

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday, April 25, 2022. Mayor Harter called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, and Coffin. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Heather Prendergast, Attorney; Brian Delagardelle, Wastewater Operator; Nick Kuker, Public Works; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; and Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk.

Motion by Williams, second by Erickson to approve the agenda. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, Coffin, T. Woods, Erickson, and Williams. Nays: None.

Kevin Bodensteiner, the Fairbank Fire Department's Assistant Fire Chief, was present to tell the council that the ambulance portion of the department had an inspection on April 1st and that they passed with flying colors. He also wanted to thank the council for adding an employee to the police team, Mitch Franck. Mitch was able to respond to a call quickly that past Sunday and he provided a patient with a lifesaving treatment before the ambulance arrived. Dean Mangrich was present to discuss the city selling river front property. He explained that the issue was addressed that last October and a decision had been made. His concerns included losing fishing and park space. He stated that he did not believe the city should sell to anyone and that there should be no further actions in that request.

Motion by R. Woods, second by T. Woods to approve the minutes of the April 11th Regular Meeting. Roll call vote- Ayes: Williams, Coffin, Erickson, T. Woods, and R. Woods. Nays: None.

Motion by Erickson, second by Coffin to approve the liquor license application for the Fairbank Development Corporation for Fairbank Days during June 22 – 25, 2022. Roll call vote- Ayes: T. Woods, Coffin, and Erickson. Nays: None. Abstain: R. Woods and Williams.

Mayor Harter brought up the topic of selling land next to West Bentley Park along the river. He wanted to know if the council had any interests in selling. There is a party interested that owns land right next to that section along the river. Attorney Prendergast explained that if anyone wanted to put in an offer it could be reviewed under closed session. Then if an offer was accepted, the city would follow the disposing of land procedures which would include a public hearing. There was no action taken on this item.

Jon Biederman was present to give the council an update on the Main Street project. He went over plans and said that it looked like a public meeting was being planned for June 21st at the legion to provide residents in town the ability to ask questions and get information regarding this huge upcoming project. The bridge will be closed to traffic for a period, but they are planning to try and do the first section separately so that it could be opened and at least take traffic to First Street. Also sounds like pedestrians will still be able to cross the bridge by foot but no vehicle traffic. An official start date will be known more after December, depending on weather, but more than likely the project will affect the school year both in the spring and fall.

Max Kayser presented his project he chose to work on as part of the Wapsie Valley CAPS, Center for Advance Professional Studies, program through the High School. He chose to research and present his ideas for lighting and beautification of Main Street to help with the upcoming Main Street project. The council thanked him for his hard work and his presentation.

At the last meeting, Chief Drish had asked the council about hiring a part-time investigator to help with any of the bigger cases they may encounter as a department. He asked the council to consider hiring Andrew Isley who currently works for the Independence Police Department. He stated that they would not go over on hours that were already approved and that this employee would be a tremendous help to the department. Motion by Williams, second by R. Woods to approve **Resolution 2022-17 – Resolution Hiring Part-Time Police Department Investigator**. Andrew Isley was hired at \$23.00 per hour and will be available as needed starting April 25, 2022. Roll call vote- Ayes: Erickson, T. Woods, Coffin, R. Woods, and Williams. Nays: None.

Motion by T. Woods, second by Coffin to approve the purchase of a laptop, shot gun, and taser gun that are needed to update equipment for the Police Department. He will look more into pricing and information on the current tough book and will bring back to the council later. Roll call vote- Ayes: Erickson, Williams, R. Woods, Coffin, and T. Woods. Nays: None.

Memorial trees were discussed. The office will get ahold of the 10 people wanting to donate for a memorial tree and coordinate a time with Ted Vorwald to get them planted. An individual is wanting to donate an 8-10-foot-tall Norway spruce. The council felt that would be great at the ball diamond. Motion by Coffin, second by Erickson to approve the purchase of 10 trees for memorial trees along with rings and a plaque for \$200.00 per tree

from the individual wanting the memorial tree. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, Williams, T. Woods, Erickson, and Coffin. Nays: None.

As the weather gets nicer, Mayor Harter wanted to remind the council to pay attention to properties needing cleaned up. Abatements and nuisances need to be documented and addressed.

The roof on the gazebo located at Riverside Park needs repaired after the damage it received during the storm last summer. Ted Vorwald was still working on obtaining some quotes for the different options available. This will be up for a decision at a future meeting.

Discussion was held on the code updates and the sections still needing reviewed.

Chief Drish said he was proud of the department and proud of Mitch Frank for his actions while attending that call on Sunday. He updated the council on a few things the department had been working on and is looking to get business cards and door hangers made. Brian said that public works had been busy getting the damaged box back from being painted and fixed and wired on the truck. He said that Nick Kuker passed his pool exam and they cleaned up the parks that past week. An electrical service was moved, and he showed the council the new Gas signs that would be going in along the gas line along Hwy 281 towards Oelwein.

Motion by Williams, second by Coffin to adjourn at 8:09 PM. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, Erickson, T. Woods, Coffin, and Williams. Nay: None.

Mike Harter, Mayor

Brittany Fuller, City Clerk