MEETING MINUTES OF THE WEST LIBERTY CITY COUNCIL

WEST LIBERTY, IOWA October 15, 2024

Mayor Mark Smith called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. by roll call. City Council Members in attendance: Councilmember Josh Shiltz, Councilmember Tim Parizek, Councilmember Omar Martinez, Councilmember Dana Dominguez and Mayor Pro-Tem Cara McFerren.. City Staff in attendance: City Manager Lee Geertz via Zoom, City Clerk Shari Hoffert, Deputy City Clerk Emily Reinhardt, Communications Specialist Brittany Woodson, Library Director Allie Paarsmith, Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Jerry Kruse, and Police Chief Josh Houser *The full video can be viewed on the City website at www.cityofwestlibertyia.org .*

The City Council approved the agenda. McFerren/Shiltz (5-0)

The City Council approved the consent agenda. McFerren/Shiltz (5-0)

Reports: City Engineer Leo Foley communicated the Wastewater Treatment Plant met with the Iowa DNR staff online to go over the loan process and held a meeting with West Liberty Foods. There will be two phases needed for the loan process. The documentation will need to be filled out before knowing how much the loan will be for and this may be a forgivable loan when all is completed. City Engineer Foley communicated there is a problem with the Well #2 integration process. Harn RO will be meeting with Water Operator Austin Maine in mid-November to try and resolve the communication error as the pump is not pumping at capacity it should be. Foley communicated the Columbus Street Sidewalk Project has begun with All American Concrete. One of the Comet Car Wash bays taken out had heated pavement, All American had to take this into account and said there would be an upcharge for the heated concrete. Councilmember McFerren questioned if this upcharge would be at the property owner's expense or the project's expense. City Engineer Leo Foley communicated this would be a project expense, as the tubing needed to be added under the cement is approximately $10,000.

Vendor Voucher Claims List #1 (Reg, Prepaid) in the amount of $546,464.80 was approved. Shiltz/Dominguez (5-0)

Library Prepaid Claims List in the amount of $6,208.77 was approved. McFerren/Shiltz (5-0)

Public Comments and Correspondence: Phil Wiese, from Muscatine introduced himself as running for office in the 82nd District for the State of Iowa Representative. Mr. Wiese communicated his supports for the West Liberty Fire Department, the West Liberty Culture and community. Mr. Wiese communicated he was in West Liberty for the Latino Festival in September and enjoyed watching the West Liberty Community come together as a whole and celebrate Latino Heritage and the diversity in West Liberty. Councilmember Shiltz communicated a Utility Billing concern had been proposed to him and he worked with City Hall staff to get it resolved. Councilmember Shiltz communicated customers concerns on the stand-alone stop sign being taken down at the intersection of 3rd Street and Spencer. He reminded customers to slow down and be cautious as it is still a fairly new stop sign for people to get used to. Councilmember Shiltz communicated a community member brought up a concern on the 8th Street Annexation process. The community members communicated their concern about the traffic flow on 8th Street as it is already heavy due to school traffic, if needed- there may need to be an extra entrance/exit on to 8th street. Councilmember Shiltz also communicated with community members excitement for the sidewalks going in on Columbus Street. Councilmember Dominguez communicated her meeting with NALEO and news to share. Councilmember Dominguez learned about improving building ordinances by protecting new homes for lower insurance and the specificity of quality products. Councilmember Dominguez communicated she had spoken with WELEAD Director Ken Brooks about low-income, subsidized homes. Councilmember Dominguez also communicated there is Absentee Ballad Early Voting at the Library on October 27th from 11:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. Councilmember McFerren communicated she had questions from community members about the City of West Liberty receiving grants for water testing. Mayor Smith communicated the importance of community members going online and taking the survey regarding what piping is used in their homes for the DNR to complete their survey. Communication Specialist Brittany Woodson communicated there are different sections of the timeline for the survey. The first part is finding out what type of pipe is being used, and secondly, what needs to be fixed to see what grants are available. City Manager Geertz communicated community member Maria Jimenez reached out to her regarding the tree application program and wanted an aged tree on the City's right of way, near her property to be removed due to the walnuts falling out of the tree, concerned this could be a hazard for community members walking on the sidewalks. After speaking with Public Works Director Adam Reinhardt, City Manager Geertz communicated the tree would not likely be removed due to its healthy nature. City Manager Geertz communicated she had Public Works Director Reinhardt reaching out to Ms. Jimenez to let her know.

There was Discussion and Appropriate Action by the City Council of West Liberty, IA on a New Screen for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. There was a motion to pass the New Screen for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. McFerren/Shiltz (5-0)

Resolution 20241015-183: A Resolution for LOST Projects Transfer for Dutton Trail to Buysse Subdivision, Pickleball Resurfacing, and Wapsi Trail. There was a motion to approve the LOST Projects Transfer. McFerren/Shiltz. McFerren-Y, Martinez-Y, Dominguez-Y, Parizek-Y, Shiltz-Y. (5-0)

Resolution 20241015-184: A Resolution Approving the Addition of a Seventh Full-Time Officer for the West Liberty Police Department was approved by roll call vote. Dominguez/Parizek Martinez-Y, Dominguez-Y, Parizek-Y, Shiltz-Y, McFerren-Y (5-0) Councilmember Dominguez communicated the importance of a seventh full-time officer with Police Chief Josh Houser being invested in Community Policing. Councilmember Shiltz communicated the original concern for funding but trusts Chief Houser to make the correct choice. Councilmember Tim Parizek communicated the helpful understanding of the Resolution and gave his appreciation to Police Chief Houser.

Resolution 20241015-185: A Resolution for Disposal of City Property Stored in the Police Garage in West Liberty, IA 52776 was approved by roll call vote. McFerren/Dominguez Dominguez-Y, Parizek-Y, Shiltz-Y, McFerren-Y, Martinez-Y. (5-0) Councilmember McFerren communicated her questioning of where the items from the Police Garage would go. Chief Houser communicated he planned to work with

Library Director Allie Paarsmith to get a program going to find a good home for some of the items as they are in good use, and he prefers they go to someone in need.

Resolution 20241015-186. A Resolution Accepting Public Property from the West Liberty School District to the West Liberty Fire Association housed at the West Liberty Fire and EMS Department Building was approved by roll call vote. Martinez/Dominguez Parizek-Y, Shiltz-Y, McFerren-Y, Martinez-Y, Dominguez-Y. (5-0) Councilmember Shiltz communicated he was curious as to if the items taken into the Fire/EMS building had asbestos from the old building in the West Liberty School District. Mayor Mark Smith communicated that the School Board Assistant okayed the removal of items, and the items may or may not contain asbestos- this is something that will need to be resolved. City Manager Geertz communicated the City Building Inspector Terry Goerdt communicated the concrete where the items were, would have to be tested for asbestos but this is unable to happen until the City of West Liberty has compete possession of the building.

Resolution 20241015-187: A Resolution for Disposal of City Property Stored at the West Liberty Fire Department in West Liberty, IA 52776 was approved by roll call vote. McFerren/Parizek Shiltz-Y, McFerren-Y, Martinez-Y, Dominguez-Y, Parizek-Y (5-0) . Councilmember Dominguez communicated if the City was aware of the remodeling happening in the West Liberty Fire Department. City Clerk Shari Hoffert communicated there was a building permit put in for a portion of the remodel. City Manager Geertz helped Fire Department Brian Flake get the remaining building permits needed to continue the project.

Resolution 20241015-188: A Resolution Naming Depositories was approved by roll call vote. Shiltz/McFerren McFerren-Y, Martinez-Y, Dominguez-Y, Parizek-Y, Shiltz-Y (5-0). City Manager Geertz communicated community state banks are no longer eligible to be on the list.

The City Council set City Council Work Sessions for the 2nd Meeting of the month each month effective January 01, 2025, by consensus. City Manager Geertz communicated setting work sessions for the 2nd meeting of each month allows council to be best prepared for council's personal jobs and businesses.

The City Council set the date for the annual Trick-or-Treating in the City of West Liberty, IA for October 31st, 2024. Trick or Treat Trail from 5:00p.m.-6:00p.m. and town Trick-or-Treating 6:00p.m.-7:30p.m. by consensus. City Clerk Hoffert communicated Parks/Rec Director Nick Heath communicated this is the typical time and has worked in the past. Councilmember Martinez communicated that maybe the time can be extended next year due to the expansion of the town.

The City Council set the date for Budget Amendment #1 on November 5th, 2024, at the West Liberty Public Library by consensus.

The City Council set the date for 80/20 Annexation Public Hearing for November 19th, 2024, at 7:30p.m. by consensus.

There was a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting by consent vote at 8:11p.m. Martinez/McFerren (5-0)

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Mayor Mark D. Smith

ATTEST:

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Deputy City Clerk, Emily Reinhardt