

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
September 19, 2022

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

ROLL CALL: Present & answering to roll call were Commissioners Adleman, Hedrington, Morse, Prentice, and Mayor Fitzgerald.
City Attorney Clayton Zamudio was present
City Administrator Sonya Hoppes was present
City Clerk Tracy Patrick recorded the minutes
Department Heads in attendance:
WWTP Superintendent Jeff Reiningger
Street Superintendent Steve Haas
Police Chief Adam Truman
Fire Chief Jason Griffin

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Fitzgerald and recited by all members present.

INVOCATION: Commissioner Fitzgerald gave a thought for the day.

APPROVE AGENDA: Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ilah Tinder spoke about receiving a code violation for a property she owns for putting gravel down in the driveway, and was required to pave the driveway. Ms. Tinder said there are other code issues that are not being taken care of.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
1. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on September 6, 2022. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:
1. Finance:
Commissioner Adleman made a motion to layover the claims to be paid from September 3-16, 2022 until October 3, 2022 with retro pay. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.
2. Reports:
City Administrator Report and Staff Report
Accounts and Finance-Commissioner Ryan Adleman
Health & Public Safety-Commissioner Ken Morse
Streets & Public Improvement-Commissioner Brian Hedrington
Public Properties-Commissioner Courtney Prentice
Mayor-Tom Fitzgerald

PRESENTATION OF ZONING CODE REWRITE BY FOTH:
Jeff Muenkel from FOTH was present to review the updates to the Zoning and Subdivision Code with Council. Mr. Muenkel said the process began approximately 1 year ago. There has been a Public Engagement Input event that was held, as well as meetings with the Guidance Group, and meetings with Staff. Mr. Muenkel said there was also a Survey Questionnaire that was available for residents to complete to provide feedback. Big issues are the Commercial and Industrial areas. Mr. Muenkel said the

current Code has many redundancies. Mr. Muenkel provided a brief overview of some of the changes that will be presented. The new Zoning Code will include 4 new Zoning Districts to help with legal non-conforming issues/lots. Mr. Muenkel said Council will have ample time to review the changes and provide input.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT HIRE:

Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve hiring Shawna Henthorn as the City's Community Development Director at a rate of \$55,000/year. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Commissioner Hedrington voiced his disapproval with the position. Commissioner Hedrington said when the City Administrator was hired that position was supposed to work in both capacities, and provide savings for attorney cost. Commissioner Hedrington said he does not see any savings, and stated he is not in favor of the position. Commissioner Hedrington said he believes the position should also be included in the City Administrator's job duties. Administrator Hoppes said the position was approved at a prior Council Meeting. The Community Development Director job description was sent to Council for review. Administrator Hoppes said the City Administrator can not do all things. Administrator Hoppes said she has been in the position for 13 months and has not had a review as of yet. Administrator Hoppes said she would welcome an evaluation. Mayor Fitzgerald said the position would help moving permits along faster, and believes hiring Ms. Henthorn would help South Beloit. Mayor Fitzgerald said of the candidates Ms. Henthorn was the best candidate. Commissioner Prentice said he understands the City's vision, and that this Council previous to his term as Commissioner approved the position. City has to take the step forward. Commissioner Prentice said Council needs to trust that the position is needed. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 nay by Commissioner Hedrington.

DISCUSSION REGARDING LIMITING GAMING LICENSES:

Commissioner Adleman said he believes Council needs to explore capping the BG Gaming Licenses. Commissioner Adleman reviewed the history of the gaming licenses, and said he believes they need to be capped at whatever number Council determines is best to be capped. Commissioner Adleman said the City needs to clean up what's coming in for businesses in the City. The City needs to attract businesses other than gaming. Commissioner Morse said he agrees completely. Mayor Fitzgerald said he believes a mistake was made when gaming was opened to be allowed in gas stations/convenient stores. Mayor Fitzgerald said most bars are surviving because of the gaming, and stated the only issue he has is what amount the City gets from the gaming. Commissioner Prentice said capping may be the best option. There needs to be discretion, otherwise there will be over saturation and businesses will be cannibalizing each other. Commissioner Adleman provided information from local communities that have less population than South Beloit. South Beloit has in some cases 2 or 3 times more locations than communities that are much larger. Attorney Zamudio said he researched capping. The City can cap the number of licenses to the desired amount, and amend if need be. Commissioner Adleman said he would like an Ordinance drafted to cap the BG License for the next Regular Council Meeting.

ORDINANCES-SECOND READ:

None

ORDINANCES-FIRST READ:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:

- a. Commissioner Morse made a motion for the first reading of Ordinance 2707 amending Chapter 30 Emergency Services of the City's Code of Ordinances regarding Service Rates and Mileage Charges for Ambulance Services provided by the City of South Beloit. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Fire Chief Griffin said the fees have been overlooked for years. The change is bringing fees up

to standard with other communities. Chief Griffin said the ambulance fee will now be a flat fee for residents and non-residents of \$1,700.00. Mileage will go from \$12.00/mile to \$20.00/mile. The new fees will not cover cost of new equipment, only bring the fees in line with other communities. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to waive the 2nd reading for the ordinance. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve the Ordinance as stated. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

RESOLUTIONS:

- a. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to approve Resolution 6358 approving a Training/Licensure Reimbursement Agreement between the City and Fire Department Employees. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Administrator Hoppes said the agreement would be similar to the training agreement in Public Works. The agreement would only be for employees moving forward for training, or for bargaining purposes. Commissioner Morse said the City needs to look at part-time employees hourly rates for classes. Council discussed the cost of sending employees to paramedic school. Commissioner Morse made a motion to layover Resolution 6358. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.
- b. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6363 approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services for Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Chief Griffin said the program was implemented in 2019 for Medicare and Medicaid. The program helps with the cost for sending out an ambulance, and will provide approximately \$63,000.00 in revenues. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- c. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6364 approving and awarding a bid to Rock Road for the City's 2022 Streets Project – Dearborn Heights in the amount of \$438,998.6. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 abstain from Commissioner Adleman.

MISCELLANEOUS

LICENSES AND PERMITS:

1. Business Licenses:
 - a. B & B Tobacco Inc.

Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve the license second by Commissioner Hedrington. Voice vote carried the motion.

ADJOURN:

At 6:51 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Hedrington. Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor

City Clerk

Approved: