

City of Belleville
City Council Meeting
Monday, June 22, 2020
Belleville City Council Room

The meeting of the City of Belleville Council was held on Monday, June 22, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Belleville City Council Room.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Adam Robertson called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Rick Snodgrass provided the opening prayer and comments. The pledge of allegiance was recited

ATTENDANCE:

Council members present: Doane Sells, Kim Lapo, Mike Palmquist and Tiffany Hansen.

City Staff present: City Manager Adam Anderson, City Clerk Russ Piroutek, City Attorney Coleman Younger and Police Chief Chris Springer

Others present: Fred Arnold, Waylon Sheets, Arlene Clayton, Rick Snodgrass, Luke Mahin, Joan Grover, Julie Baniqued and Kyra Lampe.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES AND DISBURSEMENTS:

Tiffany Hansen made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 8th, 2020 regular Council Meeting. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Doane Sells made a motion to approve the appropriations and disbursements. Kim Lapo seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Arlene Clayton commented on the speed limit on 18th street and rat traps.

Waylon Sheetz gave a Chamber and Main Street update.

Rick Snodgrass talked about uneven sidewalks around town.

NEW BUSINESS:

Republic County Economic Development Director Luke Mahin introduced Kyra Lampe as a summer intern. Kyra will be helping RCED with housing studies. Waylon Sheetz introduced Julie Baniqued as the summer intern for the Chamber and Main Street Program. Julie is working on Belleville downtown revitalization. Both Kyra and Julie provided their backgrounds and what they will be spending their time doing this summer. The availability of interns was made possible by the Dane G Hansen Foundation.

City Manager Anderson, Mayor Robertson and Councilmember Palmquist gave a report from the recent meeting with the Rural Water District regarding water treatment. The meeting was also attended by Schwab-Eaton engineer Stuart Porter. The meeting went very well. Some mis-interpretations from previous meetings were resolved, and all groups were ready to move forward on finding quality water. The next step would be to update the engineer's feasibility study by including additional water the RWD would be using. Total cost of the study would be no more than \$15,000, with each entity paying for half. Mike Palmquist made a motion to proceed with the study. Kim Lapo seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Tiffany Hansen made a motion to approve a \$10,000 electric incentive for the new service at Hoge Crete, 521 7th Street. Total cost of the electric service is \$19,875.26, with the customer owing \$9,875.26. Kim Lapo seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses, for the Beer Garden and Grandstands at the Republic County Fairgrounds, 901 O Street, for consumption on premises only, for 2020. Kim Lapo seconded the motion, which carried on a voice vote of three (3) yeas, one abstain cast by Tiffany Hansen, with Mayor Robertson casting a yea vote.

The Council discussed installing lights at the volleyball court at the Park. The underground electric has already been installed; cost of the lights would be approximately \$7,500. It was the consensus of the Council to pursue grant funds to help pay for this project.

City Manager Anderson provided information for length of stay at the Rocky Pond RV park. City Attorney Younger stated that the Council has the authority to provide the rules and fees for Rocky Pond, as long as everyone is treated equally. The proposed change would be to allow campers to stay longer than 14 days, with a daily rate of \$20, a weekly rate of \$125 and a monthly rate of \$500. Tiffany Hansen made a motion to proceed with the recommended changes. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion. The Council had discussion on whether the process should be more case by case for those who want to stay longer than 14 days. The motion passed on a vote of three (3) yeas and one nay cast by Kim Lapo.

The Council discussed offering kayaks or canoes at Rocky Pond. City Manager Anderson researched other lakes where this was available. The Council had numerous questions regarding what staff would be required, if current City liability would cover the activities and what time frame would work the best. After more discussion from the Council, Tiffany Hansen made a motion to have the City Manager contact different vendors or companies, with their own liability coverage, that may set up for a weekend or two during the summer for City sponsored kayaking and canoeing. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Tiffany Hansen made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-016, abandoning a utility easement on a property on Highway 36. This easement has not been used for many years, and an additional easement is available at the rear of the property. Doane Sells seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

City Manager Anderson provided a draft of the 2021 budget. The overall mil levy decreased slightly. A list of items that affected the budget were discussed. The Council discussed what items should be added or removed from the budget, and different dates for the public hearing. The budget will be discussed more in depth at the next regular meeting.

The Council discussed disposing of a parcel of land just west of 12th & K Street. There are no plans to use this property for City purposes, and City crews maintain it each year. Joan Grover, adjoining property owner, was present at the meeting. Some confusion on previous deeds and surveys resulted in a shed being built by the Grovers on City property. With no use for the land, and the out building on the edge of it, Mike Palmquist made a motion to deed the property to the Grovers, who are in the process of selling the property, and the City would retain an easement on the west side of the property. Tiffany Hansen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. The City also has two parcels of land no longer in use along old Highway 81 where the old booster stations are. The Council discussed these briefly, but the consensus was not to do anything with these parcels until after the water upgrades.

Shipping containers on properties within the City limits was discussed. The consensus of the Council was not to allow them on residential lots, and if they were placed on commercial or industrial lots, they would need to be secured or tied down. An ordinance will be brought back to the next meeting for review.

City Manager Anderson provided information on the Swimming Pool Bond. The bond can be paid down beginning in 2023, and if they are paid off early, the City will continue to collect sales tax for the duration of the bond, or until 2035. No action was taken after discussion.

The Council discussed replacing the heat exchanger at the Power Plant. The estimated cost could be \$60,000. Callabresi Heating & Cooling, Concordia, installed and has repaired the existing heat exchanger over the years. Discussion was held on whether to have Callabresi replace the heat exchanger, or go out for bids. Requesting bids could result in a lower cost for the heat exchanger, but there would also be engineer costs associated with the bid. Mike Palmquist made a motion to advertise for bids for the heat exchanger. Tiffany Hansen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Tiffany Hansen made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes with the City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to discuss acquisition of real estate. Kim Lapo seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. The Council left for executive session at 8:45 p.m. The Council returned from executive session at 8:55 p.m. No action was taken.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

There was quite a lengthy docket for court earlier this evening. City Attorney Younger will not be at the first meeting of the month for the next few months, but another attorney will be able to attend if needed.

COUNCIL MEMBER/MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mike Palmquist commented on how nice the parks, ballfields and Rocky Pond looked, and wanted to extend his thanks to the City crews. He also commented on how good of a job the water contractors did with the painting of the water tower. Mike also asked about committing

to another year of the Nuisance Abatement Program. This will be addressed at the beginning of the year, after the new Council members are sworn in.

Doane Sells agreed with Mike Palmquist's comments. He also wanted to see if we could supply a letter of recommendation for Viking Company.

Mayor Robertson asked about scheduling a planning meeting and a time to tour the sewer plant. It was the consensus of the Council to meet at 6:00 p.m. on July 13th, prior to the regular meeting, to tour the sewer plant and then have a planning meeting afterward.

ADJOURNMENT:

Tiffany Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a hand vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Russell Piroutek
City Clerk