
**MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
CITY HALL, 701 WASHINGTON ST.**

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

5:30 p.m.

The governing body met in regular session on November 6, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Commission Room at City Hall, with the following members being present: Commissioners Matthew, Hasch, Snavelly, Lambertz, and Sacco.

Absent: None.

Other Officers: City Manager Amy Lange, City Clerk Stacey Smith, Finance Director Amber Farha, and City Attorney Justin Ferrell.

There being a quorum present, Mayor Matthew called the meeting to order.

Visitors: Jim Lowell, Toby Nosker, Doris Hale, Karen Driscoll, Arlene Clayton, David Garnas, Mardell Snavelly, Robert Frasier, Richard Vickers, Monte Wentz, Rod Imhoff, Mabelle Fisher, Kelly Jackson, Jesse Pounds, James Koch, Darrel Gallagos, Charlotte Justyna, Andrew Allen, Josie Allen. Staff present: Ron Copple, Public Works Director; Jeremy Arnold, Utilities Director; Ric Fredrickson, Police Chief; Bruno Rehbein, Building Inspector; Chris Atkins, Recreation Director; Eric Voss, Fire Chief.

The invocation was followed by the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ITEMS SCHEDULED AT A CERTAIN TIME

Poppy Month Proclamation

Doris Hale and Karen Driscoll presented the proclamation. It was stated this is the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I. The mayor read the proclamation, and declared November to be Poppy Month.

Great American Smoke Out Proclamation

Dave Garnas presented the proclamation on behalf of the Cloud County Health Center, by promoting a healthier community. The mayor read the proclamation, and declared November 21 as the Great American Smoke Out Day.

Employee Recognition – Service Awards

The following employees were presented with service awards for years with the City: Ron Copple for 35 years; Charlotte Justyna for 20 years; Amber Farha for 10 years; and Andrew Allen for 10 years.

Downtown Sounds Speaker Replacement Presentation

Jesse Pounds and Darrel Gallagos, with the committee for the new sound system, spoke about the fundraising efforts on the project. Over \$40,000 was raised, including donations from twelve businesses, two anonymous donors, and grants for \$31,000. The speakers have been installed. This system can be used for things such as music, Amber alerts, and parades. The commission thanked the committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Arlene Clayton had comments.

Mabelle Fisher with Wood Oil asked that the commissioners consider changing the opening hours of CMB sales back to 6:00 a.m.

Allison Bridges of Leiszler Oil (Short Stop) said she also wished for the hours to be changed, but asked that they be changed from 11:00 p.m. to midnight, as in the past.

Kelly Jackson of Corner Liquor reminded the commissioners that the liquor store owners brought a petition for placement of Sunday sales on last year's ballot. She said the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. help level the playing field since convenience stores can now sell strong beer.

James Koch of Wal-Mart said even though stores can now sell on Sunday, with the shortened hours they actually have less hours of sale than in the past.

DISCUSSION AGENDA (Items Deserving of Brief Discussion, Action may be taken)

CMB Business Hours

Amy Lange said the City, in changing the hours of sale last year, are more restrictive than state statute which is allowed. Commissioner Lambertz said he felt the current ordinance provided a compromise with all business owners. Commissioner Sacco stated the City is losing sales with the restrictive hours. Commissioner Lambertz asked for statistics on sales during 6:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.-midnight. The item will be tabled for discussion until the November 20 meeting.

ACTION AGENDA (Action Expected)

Approval of October 16, 2019 Minutes

Commissioner Sacco moved to approve the minutes from October 16, 2019. Commissioner Snavelly seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Appropriation Ordinance #20

Commissioner Snavelly moved to approve appropriation ordinance #20. Commissioner Sacco seconded. Motion carried.

Brown Grand Theatre Board Request for Loan Forgiveness

In 2015, the Brown Grand Theatre took out a loan with the City for its renovation project. The loan has a current balance of \$51,189.31. Though some payments have been made, the Brown Grand has been unable to keep up with the loan payments. The theatre’s board owns the parking lot next to the theatre, which the City needs for expansion of the parking lot after the two homes to the east of the Brown Grand are demolished. The lot is valued at \$13,400. The board has asked for forgiveness of the debt.

Commissioner Sacco stated he was abstaining from the discussion and vote, as he is a board member.

Mayor Matthew asked to consider forgiveness of the debt completely, with the parking lot being deeded to the City. The commissioners were given several options of how to vote on the issue.

Commissioner Lambertz moved to forgive the entire amount of the debt owed including interest in exchange for the parking lot, Lots 11 & 12, Block 123. Commissioner Hasch seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of KDOT Agreement US 81 Hwy.

The agreement is for the repair of US 81 from the south city limits to 400 feet north of College Drive. The cost will be shared by KDOT, and the City’s share is 10% up to a total project cost of \$1,111,111.00. KDOT will be letting the bids and managing the project. The work will likely start in December of 2020.

Commissioner Sacco moved to approve the mayor to sign the agreement between the Secretary of Transportation and the City. Commissioner Snavelly seconded. Motion carried.

Public Hearing 516 E. 2nd St.

Bruno Rehbein stated the public hearing was not needed, as the owner had deeded the property to the City. He presented an ad he will be running to solicit bids for demolition of the house.

Demolition Program Application for 504 E. 2nd St.

The owner of 504 E. 2nd Street has submitted an application to be accepted into the demo program. The house has been vacant for many years. Two bids were submitted, with the lowest being Dalton Dirt Works for \$2,900. The City will reimburse the owner for half that amount, minus the title search fee.

Commissioner Lambertz moved to accept 504 E. 2nd St. into the demo program based on the lowest bid of \$2,900 from Dalton Dirt Works. Commissioner Snavelly seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Manager’s Report

City Manager Lange thanked the groups in town that offered kid-friendly Halloween events. The intergovernmental meeting last week was attended by 27 from various entities in the county, and the topic was the upcoming US Census. She informed the commissioners that the first meeting in January falls on the 1st, putting the actual meeting date as January 2.

Staff Reports

Ron Cople asked that Commissioners Matthew and Sacco be available next week to discuss consulting choices for the highway project.

Eric Voss announced that smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are available at the fire department.

Ric Fredrickson said 40 pounds of product were accepted during the recent drug take-back program.

Mayor/Commissioner Comments & Reports

Commissioners Matthew and Lambertz congratulated City staff receiving service awards tonight.

Mayor Matthew discussed the economic innovative center, associated with the Dane Hansen Foundation, and said the rep for Concordia is very impressed with our City.

Commissioner Hasch said she appreciated the attention to the alley behind her house.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, at 6:59 p.m. it was moved and seconded to adjourn to a study session, to discuss employee handbook changes.



/s/ Stacey Smith
City Clerk