

Minutes: City Council Meeting
February 10, 2022
6:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in regular session at Elkton City Hall, 71 Public Square, on Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 6:00 PM with Mayor Arthur Green presiding.

City Council members present: Michael Case; Doug Gibson; Danny Laster; Frank McReynolds; George Orr; and David Powell.

Others present: Laura Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer; Chris Orr, Public Works Director; Robert Toombs, Chief of Police; Derrell Waggoner, Fire Chief; Daniel Smith, Assistant Fire Chief; and, Tommy Turner, CPA, Thurman Campbell Group.

Mayor Green called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Council member Gibson led the Pledge of Allegiance and Laster led invocation.

Mayor Green called for review of the minutes of the January 13, 2022 regular meeting. Mayor Green stated if there were no changes then the minutes would be passed by consent. There were no changes and minutes were approved by consent.

Mayor Green called for discussion of the bills payable and financial reports. Clerk Brock presented an additional bill from Todd County Stone in the amount of \$1,300.00 for hauling sewer sludge. Orr motioned to approve the bills payable and financial reports, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green welcomed Tommy Turner who presented the audit report for FYE June 30, 2021. Mr. Turner stated the financial statements were given an unmodified opinion, the best possible outcome of an audit and reviewed a Summary of Financial Information. After the presentation, Orr motioned to accept the audit, seconded by Gibson, and carried unanimously. Mr. Turner thanked everyone and stated they can contact him any time with questions and left the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BID OPENINGS

Mayor Green reported one bid was received on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 for the sale of approximately 3.28 acres of surplus real property located at 601 S Main Street (Mallory property): Pro Land Realty, \$85,390.00. The bid also contained a description detailing the proposed use of the property would be for a 32-36 room assisted living facility including 8-10 memory care units. The facility will cost about \$3.5 million to construct and will create about 25-30 jobs in the city. Mayor Green recommended accepting the bid and stated the deed would not be transferred to the new owner until the Development Plan is approved by the Planning Commission. After discussion, Powell motioned to accept the bid from Pro Land Realty, seconded by Case, and carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Clerk Brock reported she received proposals from two companies to manage the new customer portal and all credit and debit card payments once the city goes live with the new utility billing software in March 2022. NCR Payment Solutions presented the lowest cost and best proposal. Brock reminded the council they voted several months ago to start charging the credit card processing fees to the customers using the service instead of the city paying the fee, currently costing the city about \$12,500 per year. After reviewing the proposal, Clerk Brock recommended to accept NCR's proposal to charge \$2.25 per transaction for all credit and debit card payments

and for the city to cover the cost of all e-check payments at a cost of \$0.50 each. After discussion, Case motioned to approve the proposal from NCR Payment Solutions, seconded by McReynolds, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green requested that current part-time employee Chase Wells be allowed to work full-time this summer for about 8-9 weeks with the Utility/Street department before he attends college in the fall. Wells is currently working about 20 hours a week and would work an additional 20 hours per week. Orr motioned to approve, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green reported the city needs to bid out resurfacing of several city streets that were approved for funding by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. He stated there may be other streets that need resurfacing or repairs and requested the council notify him of any areas that need patching or resurfaced so we can include those in the bid process.

Mayor Green reported the cemetery maintenance contract with Ricchuite Enterprises expires April 14, 2022. However, the contract allows renewal of the contract for an additional year under the same terms if all parties agree. Gibson motioned to renew the contract for one more year, seconded by McReynolds, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green reported the Revolving Fund Board met recently and is recommending the city council approve using Revolving Funds to assist Laster's Mobile Home Park with removing five trailers damaged from the tornado and high winds in December 2021. Todd County was not eligible to receive any FEMA assistance, otherwise there would have been funding from FEMA. Todd County Fiscal Court is loaning the city a dumpster for Laster to use and not charging dumpster or hauling fees. Mayor Green estimated each trailer will require two dumpster loads to be completely removed at an estimated cost of about \$250.00 per dumpster. The Revolving Fund Committee recommends assisting with the dump charge for removing five tornado damaged trailers at a cost not to exceed \$750.00. After discussion, Case motioned to approve the recommendation from the Revolving Fund Board, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously. All five trailers will need to be completely removed and paid dump tickets submitted to the city before being reimbursed.

GENERAL REPORTS

Mayor Green called for continued discussion regarding running sewer lines to North Todd School. The School system is interested in running the sewer line at their expense and then turning over the line to the city, which would allow additional customers to connect. There is also consideration of turning over the sewer line running to South Todd School to the city. The city would own and maintain both sewer lines and could also connect new customers and gain the revenue. After discussion, Case motioned the city accept a sewer line constructed by the School Board to North Todd School and accept the sewer line to South Todd School with contract details to be determined later. Motion seconded by Laster and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green presented preliminary design plans for the Goebel Avenue Sidewalk and Bicycle Lane Project. The plan calls for the street to be widened about 3-4' to include a shared bicycle lane and new sidewalks to connect existing sidewalks on Goebel Avenue to Allensville Street. Once final plans are completed, the residents on Goebel Avenue will be able to view the plans in City Hall.

Clerk Brock reported funds are still available in this year's budget for her to schedule a few concerts in May and June. However, any concerts past June would need to be funded in next year's budget. Mayor Green stated Charlotte Myers will begin working on a spring event soon. Mayor Green also stated the city needs to start considering the benefits of tourism and that residents expect events and activities to participate in throughout the year.

Mayor Green and Police Chief Toombs reported the Police Department received their Kentucky League of Cities safety review and got a 67% score, up from 37% three years ago. This increase in score will result in a 6% reduction in law enforcement liability insurance premium.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Chief Robert Toombs reported 502 calls for service last month with 4 alcohol related incidents. Toombs also reported the new police officer recruit is currently scheduled to report to the Academy on May 8th. PADD assisted Chief Toombs in writing a grant to purchase a mobile radar trailer. New tasers have been ordered for the department and Officer Jakop Smith has been certified to train the department on the tasers. Chief Toombs stated the department needs to update firearms and requested the council declare 7 Tarus 9 mm weapons surplus and sold or traded to purchase new backup weapons. Orr motioned to approve the request, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green distributed a report from Megan Willenborg regarding zoning and code enforcement issues.

Fire Chief Derrell Waggoner reported the new generator has been installed at the fire department. Waggoner reported there is a leak in the main water line from the water meter to the fire hall. Chris Orr will work with Chief Waggoner to possibly run a new service line.

Emergency Management Director Daniel Smith reported Fiscal Court has approved funding to the Elkton Fire Department for fire aid in the amount of \$3,000.00.

Public Works Director Chris Orr reported water loss in the city is around 10% and they continue to monitor and repair water line leaks. Phase II of the Sewer Improvements should be complete in one or two months. Construction of Phase III of the project has been pushed back a few weeks and is now scheduled to begin around February 28th. Three employees recently tested for water and sewer distribution certifications and should receive their scores any day.

Mayor Green reported a new utility employee, Travis Power, has been hired to fill a full-time vacancy and started Monday, February 7th. Also, utility clerk Heather Harrison has moved from full-time employment to part-time. City Hall will be looking to hire another part-time employee.

CITY COUNCIL CONCERNS

Gibson asked for an update regarding the ownership of the street entering the Senior Citizens Center. Mayor Green stated Attorney Jeff Traughber is still researching the issue and Clerk Brock has found no record that Morris Weathers Avenue was officially adopted by the city.

Laster called for an update on several new businesses opening in the city. Pearl Vision Center next to City Hall will probably open mid-March while the new Dollar Tree/Family Dollar combo store on North Main Street should be open by the end of February.

Case reported with the sale of the Mallory property for a new assisted living center and the announcement of a new library being constructed on the adjacent property there are good things going on in this area. Case stated he wanted to go on record that the city should use the surplus funds from the sale of the Mallory property to benefit the area and purchase new playground equipment in the park to replace the old equipment from the 1970s. He stated there may be other suggestions for using the funds, but this might be a project the City Beautification Committee could work on.

McReynolds asked Clerk Brock for an update on ABC regulatory license fees. Clerk Brock stated the special revenue funds report an income of about \$35,243 to date for this fiscal year, or about 64% of projected revenues so far for the year.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Green reported Governor Andy Beshear was in Elkton last week presenting the city with a grant of about

\$163,000 in funding for Clean Water Program projects through Kentucky Infrastructure Authority. This funding will be used to repair and paint the water tank on Morningside Drive.

Mayor Green submitted a letter of support for a project to locate a Law Enforcement Training Center in Madisonville.

Mayor Green is working with Dell Computers and the local school system to organize an e-waste removal day.

The city received and signed the Agreed Order for the wastewater treatment plant and has paid the fine of \$1,000.00. All issues that need to be addressed will be corrected during the Sewer Improvements Project.

Mayor Green continues to work with Nick Christian of NRCS to address water runoff issues on Pond River Road.

Mayor Green will be attending Kentucky League of Cities Night in Frankfort next week.

Mayor Green distributed a letter from the Grinter family of Elkton informing the city that Aniah Grinter has been serving as the 2021 American Beauties Plus Teen Queen and Lakendra Grinter will be competing in the 2022 Ms. American Beauties Plus pageant. Lakendra and Aniah have both been generously volunteering in the community and are looking for sponsors to help them compete in these and other pageants.

Laster motioned to adjourn, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Arthur Green, Mayor

Laura M. Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer