

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
June 20, 2023

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 Aaron Szeto was present
City Administrator Sonya Hoppes was present
City Clerk Tracy Patrick recorded the minutes
Department Heads in attendance:
WWTP Superintendent Jeff Reininger
Street Superintendent Steve Haas
Police Chief Adam Truman
Fire Chief Jason Griffin
Community Development Director Shawna Henthorn

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

INVOCATION: City Clerk, Tracy Patrick delivered the invocation.

APPROVE AGENDA: Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the agenda amending to remove Executive Session, and moving the Report of Officers to the end of the meeting after Permits and Licenses. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Kara Person requested Council consider allowing chickens within the city. Ms. Person said she's a South Beloit resident and added hens in her back yard 2 years ago. Ms. Person said the hens are part of their family, and they have taught their children how to raise them. Ms. Person said she recently found out they were not allowed in the city, and they had to re-home them. Ms. Person said she has received support from the community. Ms. Person added the hens are good for stress relief.
Mary Jane Mitchell said she lives in Roscoe Township and thought they were permitted. Ms. Mitchell said they are asking for 6 hens. They provide eggs and benefits. Ms. Mitchell added the city could have a permit and charge a fee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
1. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on June 5, 2023. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:
1. Finance:
Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the claims paid from June 3 - 16, 2023 in the amount of \$396,507.55. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
2. Attorney Report:
3. 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

RESOLUTIONS:

- a. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6451 approving an Agreement with Nature at the Confluence. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- b. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6452 approving the selection of the City's Health Insurance plan for 2023-2024. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve a request to host a Car Show on August 26, 2023 from the Knights of Columbus. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Steve Tallacksen was present. Mr. Tallacksen said this will be their 4th annual event. Proceeds will go to Vets Roll. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- b. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve a request for reduction in lien fees for 717 Roscoe Avenue from Anthony Thoren. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Administrator Hoppes explained there were 2 liens when the property was purchased through the Tax Trustee at a Tax Sale. Mr. Thoren is cleaning up the property, however; would like to request a reduction of the lien amounts to have them removed from the property. Administrator Hoppes said staff recommendation would be reduction of half of the cost of the liens plus the Recorder's fees to have the liens removed for a total amount of \$572.88 to be paid in the interest of getting something. Administrator Hoppes explained the challenge of getting lien fees after a property is sold at a tax sale. Commissioner Adleman asked if the property is going to be a rental. Administrator Hoppes confirmed the property will be a rental. Community Development Director, Shawna Henthorn said this owner purchased another property through a tax sale, but has since sold that property. Attorney Szeto advised the decision is a policy decision to be made by Council. Attorney Szeto reminded Council that costs have been incurred by the City for this property, and this is an opportunity to recover some of those costs. Consensus from Council was to give a reduction in the amount of half of the lien amounts plus recording fees for a total amount of \$572.88 to be paid. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- c. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve hiring Nail Cain as full-time for the Waste Water Treatment Plant at a rate of \$17.85/hour. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- d. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve hiring Landon Billings as a Police Officer. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

MISCELLANEOUS

LICENSES & PERMITS:

1. Business Licenses's:
 - a. Unity Beauty
2. RLE's:
 - a. Chris Weber-The Rusty Wheel
 - b. Shawn Watters Jr-The Rusty Wheel
 - c. Susan Gaffey-The Rusty Wheel
 - d. Jada Lockhart-Jena's

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

ADJOURN:

At 5:46 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Morse. Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor

City Clerk

Approved: