

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 15, 2018

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

ROLL CALL: Present & answering to roll call were Commissioners Duffy, Fitzgerald, Moore, Teeters, and Mayor Rehl.  
City Attorney Roxanne Sosnowski was present  
City Clerk Tracy Patrick recorded the minutes  
Department Heads in attendance:  
Police Chief Pat Hoey  
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 Duffy made a motion to approve the agenda second by Commissioner Teeters. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Fitzgerald said he was asked on social media why the meeting time for Regular Meetings was changed to 5:00. Mayor Rehl said the meetings had low attendance. The decision was made in order to allow staff to not have to wait an additional hour before the meeting time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Commissioner Teeters made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 1, 2018, and to layover the minutes of the Special Meeting held on October 8, 2018. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

1. Finance:  
Commissioner Duffy made a motion to approve the claims to be paid from September 29-October 8, 2018 in the amount of \$498,811.23. Commissioner Moore second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
2. Attorney Report:  
None
4. Commissioner's Report:  
Accounts & Finance-Commissioner Moore  
Public Health & Safety-Commissioner Tom Fitzgerald  
Streets & Public Improvements-Commissioner Lori Duffy  
Public Properties-Commissioner Angela Teeters

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion and/or Motion Items:

1. a. Commissioner Moore made a motion to approve Resolution 5987 a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Settlement Agreement with the owners of 127 Blackhawk Blvd for Miscellaneous Code Violations. Commissioner Duffy second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski reviewed the Code Violation case as well as the agreement. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- b. Commissioner Teeters made a motion to approve Resolution 5988 a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a settlement agreement regarding the owners of 919 Doner Drive for miscellaneous code violations. Commissioner Moore second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski reviewed the Code Violation case as well as the agreement. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

- c. Council discussed driveway requirements, pads for recreational vehicles, and driveway expansions. Code Enforcement Officer, Shawna Henthorn explained there have been several driveways that have been extended from the original driveway that have been extended with unapproved materials such as recycled asphalt. The City's Code currently only allows for concrete or asphalt. City Engineer, Seth Gronewold explained what the recycled asphalt materials consisted of. Mr. Gronewold explained how allowing gravel can cause issues with stones ending up in roadways, storm and sewers and how it may aesthetically desirable. Attorney Sosnowski said there have been some driveway extensions put in without being permitted. Attorney Sosnowski read the following items from an email drafted by Zoning Official, Jessica Roberts.

Staff is looking for direction for the following:

- past, present, and moving forward regarding what material is appropriate for residential driveways, recreational pads, and driveway expansions
- what sideyard setbacks for residential driveway and parking areas are appropriate
- maintenance of existing non-conforming driveways and driveway expansions, and at what point should staff inform property owners they need to come in to compliance with the Code

Attorney Sosnowski said in the past, the pad has been allowed to be gravel. Council discussed changing pads to asphalt instead of gravel. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he is not in favor of requiring the pads to be asphalt or concrete since some properties do not have the room to have the large trucks enter into the back yards since that's where the gravel pads are allowed.

Attorney Sosnowski said extensions of driveways are considered as driveways. Regarding bringing property owners into compliance, Attorney Sosnowski suggested for those driveway expansions already completed, the property owner could be required to come into compliance when any maintenance is needed. Council would like to have Attorney Sosnowski draft an Ordinance that would allow gravel pads in the rear yard only for recreational vehicles. Concrete, asphalt, or pavers for sideyard driveway expansions and only concrete or asphalt for driveways, and bring back to Council for further determinations and recommendations. Council will make further determinations at a future meeting regarding existing driveway expansions.

- d. Council discussed hiring a School Liaison Officer. Mayor Rehl said the City is interested in being in a partnership with the South Beloit School for a School Liaison for student safety. Council discussed the school would pay 75% of the cost, leaving the City to pay 25%. The Liaison would be a mentor, and form relationships with students. This is a new position that has not been previously budgeted for. An Intergovernmental Agreement will be drafted. The Liaison Officer would be based out of the High School, but would work at all South Beloit Schools. Commissioner Fitzgerald asked if there was any consideration to utilize a retired Police Officer or a part-time Officer for the position. Mayor Rehl said in his experience at schools with Resource Officers the officer is generally younger. The position would begin August 15, 2019. The Officer would need to be hired earlier in the year in order to go to the academy. More determinations will be made once the Intergovernmental Agreement is reached.
- e. Council discussed Open Burning. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he investigated other communities regarding open burning, and reviewed what neighboring communities do for yard waste. Mayor Rehl said the question to determine regarding open burning is, is it still appropriate for the City of South Beloit. Mayor Rehl said he receives calls during open burning periods from citizens concerned about the safety of health from open burning. Commissioner Fitzgerald opened a discussion on Social Media regarding open burning to see what residents think. The biggest issue is residents burning green yard waste. Council is not in favor of adding yard waste to the City's garbage pickup at this time due to the cost. Public Works Supervisor, Mike Murphy said he looked into a vac truck for leaves last year. The cost would be \$100,000.

Resident, John LaMendola said he would be willing to pay to have the ability to blow the leaves into the street if the City would pick up the leaves.

Resident, Ken Morse said he is opposed to open burning. Mr. Morse said the biggest issues are residents not following the Open Burning Ordinance. Residents continue to open burn after the time period, and burn other items that are not yard waste such as sofas and other large items that are not allowed. The key is enforcement of the Open Burning Ordinance.

Mayor Rehl and Commissioner Fitzgerald would like to discuss the item further with Fire Chief Davenport.

Mayor Rehl announced the City has applied for another housing rehabilitation grant through the Illinois Housing Development Association. The grant allows residents to bring the home up to code. Residents interested in the grant can call City Hall and be put on a list. If the City is awarded the grant, Residents will apply to qualify for the grant. This grant will allow residents to rehab their homes. The grant does have certain criteria that residents will need to qualify for.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

##### LICENSES AND PERMITS:

1. Business Licenses:

- a. Carniceria y Taqueria La Mexicana
- b. La Blanquita Inc Bakery

Commissioner Teeters made a motion to approve all licenses second by Commissioner Duffy. Voice vote carried the motion.

##### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:28 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Duffy second by Commissioner Moore. Voice vote carried the motion. The purpose for Executive Session is to:

1. Discuss the potential purchase of property as provided by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (5) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.
2. Discuss collective negotiation matters as provided by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (2) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

##### RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION:

At 7:02 pm.

##### ROLL CALL:

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

##### ORDER OF BUSINESS:

None.

##### ADJOURN:

At 7:03 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Duffy second by Commissioner Moore. Voice vote carried the motion.

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Mayor

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City Clerk

Approved: