

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, September 14, 2020 at the City Hall Council Chambers.

Mayor Deborah J. Foster called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Council Members Ruth Cyphers, Wayne Hasek, Tom Hawkins, Randy Lubenow and Bruce Peters were present. Also, in attendance: City Administrator Cathy Reynolds, Public Works Director/City Engineer Troy Nemmers, Finance Director Paul Hoye, Police Chief Mike Hunter, City Clerk Patricia J. Monsen and City Attorney Mark Rahrack via telephone.

Council Member Peters made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mayor Foster proclaimed the month of September 2020 as National Suicide Prevention Month in the City of Fairmont.

No public comment was received.

Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the consent agenda were: Request for Demolition Assistance by Matt Morris; Request for Closure of Woodland Avenue for Halloween; **Resolution 2020-34** Declaring Costs to be Assessed for the Lake Avenue Reconstruction, a part of the 2019 Improvement Program & Ordering the Preparation of the Assessment Roll; **Resolution 2020-35** Calling for Public Hearing on Proposed Assessments for the Lake Avenue Reconstruction Project, a part of the 2019 Improvement Program; Call for a Public Hearing on Ordinance to Amend Zoning Code to allow Kennels as Conditional Use in I-1 Light Industrial District; and, **Resolution 2020-37** Calling for a Public Hearing to Vacate an Easement at 808 Timberlake Road.

Council Member Hasek made a motion to approve the updated cell phone use policy. Council Member Cyphers seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Peters made a motion to approve **Resolution 2020-36** approving the creation of a small business grant program to be funded by funds received through the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund for State, Territorial, Local and Tribal Governments, with a modification to item 1. The modification would read: 1. The City is creating a Small Business CARES Act Grant Program that will provide grants in an amount of \$500 to \$10,000 to eligible businesses. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Lubenow made a motion to approve a contract with AEM, Workforce Solutions, LLC for HR Consulting Services. Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Nemmers reported that the Lake Avenue reconstruction project will be moving into the next phase. The construction web page and map will be updated.

The Airport Contractor will begin pavement removal around the new hangar, and this should be done mid to late October.

The Contractor for the I-90 & Margarete Street Trail project will start hauling dirt this week.

Trevor Boehne sent an email thanking Nick Lardy, the Street Department and the City for their work at Cedar Creek Park. The Disc Golf Tournament was a success with 215 participants.

Hoye reported that the sales tax revenue for this year will be over the projected amount.

Reynolds reported that building permits for 2020 continue to be above 2019.

Reynolds has been actively working on the preliminary budget and will schedule another work session before the final budget needs approval in December.

Council Member Cyphers reported that the Airport Manager is working on CARES funding at the Airport. A meet and greet with Cathy Reynolds is being planned at the Airport.

Council Member Cyphers stated that Region 9 will be holding a meeting this week for input into the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Annual Performance Report.

Council Member Cyphers reported that Mat Mahoney will be working with Ronnie Dauer from CER. CER thanked the City for their funding. There will be no CER catalog for Fall events. However, events are still happening, and citizens should check the website for listings.

Council Member Hasek had nothing to report from the Public Utilities Commission.

Council Member Hawkins reported that the Planning Commission recommended changes to the I-1 Light Industrial Zoning District to include Dog Kennels as a conditional use.

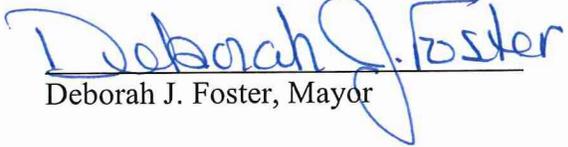
Council Member Hawkins stated that the HRA discussed purchase agreements for Burton Lane and Poetter's Circle. Both properties sold above their asking price. The HRA accepted a bid for cement work at Friendship Village.

Council Member Hawkins reported that FEDA approved a contract with Remax to sell the Whitetail Ridge lots. FEDA had discussion on the Revolving Loan Funds for CARES. Linsey Preuss is working on a marketing campaign including geofencing to encourage metro area folks to relocate in Fairmont through Fairmont Area Life.

Council Member Peters encouraged citizens to apply right away for the grants through the City.

Council Member Lubenow reported that the Library is back to somewhat normal operations.

A motion was made by Council Member Lubenow, seconded by Council Member Hawkins and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 p.m.


Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:


Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk