

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 1, 2021

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 Administrator Sonya Hoppes was present
City Clerk Tracy Patrick recorded the minutes
Department Heads in attendance:
Police Chief Adam Truman
Interim Fire Chief Gary Brown
Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Jeff Reininger
Street Superintendent Steve Haas

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 amend the agenda to add Class BG to item e. under New Business. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Rob McClain said he would like to address 3 concerns from citizens as follows:

- Postpone the water meter issue
- Odd/Even Parking
- Moving meetings to a later time

Ilah Tinder said she would like to see a meeting with the citizens regarding Odd/Even Parking. The Odd/Even Parking should be looked into as she has a neighbor who has issues that have not been taken care of. Ms. Tinder believes there should be public input in to the matter.

Commissioner Fitzgerald announced that the South Beloit football team has a playoff game on Saturday, November 6th at 1:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 4, 2021, the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 18, 2021, and the Special Meeting held on October 11, 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 October 16-29, 2021 in the amount of \$385,897.09. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
2. Reports:
Staff Report-City Administrator, Sonya Hoppes
Accounts & Finance-Commissioner Tom Fitzgerald
Health & Public Safety-Commissioner Brian Hedrington

Streets & Public Improvement-Commissioner Ryan Adleman
Public Properties-Commissioner Ken Morse
Mayor-Ted Rehl

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:

- a. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2658 amending Section 38-7 of Chapter 38 Fire Prevention and Protection, Article I, in General, of the City of South Beloit Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Commissioner Adleman said he initially wanted to extend the open burning seasons to an 8-week period, but would compromise at a 6-week period. Council discussed changing the period to begin on the first Saturday in October to continue for 6 weeks ending on the Sunday immediately following the 6th week. The spring period would start on the first Saturday in April to continue for 6 weeks ending on the Sunday immediately following the 6th week. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to amend the Ordinance as stated for the 6-week periods. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the Ordinance as amended. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:

- a. From the Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting held on October 20, 2021 a positive recommendation was given regarding a request for a variation in the (R1) Residential One-Family Zoning District for a fence in the front yard from the maximum allowed 4' up to 6' in height for the property located at 830 Winfield Drive, South Beloit, Illinois, Winnebago County, with PIN No. 04-18-154-001. Commissioner Fitzgerald made a motion to approve Ordinance 2660 approving a variation in the (R1) Residential One-Family Zoning District for a fence in the front yard from the maximum allowed 4' up to 6' in height for the property located at 830 Winfield Drive, South Beloit, Illinois, Winnebago County, with PIN No. 04-18-154-001. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski said the property is unique having a corner lot with 2 front yards. The fence would be in the secondary front yard and would have a 22' setback. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he doesn't like that Zoning Official has to base her recommendation on the Code of Ordinances, and recommended denial. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he does not like going against either the City's Zoning Official or the Zoning Board of Appeals. Commissioner Fitzgerald said there are also other houses with 2 front yards that are similar to this property, and believes these should not come before Council. Attorney Sosnowski said with the Zoning Code re-write this could be considered for amendment. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- b. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2661 amending Section 2-4 of Chapter 2 Administration, Article I, In General, of the City of South Beloit Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski explained the amendment is regarding document retention and destruction. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- c. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2662 amending various provisions of the Code of Ordinances to provide signing authority to the City Administrator. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Mayor Rehl said the Ordinance authorizes the City Administrator to sign certain documents immediately since she is available daily. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- d. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve Resolution 6275 approving Estimated Tax Levy amounts. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- e. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6276 temporarily suspending the issuance of Class G and Class BG Liquor Licenses. Commissioner

Adleman second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski said since the approval of the Class G Licenses allowing Convenience Stores and Gas Stations the City has received an influx of applications. Due to the current Ordinance regarding the level and quality requirements Staff asked for a temporary moratorium until January 1, 2022 in order to assess the number of locations, new applications, and restrictions for the G, and BG Liquor Licenses. Mayor Rehl said as Liquor Commissioner he didn't realize the number and how the additional class would be implemented. Attorney Sosnowski said the restrictions under the BG License aren't listed under the G. This may need to be amended. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he believes implementing the Class G License was wrong from the start, and was not in favor of gaming being allowed in Convenience Stores and Gas Stations. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he was not in favor of allowing 18 year-old servers as well. Mayor Rehl said the moratorium will help evaluate the issue. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

- f. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve a reduction in Fines and Costs for 524 Hemenway. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. City Administrator, Sonya Hoppes said typically staff is about gaining compliance regarding Code Violations, however; this is about staff time spent on this violation matter. The property owner was assessed \$5,000 in fines and \$500 in costs by the Administrative Hearing Officer. Due to the violations, the amounts could have been doubled. The matter was dragged out for over a year, and appeared on 8 Administrative Hearing dockets. The property is a duplex. The owner was asked to create parking for their tenant, however; there is still only enough parking for 1 vehicle. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he went by and there were vehicles parked in the driveway, on the City's terrace, and in a gravel driveway. There were 28 incidents regarding the property, and the property owner is a Beloit resident. Commissioner Fitzgerald said Beloit's Code is more strict than South Beloit's. Commissioner Fitzgerald said he believes there should be no waiver. Roll call vote showed 5 nays. The motion failed.
- g. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve hiring Maggie Henthorn as paid as a paid on call firefighter at a rate of \$11.00/hour. Commissioner Fitzgerald second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- h. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve hiring James Schwager Jr. as full-time employee for the Streets Department at a rate of \$16.50/hour. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Commissioner Hedrington asked what rate the previous new employee hired at. Administrator Hoppes said the previous new employee was hired at \$18.50/hour, however; that should not have happened. The rate has since been adjusted to the range of \$14.00-17.00/hour with a .50 cent bump after the employee receives their CDL License. Commissioner Hedrington asked if this would cause any issues with the Union. Attorney Sosnowski confirmed there would be no issues for this hire. Administrator Hoppes said Mr. Schwager was the best fit based on the interviews for the position. Commissioner Adleman said he would like to have the Street Department staffed at 5 full time positions as it used to be. Mayor Rehl said this request would need to go through the budget process. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

MISCELLANEOUS
LICENSES AND PERMITS:

- 1. Tattoo Artist Licenses:
 - a. Ashley Morris

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:47 pm on a motion from Commissioner Morse second by Commissioner Adleman the Council approved going in to Executive Session. 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 6:34 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call showed all members at the reconvening of the meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURN:

At 6:34 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Morse. Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor

City Clerk

Approved: