

## WEST LIBERTY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 10/18/2022

Mayor Pro Tem called the West Liberty Work Session to begin at 6:30pm. Nathan Summers of UMB presented a Financial and Debt reports over the City's funds.

Mayor Pro Tem McFerren called the meeting the regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:30pm. Roll Call: Council Members Present, Omar Martinez, Cara McFerren, Josh Shiltz, and Ashley Smith. Council Member Dominguez was absent. City Staff present: City Manager Haugland, City Clerk Geertz, Deputy City Clerk Hoffert, Communication Director Lane, and Police Chief Werling.

City Council approved the agenda: Martinez/Smith 4-0.

Mayor Pro Tem McFerren provided a special recognition of foreign exchange students and teachers guests of the West Liberty Community. Mayor Pro Tem McFerren, because of the role they play with our community school district dual language program for the benefit of cultural diversity for our students, I though it warranted a recognition, so thank you. Mayor Pro Tem McFerren sent a letter to Brenda Authur Miller with the appreciation and recognition of those students and teachers. The dual language program will celebrate 25 years next year. The Dual Language Program provides Spanish to Students k-12. Jose Cano and Ana Blaines was present for the meeting. In addition, teacher Teresa Castillo Coscolla is also currently here as an exchange teacher.

City Council approved the Consent Agenda to include the following items: Smith/Shiltz 4-0.

City Council Meeting Minutes 10-04-2022

City Clerk/Treasurer Report August 2022

Request to Renew Liquor License for DMH298, LLC DBA Winks Bar & Grill effective until 10-22-2023.

City Council approved the vendor voucher claims list in the amount of \$210,653.05: Smith/Shiltz 4-0.

Public Comments:

Maria from Mexico of the West Liberty Community for 20 years addressed West Liberty City Council with regards to funding through Eschua Mi Voz. A letter was provided to the Council with stated demands from the group of individuals representing Eschua Mi Voz demanding financial assistance and utility assistance for those in need. Jose Zacarias communicated his support of funding Eschua Mi Voz for their demands of financial assistance.

City Clerk provided receipt of letter via email from Eschua Mi Voz and Bistate on behalf of the City of Moline.

OLD BUSINESS

Council Member Ashley Smith provided an update from the Finance Committee as Chair Dana Dominguez was absent to provide. Smith spoke of the Finance Committee meeting last Thursday as the review was over the use of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) permitted by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The committee discussed retention bonuses and equipment with the Police and Fire. A document was provided by the Auditor of State on permissible allocation of the funding, staff encouraged the committee to reach out to the Auditor of State for more information pertaining to the documents and allocation of funds. Two members of the audience, David Goodner and Jose Zacarias interrupted the discussion. Mayor Pro Tem requested they both leave or be removed. Police Chief Werling escorted them both out of the meeting area. Continued discussion regarding how to establish funding. Legal Counsel and City Staff recommended to take back the information provided and set a Finance Committee meeting to bring a written recommendation by resolution to Council for approval at the November 1, 2022, meeting. The best practice for allocating funds would be to an establish 501 3(c) organization. This could be established by having the said organization present the City with an agreement as to how the funds would be distributed for financial need. The recommendation would be to work with the Ministerial Association to accommodate the processing of funds for financial assistance. Review of the agreement to fund will need reviewed by legal counsel prior to passage.

NEW BUSINESS

City Council approved Building Permit Request by Rachel and Todd Morrison use of Public Right of Way for 105 w 3<sup>RD</sup> Street: Smith/Martinez 4-0

City Council approved Resolution 20221018-23, Naming Depositories for the City of West Liberty by roll call vote: Smith/Shiltz: Yes: Martinez, McFerren, Shiltz, and Smith: No: 0 passed 4-0.

City Council approved Resolution 20221018-24, the City of West Liberty to enter into an Agreement with the Muscatine Humane Society for Certain Animal Care and Housing of Strays to include costs of \$100 per abandoned animal by roll call vote: Smith/Martinez: Yes: Martinez, McFerren, Shiltz, and Smith. No: 0 approved 4-0.

City Council accepted City Clerk's presented Budget Timeline for FY 2022-2023.

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City Engineer, Leo Foley provided the Maxson, and Rainbow Street Project is ready except for an agreement with BHMG for Electrical work, and then this can go out for bid for construction. It would be hopeful to begin construction in the spring of 2023. The report for Wastewater baseline improvements is complete. We have follow up conversation with the City Manager regarding funding. Well #2 is ready for rehabilitation work, we also need to have the discussion of funding with the City Staff.

City Manager communicated he has received the COSS Study report and will need to set a meeting with the Utility Committee for further review. Mayor Pro Tem reported she had received information from the Electric Superintendent of concerns of hiring and understaffed. We need get this study underway to meet the need to attract apprentice and journeymen for the Electric Department. City Manager communicated there has also been two submissions for Mayor, Ethan Anderson and Robert Hartman have asked to be considered to the appointment of Mayor.

Mayor Pro Tem reported on the Fire/EMS Taskforce meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup> and communicated Pat Calahan of Calahan Consulting was a guest to assist with the discussion of forming an agency and how the relationship would work. Currently the City is the Vendor and Rural are customers. In a formation of a Fire/EMS agency, they become the vendor and City with Rural become customers. The Fire/EMS will move forward to continue the work of ironing out those details.

Smith had provided information earlier pertaining to the discussion and recommendations for the Finance Committee with use of the American Rescue Dollars.

City Clerk reported Deputy City Clerk Hoffert will be out this week attending IMFOA for continuation credits towards her certification. Utility Billing Clerk, Avalos completed training with IMAU last week on billing and disconnections. There are two interviews set this week for applicants applying to fill the administrative assistant position as replacement to Sergio Guerrero leave.

ADJORNMENT: City Council adjourned the meeting at 8:32pm: Smith/Martinez 4-0.

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Ethan Anderson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lee Geertz, City Clerk