

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Andy Weh at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, 13, 2021, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Berry(absent), Brown, Deien, Kniepman, Mohme, Sampson

Also present were Mike Conley, Officer Hill, Chief Chris Joellenbeck, Superintendent of Public Works Andy Brockhahn, Stephanie Koerber, Norm Wiggins and Steve Buzzard

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC INPUT

Norm Wiggins addressed the Council said based on a note in the Trenton Sun stating there would be no pool season due to leaks, he felt that was too simplistic and that the public did not know the facts and he felt compelled to present those facts. Mr. Wiggins asked what were the leaks, and if the city knew what caused them. Mayor Weh said that we do know what caused the leaks and it is not due to the city. Mr. Wiggins said that he thinks they are. His opinion is that the leaks were cause by stakes driven into supply lines when the concrete decking forms were being set, and that the root of the problem is actually how the old concrete decking was torn out by a former city employee. He went on to say that the engineering firm did not know that lines had been replaced and therefore did not know the location of the lines and ultimately did not convey to the contractor this information. Mr. Wiggins went on to ask who had oversight of this, who was the project manager, and who was ultimately responsible for this. He stated that a leak test was done, but at the wrong time. It should have been done prior to concrete being poured and proper management of the project would have accomplished this. Mr. Wiggins then asked how much additional expense the additional concrete work was, the additional manhours by city workers, and the cost for searching for the leaks over the original contract. Mr. Wiggins went on to say that he managed the pool for the last three years that it was open and there was absolutely no damage to the baby pool. He witnessed the baby pool be destroyed in the process of the concrete decking being removed. What is the additional expense for that destruction? Lastly, he asked for the actual date that the liner of the pool ordered. Mayor Weh will look into answers for all the questions. The project was managed by several people including himself. Mr. Wiggins stated that his only purpose for being here tonight was to prevent this from happening again.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR

The Tootsie Roll drive by Knights of Columbus will be this weekend in Trenton and Lebanon. The city financials continue to be strong. The general fund has a \$200,000.00 surplus. The Park fund we need to do something about, and Mayor Weh stated he is working on a plan to replenish it.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN

Alderman Deien asked if the Safe Routes to School grant included streetlights? Alderman Sampson stated that the Harvest Moon 5K is coming together. It will be on October 23, 2021, at 8am. A flyer will be forthcoming. City Administrator Marquart will pass that information on the IL South Tourism bureau.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF

City Administrator Marquart informed the Council that the online auction of surplus vehicles netted over \$34,000.00. The car has been picked up and the truck will be picked up on Friday. The delivery of the excavator is still being worked out.

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity has announced a new “Rebuild Illinois Main Street” grant. Applications are due in January and a list of projects are being compiled. It is possible to resubmit our current downtown project as we have waited 18 months to hear about that award.

The latest leak at the pool has been repaired and the pool will be pressure tested again. Next year we would like to open the pool May 1 and keep it open longer, and have the pool open at no cost to the public for a while.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, Berry absent. Motion carried. The Consent Agenda included the Minutes of the August 23, 2021, Regular Council Meeting, the Treasurer’s Report for month of July 2021, Bills for month of August 2021, Payrolls for month of August 2021, and Appointment of Jackie VanGorkom to fill vacancy on Library Board, term to expire July 2022.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Kniepman made a motion to Approve Renewal Agreement with Retail Strategies for 2021-2022 in the amount of \$25,000.00 to be paid from TIF fund. Second Alderman Sampson. Roll Call: Sampson, yes, Deien, no, Mohme, no, Kniepman, yes, Brown, no, Berry, absent. Motion failed. There was a very lengthy discussion about this contract being an integral part of growth to the City and this being only one component of the big plan. The Council was informed that City Administrator Marquart is not only working on retail development but also with the Leadership Council of Southern Illinois and the Southern Illinois Homebuilders Association on industrial and residential development. This all takes time – years. Mr. Marquart was asked why all the analytical data was at the national level and none of our local businesses were taken into consideration. City Administrator Marquart stated that competition is good. No one disagreed, but Council’s concern was whether competition at the expense of our existing businesses was good. There was a lengthy discussion about growth for the City of Trenton.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1783 Authorizing a Redevelopment Agreement (TIF Agreement) between City of Trenton and Koerber Corp. in an amount not to exceed \$48,149.00. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, Berry absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Purchase of two (2) John Deere mowers for a total cost of \$12,636.96. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, Berry absent. Motion carried. These are being purchased from state contract.

Alderman Deien made a motion to Approve Resolution #20210913 Supporting city of Trenton Submission of Safe Routes to School Grant. Second Alderman Brown. All yes, Berry absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Mohme made a motion to Approve Resolution #20210913-1 Supporting city of Trenton Submission of Illinois Department of Natural Resources Open Spaces Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant Application. Second Alderman Brown. All yes, Berry absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve HMG Engineering Change Order No. One-Final for swimming pool electrical improvements in the amount of \$1,264.00. Second Alderman Kniepman. All yes, Berry absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Award Construction of ADA Sidewalk at 532 E. Broadway to Mayer Landscaping in the amount of \$11,283.00 to be paid from TIF funds. Second Alderman Mohme. All yes, Berry absent. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

CLOSED SESSION

Alderman Deien made a motion to Enter into Closed Session for 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective Bargaining. Second Alderman Sampson. All yes, Berry absent. The Council entered closed session at 8:23 p.m.

The Council re-entered the regular meeting at 8:44 p.m. Roll Call: Sampson, Deien, Mohme, Kniepman, Brown, Berry (absent).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alderman Sampson announced a 5K run on October 23, 2021. He asked for assistance with getting the word out.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Deien made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Brown. All yes, Berry absent. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Karen Buzzard, City Clerk