

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
August 3, 2020

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 Roxanne Sosnowski was present
City Clerk Tracy Patrick recorded the minutes
Department Heads in attendance:
Fire Chief Mike Davenport
Police Chief Adam Truman
Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Jeff Reininger
Street Superintendent Mike Murphy

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 second by Commissioner Fitzgerald. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
1. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on July 20, 2020, the minutes of the Public Hearing held on July 20, 2020 regarding the Downstate Grant Submission, and the minutes of the Public Hearing held on July 20, 2020 regarding the Pre-Annexation Agreement for 2522 Fisher Rd. South Beloit, IL 61080. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:
1. Finance:
Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to pay the claims to be paid from July 18-31, 2020 in the amount of \$196,480.12. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
2. Attorney Report:
4. 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 Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2495 An Ordinance of the City of South Beloit Amending Various Provisions of Chapter 1 – General Provisions, Chapter 62 – Offences and Miscellaneous Provisions, and Chapter 102 – Traffic and Vehicles of the City of South Beloit Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Attorney Goscik said she had met with Police Chief Truman to review the fine schedule and to determine if there were any needed changes or if any fines were outdated. Attorney Goscik received recommended changes for the fine schedule from Commissioners Fitzgerald and Adleman. Council discussed the recommended changes that were submitted. Commissioner Fitzgerald stated he believes some of the fine amounts for parking tickets are too high, and in some cases, ridiculous, with the exception of serious fines such as handicap parking or blocking emergency vehicles. Commissioner Adleman said he agrees with some of the parking fines, however, the City has odd even parking and there should not be any parking on sidewalks. The City has to ensure that children are safe on sidewalks. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he previously

researched other municipalities fines and found most parking violations were between \$30 and \$50. Commissioner Adleman added he would not want citizens to receive a \$600 fine for a third parking offense, and agreed there is a difference between a sidewalk fine and a fine for parking on the wrong side of the street. Commissioner Adleman said he based his recommendations for what amounts should be changed by driving around the City and noticing issues that bring down the appearance of the City. Council discussed the fine for fake ID's. Commissioner Adleman said the third offense for a fake ID should be higher since if a person is caught producing a fake ID more than a couple of times there is an issue that needs to be taken care of. Council discussed the fines for possession of cannabis. Attorney Goscik clarified the allowable cannabis limits per State Statute, and reviewed what were allowable changes that could be made in the City's Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Adleman said now that the cannabis store is open the City does not want to discourage people from coming to the store. Mayor Rehl said the Police Department and the company itself have taken an effort to make sure security and follow through are adhered to regarding cannabis laws. Mayor Rehl said when citizens break the law the City has to make a statement that citizens are expected to stay within the expectations of the law. Commissioner Morse agreed and said the City also needs to show the residents who were not in favor of the cannabis store their opinions are respected by the City is making sure the laws are followed. Attorney Sosnowski said the fine schedule needs to be approved with the ordinance. Mayor Rehl asked Council members to review the fine schedule again and submit any recommendations to Chief Truman and Attorney Goscik. Commissioner Morse made a motion to layover Ordinance 2495 second by Commissioner Hedrington. Voice vote carried the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:

- a. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2542 Amending Chapter 86 – Streets, Sidewalks and other Public Places – Parking Lots, of the City of South Beloit Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski said the ordinance is for parking lots only. The ordinance for the process and fee standards was recommended by the Staff Development Committee. Attorney Sosnowski reviewed the ordinance and said the ordinance sets basic design standards and fees. WWTP Superintendent Jeff Reininger reviewed standard amounts for streets in the right of way and IDOT standards. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- b. Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to approve Ordinance 2543 reinstating certain actions of the City that were suspended due to COVID-19. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski said previous Ordinance 2508 stated that the disconnections for nonpayment of sewer bill late fee penalties were suspended along with any RLF Loans that were in default. This ordinance would reinstate late fees and any RLF loans that are in default beginning in September. Any customer who previously incurred late fees prior to the suspension would remain responsible and any RLF loans that are in default late fees will be imposed. Attorney Sosnowski added the previous State of Emergency would be considered expired and there would no longer be any State of Emergency in effect until such time as a new State of Emergency would be declared. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- c. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve Ordinance 2544 Amending Chapter 2 Administration, Article II, City Council Division 2, Meetings, of the City of South Beloit Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski reviewed the ordinance regarding Public Comment. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 nay by Commissioner Hedrington.
- d. Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to approve Resolution 6150 authorizing the Twenty Third IEPA Loan Disbursement request in the amount of \$1,368,944.53. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- e. Council discussed fees for Bar-Boutique (BB) Liquor Licenses. Commissioner Fitzgerald said it was brought to his attention by the City Clerk to consider increasing the BB license fee now that the license number was unlimited. Clerk Patrick reviewed the fees for the BB licenses. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he hasn't been happy with the way the funds for gaming are split. The owners of the machine and owners of the Boutiques each get 35%. 25% goes to taxes and 5% goes to the municipality. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he has talked to members of the Illinois Municipal League, written letters downstate representatives, and to local state representatives to no avail. Opening the number of licenses to unlimited would help the City to get more funding. Commissioner Fitzgerald said most BB license holders do not live in the City of South Beloit, so, funds are going out of the City and nothing more is being put into the City. Commissioner Fitzgerald said the least amount made for 2019 in gaming is \$170,000 and the

most amount made was \$2,500,000. Commissioner Adleman asked if there was any research for what other municipalities are charging and if the City would be limiting the amount of BB applicants who would want to come in. Commissioner Fitzgerald said fees are all over, but some charge \$3,500, and \$5,000. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he does not believe the City will make more money by increasing the number of licenses. These types of businesses make easy money for the owners. Commissioner Fitzgerald said this has nothing to do with the residents since only 1 BB licensee lives in the City. Mayor Rehl said South Beloit has one of the most expensive BB license fees, however; the request for the City to increase the number allowed has been a constant request ever since he's been here. Mayor Rehl said he does not believe the fee should increase to \$10,000 for the yearly license. Commissioner Adleman said he agrees that \$7,500 would make sense. Mayor Rehl said he would like to see the increase be delayed or possibly gradual over the next couple of years. Clerk Patrick said that of the 6 current license holders 1 owner holds 2 licenses and is applying for a 3rd. Also, there are 2 more applications that are submitted by 1 group of owners. These types of licenses are still in demand. Mayor Rehl asked for an ordinance to be drafted and brought to the next Council Meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS
LICENSES & PERMITS:

1. Miscellaneous License:
 - a. Sylvia Williams

2. RLE's:
 - a. Arslan Ahmad-Hometown Food & Liquor
 - b. Tiarrah Jackson-Fas Mart #5232
 - c. Josh Mitchell-Got Slots
 - d. Cheryl Lamb-Fas Mart #5232
 - e. Bionca Reed-Fas Mart #5232
 - f. Elizabeth Riley-Fas Mart #5232
 - g. Darin VanFleet-American Legion
 - h. Victoria Varaniai-Fas Mart- #5232

Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve all licenses second by Commissioner Fitzgerald. Voice vote carried the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. At 6:02 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Morse second by Commissioner Hedrington. The purpose for Executive Session is to:
 1. Discuss personnel issues as provided by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

RECONVENE TO
OPEN SESSION:

At 6:33 pm.

ROLL CALL:

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURN:

At 6:33 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Morse second by Commissioner Fitzgerald. Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor

City Clerk

Approved: