

WEST LIBERTY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Due to schedule changes the work session canceled.

Meetings will be recorded

Mayor Pro Tem Dana Dominguez called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Council Members present: Diane Beranek, Jose Zacarias, and Cara McFerren. Absent Mayor Katie McCullough and Council Member Omar Martinez. Staff members present: City Manager Haugland, City Clerk Geertz, and Chief of Police Werling. City Council approved the agenda as amended by motion to remove item 3 closed session and item 5 letter B Clerk Treasurer Report from agenda: Beranek/McFerren 4-0

PUBLIC HEARING

City Council approved to Open the Public Hearing for MAXIMUM TAX DOLLARS FROM CERTAIN LEVIES FOR THE CITY'S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 BUDGET: McFerren/Beranek (Roll Call: Beranek, McFerren, Dominguez and Zacarias) 4-0

No Public Comments or Correspondence was received for the purpose of the public hearing.

City Council approved to Close the Public Hearing for MAXIMUM TAX DOLLARS FROM CERTAIN LEVIES FOR THE CITY'S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 BUDGET: McFerren/Beranek (Roll Call: Beranek, McFerren, Dominguez, and Zacarias) 4-0

City Council approved Resolution No. 20220201-02 A Resolution Approving the Tax Levy for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget does not exceed \$1,187,782 which does not represent an increase of greater than 102% from the maximum property tax dollars requested for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023: McFerren/Beranek (Roll Call: Beranek, McFerren, Dominguez, and Zacarias)

City Council approved the following items of the consent agenda: McFerren/Beranek 4-0

- Regular Council Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2022
- Request to approve Liquor License Class C with Sunday Sales, Flama's Night Club

City Council approved Vendor Voucher Claims List #1 in the amount of \$ 241,334.5: Beranek/Zacarias 4-0

City Council approved Vendor Voucher Claims List #2 in the amount of \$ 392.60: Zacarias/Beranek 3-0-1
McFerren abstained due to ownership.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR CORRESPONDENCE This is the time set aside for comments from the public on topics of City Business other than those listed on the agenda. No action may be taken. Please state your name and address for the record and keep your comments to no more than 2 minutes.

McFerren and Beranek reported a receiving an email from Beth Brophy with regards to her input on the American Rescue funds, and she asked to have the funds contributed to the ambulance department for improvements. Dominguez reported she had also received the email. McFerren had presented a question on the snow emergency in the downtown area during business hours. Street Superintendent communicated the snow removal would work around cars looking to park in the downtown area during business hours, and then work during the other hours to finish cleaning the area from snow. The snow emergency is notification the snow will need to be removed and cars should be moved in accordance with the route to allow access to snowplows.

OLD BUSINESS

City Council approved to table the discussion of the Mayoral Committee appointments for City Council Committee for Ambulance/Public Safety Committee. Beranek/McFerren 4-0

Discussion of American Rescue Plan funds requested by Excucha Mi Voz, the organization presented more communication on the request for relief funds to the individual families impacted by pandemic but was unable to receive funding due to document status. Mayor Pro Tem communicated the work will be done and look to have an answer with in the next 30 days for the group. Beranek motion to assign to the Finance Committee for review and bring back recommendations to Council: Beranek/McFerren 4-0

NEW BUSINESS

City Council approved an Agreement with Bowman and Miller CPA to contract for Annual City Audits FY 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026, City Manager Haugland will be permitted to sign: McFerren/Beranek 4-0

Discussion: Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez asked if we should consider 2 years, City Clerk Geertz reported in has been difficult to secure CPA's over the past years as the State has communicated a reduction in handling

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annual audits. McFerren and Beranek supported Bowman and Miller PC and believed they have done an excellent job in correcting issues presented by previous audits with the State.

City Council approved West Liberty Economic Development Grant Application Request from Jim Keele on behalf of 101 E Third Street in the amount of \$8,400: Beranek/Zacarias

Discussion: Zacarias and McFerren has asked to be certain that all building codes are up to date for each grant recipient. We would also like to see the rental inspection process to be better.

City Council approved West Liberty Economic Development Grant Application Request from Rachel Morrison on behalf of 105 W 3rd Street Improvements in the amount of \$25,000: Zacarias/McFerren 4-0

Discussion: We Lead Director Ken Brooks presented the proposed improvement plans for the Morrison building. Council was extremely impressed with the design and upgrades to the building. Beranek asked about the ADA access and if there would need to be a special request to construct the access to the sidewalk. Geertz communicated this would need to be reviewed by the Goerdt, City Building Inspector with permits.

City Council set the Date for a City Council Work Session on February 15th at 6:00pm for Annual Audit FY 2021 presentation by Taylor Johnson of Bowman and Miller: McFerren/Zacarias 4-0

City Council Set the Date(s) to establish Work Session for FY 2022-2023 Budget Presentation with Mayor, City Council and City Departments on February 22nd at 5:00pm: Beranek/Zacarias 4-0

REPORTS – Employee/City Engineer/City Attorney/City Boards/Committees/Commissions

City Engineer: Leo Foley of Veenstra and Kimm communicated their work is still in operations with the Well#2 and Northway. The Maxson/Rainbow project review is near completion and should have information to present with the sidewalk and lighting. WLF, City and V&K held a meeting for a facility study with grant opportunities for the Bio Digestor opportunity.

Due to the technical issues at the beginning of the meeting Mayor Pro Tem allowed for additional public comments. Zoom attendee Rachel Zabel of Washington, Iowa inquired on behalf of the West Liberty Fire Department and appointment of Chief Sickels. Council Member McFerren provided her input and statement as to the decisions and process with the City.

Additional chat statements are not a part of the dialog for the open meeting. The statements are on record with the zoom video.

City Staff Minutes- no additional items to add to the staff notes. City Manager Haugland did report he has held a meeting with the West Liberty Volunteer Fire Department members and will be having a future meeting with the West Liberty Rural Trustees. Clerk Geertz followed up with Council Member Beranek on the Columbarium delivery. The city is unable to store the columbarium on site currently. Council Member Beranek will inquire to see if the Columbarium's can stay at the warehouse until spring delivery date.

Sewer Report for December 2021, received with rest of the reports.

ADJOURNMENT: City Council adjourned the meeting at 8:19pm McFerren/Zacarias 4-0