

MINEOLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING - MINEOLA CITY HALL
AUGUST 24, 2020, 5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT **In person:** Mayor Kevin White, Mayor Pro Tem Sue Jones, Council Member Jayne Lankford **Via video/phone conference:** Council Members Cassandra Sampson, Polly Jones and Greg Hollen

MEMBERS ABSENT Mitchell Tuck

STAFF PRESENT **In Person:** Mercy Rushing, Cindy Karch, William Crump, David Madsen, Charles Bittner, Lynn Kitchens and Doris Newman

OTHERS PRESENT Jason Herring, CowBurners; Amy Hagen; Yvonne Maddox; Phil Major, Wood County Monitor

CALL TO ORDER Mayor White called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and confirmed a quorum of the council was present.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance led by Kevin White

CITIZEN COMMENT – None

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider approval of minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting and Workshop on July 27, 2020 and the Special Council Meeting and Workshop on August 10, 2020.
2. Consider approval of the Financial Statement for the month of July 2020.
3. Consider approval of the Monthly Investment Report for the month of July 2020.
4. Consider approval of the Monthly Department Head Reports for the month of July 2020. (Building Inspections, Code Enforcement, Fire, Police, Main Street, Marketing, Street, Water, Wastewater)

Councilmember Sue Jones made the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jayne Lankford and carried by a unanimous roll-call vote.

DISCUSSION ON ACTION ITEMS, PUBLIC HEARINGS, PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. **Consider approval of street closure request from Jason Herring, CowBurners to close the alley on Johnson St. for a charity event.**

Jason Herring and Amy Hagen addressed the council regarding the event. The event is a Pub Crawl is to raise funds for the Chiari Foundation, a foundation dedicated to helping people with Chiari disease. Mrs. Hagen has the disease and normally participates in their annual fundraising walks. The walk was cancelled this year due to COVID-19. All proceeds from the Pub Crawl will go toward that research.

Councilmember Greg Hollen made the motion to approve the street closure request with the amendment to close the street from the alley to Broad Street. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Polly Jones and carried by a unanimous roll-call vote.

6. Discuss and consider action on award of bid for Blackmon Meadows Lift Station and Force Main, Project MN.171. Low bid amount \$196,249.09 to SGL Utility Contractors.

Councilmember Sue Jones made the motion to accept the bid. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cassandra Sampson and carried by a unanimous roll-call vote. At this time Councilmember Mitchell Tuck joined the meeting via phone and voted in favor of this item.

7. Discuss and consider action on a replat of Lot 9 pt. Block 19 Ham Addition, located on Sycamore St.

Fire Marshall David Madsen informed the council that Planning & Zoning recommended approval of the replat. Councilmember Jayne Lankford made the motion to approve the replat. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sue Jones and carried by a unanimous roll-call vote.

8. Discuss and consider action on an ordinance regarding the Texas Municipal Retirement System “Updated Service Credits” and to increase the rate of deposits to the Texas Municipal Retirement System by the employees.

Finance Director Cindy Karch said that this change will go into effect October 1st. Employee deposit rate will be increased from 5% to 7% and they will see this on their paychecks. The City will continue to match these contributions 2:1. This additional expense is included in the FY 2021 budget. The Updated Service Credit will be effective on January 1, 2021. Mrs. Rushing said that cities and counties in our area all have a 7% retirement rate and that makes it more difficult to attract and retain employees. Due to this increase in the budget raises are not included in this budget. The city will now have a 90% funded retirement liability instead of the 101%. It will take several years to get back up to 95%-97% which is the target funding level.

Councilmember Greg Hollen made the motion to adopt the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sue Jones and carried by a unanimous roll-call vote.

9. Discuss and consider action on bid acceptance for Application and Preparation and Administrative Services for the 2021-2022 Community Development Fund, award to Traylor & Associates, Inc.

The city sent three requests for qualifications to state approved grant writing firms. Only one RFQ was received. Councilmember Polly Jones made the motion to accept the bid. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mitchell Tuck and carried by a unanimous roll-call vote.

10. Mayor Comments – regarding matters appearing on the agenda; recognition of community members, city employees, and upcoming events; inquiry of staff regarding specific factual information or existing policies.

Mayor White reminded the council to check the dates of the upcoming public hearings and special meetings for the budget. A quorum of the council is required for each meeting.

11. City Manager Briefing and Announcements

City Manager Mercy Rushing showed photos of the new leaf machine purchased with Meredith Funds.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for consideration, a motion to adjourn was made and the meeting adjourned.

Kevin White, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cindy Karch, City Secretary