieske to inquire of the intent of the committee and bring back at a future meeting.

- b. Commissioner Duffy made a motion to approve increasing the amount of commitment to Rockford Area Economic Development Council (RAEDC) from \$2,000 to \$5,000 for the next 5 years. Commissioner Chambers second the motion. Mayor Rehl said he spoke with representatives from RAEDC, who are able to assist the City with more connections to help with economic development. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- c. Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to approve hiring McKiski Landscaping for Code Enforcement cut orders. Commissioner Chambers second the motion. Public Works Superintendent, Jeff Reininger said they had several Code Violation cut orders with large lots. The department does not have the equipment to handle large lots with overgrowth. Mr. Reininger obtained 3 bids for any cut orders received for the remainder of the year. Council approved hiring McKiski Landscaping for the remainder of the year, however; consideration will need to be made to either purchase the equipment for the department or go out to bid and contract the work for next year. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- d. Commissioner Duffy made a motion to approve Ordinance 2294 Establishing Special Service Area #5. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski explained the SSA Ordinances are for the recent lateral work. The Ordinances to follow are the first step in creating each of the Special Service Areas. The next step will be a Public Hearing. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- e. Commissioner Duffy made a motion to approve Ordinance 2295 Establishing Special Service Area #6. Commissioner Baden second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- f. Commissioner Chambers made a motion to approve Ordinance 2296 Establishing Special Service Area #7. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- g. Commissioner Duffy made a motion to approve Ordinance 2297 Establishing Special Service Area #8. Commissioner Baden second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- h. Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to approve Ordinance 2298 Establishing Special Service Area #9. Commissioner Chambers second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- i. Commissioner Duffy made a motion to approve Ordinance 2299 Establishing Special Service Area #10. Commissioner Baden second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- j. Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to approve Ordinance 2300 amending Chapter 6, Alcoholic Beverages of the City of South Beloit Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Chambers second the motion. The Ordinance would increase the number of Bar Boutique (BG) Licenses from 4 to 6, and increases the yearly liquor license classification fees. Attorney Sosnowski stated that one of the BG license would be reserved for Victory Slots because they most likely will not qualify for the current class of license they were issued when the business opened, however; would probably qualify for the BG License. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

LICENSES & PERMITS:

1. RLE's:
 - a. Kristina Buehl-Viking Lanes

Commissioner Chambers made a motion to approve the license second by Commissioner Duffy second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:14 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Chambers second by Commissioner Duffy. The purpose of Executive Session is to:

1. Discuss personnel issues as provided by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.
2. Discuss litigation as provided by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act regarding Ciarpaglini & Shenberger vs. City of South Beloit.

RECONVENE TO
OPEN SESSION:

At 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call vote showed all members present at the onset of the meeting.

ADJOURN:

At 7:00 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Duffy second by Commissioner Baden. Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor

City Clerk

Approved: