

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 15, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: 5:08 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 Aaron Szeto was present
City Clerk Tracy Patrick recorded the minutes
Department Heads in attendance via conference call:
Police Chief Adam Truman
Fire Chief Captain Gary Brown
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. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

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

REPORT OF OFFICERS:
1. Finance:
Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve the claims to be paid from January 30-February 12, 2021 in the amount of \$1,094,970.66. Commissioner Fitzgerald 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

NEW BUSINESS:
1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:
a. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve Ordinance 2591 authorizing the vacation of certain Public Right-of Ways located within the City. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Attorney Szeto said the Ordinance is vacating portions to the school at Blackhawk Elementary. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
b. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2592 approving a renewal lease for postage and billing machines from Pitney Bowes at a cost of \$1,477.38 quarterly. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
c. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6210 correcting previously assigned Resolution numbers as follows:
Resolution 6170 to 6200
Resolution 6171 to 6201
Resolution 6172 to 6202
Resolution 6173 to 6203

- Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- d. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve Resolution 6211 approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of South Beloit and the Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
 - e. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6212 approving and authorizing the Mayor to sign a Joint Engineering Contract between the Village of Roscoe, the City of South Beloit and Fehr Graham. Council discussed the benefits of having an engineer in the office 2 days a week to help with immediate issues, and day to day smaller engineering work. Project contracts would still be with Fehr Graham. The pricing for the shared engineer would be approximately half of the hourly rate. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
 - f. Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to approve Resolution 6213 approving Change Order No. 7 for the City Hall project by Sjostrom & Sons in the amount of \$530.25. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
 - g. Commissioner Morse made a motion to waive Section 2-488 requirement to bid through formal public bid procedures to authorize the purchase of Three Diesel Exhaust Filtration Systems. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Fire Captain Brown explained the exhaust system for the fire trucks exhaust. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
 - h. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6214 authorizing the purchase of Three Diesel Exhaust Filtration Systems for the Fire Department at a cost not to exceed \$29,808.06. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
 - i. Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to approve a driveway exception request for 615 Gardner Street. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Attorney Szeto explained the driveway at 615 Gardner Street in back of the house to the garage was previously gravel. The property owner added a driveway without a permit that is currently 2' too close to the property line. The driveway also flared in to the neighbor's driveway, and there was asphalt spread in to the alley. All issues have been corrected with the exception of being 2' too close to the property line. The property owner was sent a letter regarding the dilapidated garage that was told to the City's Code Enforcement Officer would be demolished by January 24th. The property owner spoke to a Council member requesting an extension to demo the garage. After discussion, Commissioner Fitzgerald amended his motion to approve the 2' exception for the driveway contingent on the garage being torn down by 5/31/2021. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
 - j. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve the driveway at 121 S Lincoln Avenue. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Mayor Rehl said the driveway does not meet the City's Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Fitzgerald said the Council has had previous discussions regarding driveways. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he would like to accept all 3 driveways that are on the agenda with a permit being submitted. Going forward, if there are driveways that are not done according to the Code by a date set by Council, the driveways would be required to be brought up to Code. Council discussed the thickness of the driveways that are not according to the Code's driveway requirements. All 3 driveways are within 1 block of each other. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he has concerns with the thickness in the middle of the driveways not being the same thickness as the outside of the driveway. Attorney Szeto said staff is amending the driveway permit application to include the property owner as well as the contractor. Attorney Szeto said the staff engineer will be able to check the driveways for the grade, and Street Superintendent, Mike Murphy will be able to inspect the base. Commissioner Morse said there are issues with residents not getting permits prior to having the work done. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to amend his motion to permit all 3 driveways. After March 15, 2021 any driveways constructed without proper permitting from the City will be enforced to ensure proper construction according to the City's Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
 - k. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve the driveway at 125 S Lincoln Ave. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
 - l. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve the driveway at 239 S Lincoln Ave. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
 - m. Commissioner Morse made a motion to release the Request for Proposals for Mowing. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

Mayor Rehl asked that Item o. be discussed prior to Item n.

- o. Mayor Rehl said he has had conversations with staff. Council is acting as administrators. Mayor Rehl said the City is looking at other communities to see how they function with an administrator. There is currently a lot of work being done by the Mayor, City Clerk, Finance

Director, and City Attorney that an administrator would do. Commissioner Adleman said an administrator would need to drive economic development. The City needs a strategic plan with knowledge, and believes this is not a want, but a need. Commissioner Fitzgerald said an administrator would need to be accessible to all department heads. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he thought about it and believes this position is needed. Mayor Rehl said this position may cause the City to look at the form of government. Consensus from Council is to explore the position moving forward.

- n. Council discussed needs for the Police Department. Commissioner Fitzgerald would like to know the total cost for a new employee. Chief Truman reviewed the starting salary, the cost to attend the Police Academy, and insurance cost. Chief Truman also reviewed the timeline for training and said a new officer would not be on the street until February 2022. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he would like all costs presented to include uniforms, guns, any overtime cost for training, and any other costs associated. Chief Truman said the department is not an efficiently run department, and said the request is not a want, but a need. Chief Truman explained the number of shifts and reviewed the number of officers on duty. Chief Truman said he would like to promote a current officer to a Sergeant position in order to have a Sergeant on each of the 4 shifts. Council discussed overtime in the department. Chief Truman said the try not to hire back and work short staffed, however; this is not an efficient way to operate the department. Council agreed to discuss the matter further once a total cost is obtained.

MISCELLANEOUS
LICENSES AND PERMITS:

1. Miscellaneous Licenses:
 - a. Zippy Taxi

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

ADJOURN:

At 6:16 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Fitzgerald. Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor

City Clerk

Approved: