

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 8, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ray Schultz
Mayor Pro tem Lori Shierry
Councilmen Randall Barker and Jeff Pogatshnik
Councilwoman Stephanie Wooten

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilwoman Sherrie Williams

PERSONNEL: Jerry Flemming, City Manager
Mike McCarty, Public Works Director
Jason Griffin, Parks and Recreation Director
Steve Davis, Police Chief
David Owen, Economic Development Director
Andy Payne, Fire Chief
Amie Schultz, Library Director
Becky Ferguson, Director of Finance
Justin Penn, Police Sergeant
James Horn, Water/Wastewater Maintenance Supervisor
Sven Herrmann, Acting Streets and Drainage Foreman
Jerry Tidwell, Police Officer
Janice Newman, City Secretary

VISITORS: Charles Horton Agela Horton
Carson Horton Ethan Horton
Owen Horton Justin Sharp
Jeri Fowler Conner Upton
Jody Livingston Haley Upton
Kaylee Parker Mary Herald
Jennifer Romero Ella Parker
Joie Romero Kim Goehring
Dusty Goehring

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Invocation.

The Economic Development Director gave the invocation.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Recognition of Special Guest(s)/Action(s).

- A. A Presentation by the Iowa Park Volunteer Fire Department of Life Saving Awards to Owen Horton, Kaylee Parker and Conner Upton for Their Response to an Incident at the Iowa Park Municipal Swimming Pool on June 4, 2022.

The Fire Chief presented Owen Horton, Kaylee Park and Conner Upton each a life saving award for their response to a young child who had jumped in the pool and quickly became unresponsive. The young victim was revived before first responders arrived on the scene.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Citizens' Input.

No individuals registered to participate in the citizens' input.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: General Consent.

- A. Acceptance and Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of July 25, 2022.
- B. Acceptance and Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Economic Development Corporation's Board of Directors' Meeting of August 1, 2022.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Wooten and seconded by Councilman Barker accepting and approving the general consent agenda as presented. Motion carried with four ayes. (Unanimous)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Public Appearance.

- A. A Public Appearance by Ms. Jeri Fowler Requesting a Handicap Ramp on City Right-of-Way at 114 West Cash Street.

Ms. Jeri Fowler explained that there are no handicapped accessible ramps for people in wheelchairs or on walkers around City Café or any of the businesses nearby. There is the alley between Cash and Park that can be used to access the sidewalk, however the concrete is broken up making it difficult using in a wheelchair or walker. The City Manager stated that City Engineers Halff & Associates have been asked to prepare a task order to develop a plan for downtown accessibility improvements to Cash and Park between Wall and Yosemite and will include ADA parking spaces, ramps, sidewalks, and signage.

- (i) Action as Result of Public Appearance.

No action was taken at this time pending engineer task order to develop plan for downtown accessibility improvements.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: City Manager's Report.

A. Discuss and Consider an Attorney/Client Engagement Agreement with Guevara Law, P.C.

The City Attorney has asked for an updated agreement with increased fees. The existing fees are \$225.00 for Senior Counsel, \$200.00 for Associate and \$60.00 for Legal Assistant. The proposed rates are \$240.00, \$210.00, and \$65.00 respectively. Motion was made by Councilman Pogatshnik and seconded by Councilwoman Shierry approving the Attorney/Client Engagement Agreement with Guevara Law, P.C. Motion carried with four ayes. (Unanimous)

B. Discuss and Consider the Local State of Disaster for Public Health Emergency Adopted by City Council on March 23, 2020.

It was noted there are currently 23 active Covid-19 cases in the 76367-zip code.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Budget Workshop.

The City Manager presented the Council a budget based on a tax rate of \$0.72 per \$100.00 valuation, with \$0.05 of that going to the 2022 Taxable Bond for the public safety facilities. It includes a 10% across the board raise for all employees. Councilwoman Shierry stated she likes the 10% for employees but would like to see a 12% for all Police Department, including police, dispatch, and animal control. There was discussion on how other departments would react to one department receiving more than others and how it could create dissension among the ranks. Councilwoman Wooten suggested the possibility of another small increase that could take effect, budget permitting, during the annual employee evaluations in January.

The Council was briefed on the proposed budget outlining capital outlay items, both funded and unfunded, and increases to fees including recreation vehicle parks. The budget also includes paid water and sewer utilities for the non-profit organizations but only October through December for paid electricity and natural gas. Councilman Pogatshnik stated he would like those we are paying utilities on to be grandfathered in and any new non-profits desiring the City to pay their utilities could be dealt with on a case by case basis. The Mayor stated he has no problem with the City paying for their the water and sewer but does not believe the City should be paying for electricity and natural gas.

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of August, 2022.

Mayor Ray Schultz

ATTEST:

City Secretary Janice Newman