

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
WATKINS CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021

Mayor Chris Rowan called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7 p.m. City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Chris Rowan, Tootz Tschumperlin, Sue Unterberger, Marc Wirz

MEMBERS ABSENT: None. One vacancy exists.

Others: Jody Bauer, Jeff Hilsgen, Deputy Sarah Miller

Mayor Rowan add the Lions Club liquor license request to the agenda.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE ADDITION, SECONDED BY WIRZ.
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION
CARRIED.

Items on the Consent Agenda were minutes of December 10th regular meeting and December 15th and 30th special meetings, December financial report, Resolution No. 2021-1, Resolution Accepting Donations, Resolution No. 2021-2, Resolution Approving Transfer of Funds, Resolution No. 2021-3, Resolution Approving Payment of Certain Monthly Bills, Resolution 2021-4, Resolution Approving Payment of Certain Monthly Bills for Ambulance Service.

Public Forum – Randy Berg inquired about the status of vacating alleys by his property. Randy was advised this would be on the February agenda as the city is waiting on the attorney's opinion at this time and a full council needs to be present to act on the resolution starting the vacation process.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE AMBULANCE SERVICE BILLS AS PRESENTED,
SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Jody Bauer noted the ambulance service, per state requirement, must transition to electronic reporting to submit their call information. The service would like approval to purchase a tablet and cover at a cost of approximately \$1,250.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE TABLET, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION
CARRIED.

Jody reported that once an ambulance member reaches 15 years of service and is good standing, they can receive \$1,300 annually for their service. The service has 7 members that qualified in 2020. Jody requested approval to pay these in February.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE PAYMENT, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

Jody asked the council to approve a Transportation Policy for the service stating that the Ambulance Service will only transport to hospitals within its district.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO APPROVE THE AMBULANCE SERVICE 4TH QUARTER REPORTS, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

An updated roster was also presented. Jody explained that there is one-year probationary period before the service will pay to train a member to be sure it's what they truly want to do. The probation period starts when they are voted on. If someone chooses to pay for their training before the year is up, the service will reimburse after the probationary period is up.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY FOR THE AMBULANCE SERVICE, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO APPROVE THE ROSTER AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Jeff Hilsgen requested an On-Sale Temporary liquor license on behalf of the Watkins Lions Club for a Bocce Ball event Saturday, February 20th at the skating rink facility.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE A ONE-DAY ON-SALE TEMPORARY LIQUOR LICENSE FOR FEBRUARY 20TH, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO ACCEPT THE SHERIFF'S REPORT, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO HOLD THE ANNUAL BOARD OF APPEALS AND EQUALIZATION MEETING IN PERSON, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

The 2021 fee schedule adopted in December had the old swimming lesson fees in by mistake. The ordinance has not been published yet.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2020-2, TO CORRECT THE LESSON FEES, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Kramer noted a one-week extension was given on the deadline to submit the application for the trail funding through the Transportation Alternatives program. Kramer noted that a letter has been drafted confirming the city's commitment to the 20% local match and any other ineligible expenses, which will be submitted with the application. After the draft application was reviewed, it was suggested the city include the sidewalk on School Avenue as part of the project. Council agreed this should be included.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE ADDITION OF LANGUAGE FOR THE SCHOOL AVENUE SIDEWALK IN THE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES APPLICATION, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Jason Laumer resigned from the city council effective December 15, 2020.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-5, RESOLUTION ACCEPTING RESIGNATION AND DECLARING A VACANCY, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Applications for appointment to the council were received from Frank Eder, Brenda Carlson and Randy Topp. Discussion followed.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPOINT BRENDA CARLSON TO THE VACANT CITY COUNCIL SEAT, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-6, RESOLUTION TO FILL BY APPOINTMENT VACANT CITY COUNCIL POSITION AND SET SPECIAL ELECTION, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

A special election for the seat will be held at the next regular General Election which will be Tuesday, November 8th, 2022.

Council reviewed the 2021 appointments. Council agreed to remove the Weed Inspector position.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-7, RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2021 APPOINTMENTS, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Council advised to advertise for the opening on the Planning Commission.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-8, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE STAMPS FOR MAYOR AND ACTING MAYOR, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-9, RESOLUTION MAKING APPOINTMENTS FOR AUTHORIZED SIGNERS, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Wayne Tschumperlin has a shed on his property that extends through a city alley onto David Hokanson's property. This shed was existing when Wayne bought the property. Dave is willing to sell some property to Wayne to correct this matter and a survey has been done and presented to the city for its approval.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE THE LAND TRANSACTION BETWEEN TSCHUMPERLIN AND HOKANSON, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Council discussed a play structure at McCarthy Park. Sandy Hansen-Wolff contacted the city and would consider a donation towards this. Something structurally sound yet moveable would be considered. Council advised to contact Sandy for details.

The annual Fire Protection meeting will be held Wednesday, February 10th at 8 p.m. at the Fire Hall.

The EDA board will be considering changing to quarterly meetings at its January 19th meeting. Dave Molitor is no longer able to serve on the board as he has moved out of state.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO ACCEPT DAVE MOLITOR'S RESIGNATION, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Kramer noted the Lions Club has been donating to the cost of the electronic sign. The club recently donated \$4,000. There is a balance left of \$4,842. A resolution will be presented next month.

Mayor Rowan asked the council's permission to check into creating a quiet zone at the railroad crossing. After discussion, council approved for Rowan to check into it.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Next regular meeting will be Thursday, February 11th at 7 p.m.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Submitted by

Deb Kramer, Clerk

ATTEST:

Chris Rowan, Mayor