

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, October 26, 2020 at the City Hall Council Chambers.

Mayor Deborah J. Foster called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Council Members Ruth Cyphers, Wayne Hasek, Tom Hawkins and Randy Lubenow were present. Council Member Bruce Peters attended via telephone. 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 Attorney Mark Rahrlick via telephone.

Council Member Lubenow made a motion to approve the agenda with moving item 6.C.4 Request for Demolition Assistance – Lee Beemer off of the Consent Agenda. Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mayor Foster proclaimed November 12, 2020 as Community Education and Recreation Day in the City of Fairmont. Roni Dauer, Director of CER was present and spoke. Dauer thanked Council Member Ruth Cyphers for being the Council Liaison for CER and thanked the City for all its support.

Kris Swanson with Bolton & Menk presented a Water and Wastewater Rate Study.

During public discussion, residents from North Grant Street addressed the council with their concerns of rusty water. Lori Schломann of 1308 N. Grant Street, Mary Shumski 1307 N. Grant Street and Jason Hegdal of 1314 N, Grant all spoke.

Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the consent agenda were: Minutes of the October 12, 2020 City Council meeting; October accounts payable; Event Permit for the Fairmont Glows parade; Waste Delivery Agreement with Prairieland Solid Waste Board; and the appointment of E. Hubble Werre to the Public Utilities Commission.

Council Member Cyphers made a motion to approve **Resolution 2020-43** approving the small business grant awards funded by funds received through the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund for State, Territorial, Local and Tribal Governments. Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Hawkins made a motion to reduce the assessments to John and Marilyn Hovick on the Lake Avenue reconstruction project to \$5,680.00, half of the amount originally assessed. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Cyphers made a motion to approve the agreement with MEI for elevator repairs at city hall in an amount not to exceed \$83,000.00. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the rust issue on North Grant Street. Nemmers stated that the only way to remedy the problem was to replace the water main and water services which would include a replacement of the street, curb & gutter and sidewalk. There will be consideration to

include this with the 2021 street improvement program. Council expressed their desire to get this project completed for the residents of the street.

Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve negotiating a contract with Kraus-Anderson Construction and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the contract after approval by the City Attorney. Council Member Cyphers seconded the motion. On roll call vote: Council Members Cyphers, Hasek, Hawkins and Peters all voted aye. Council Member Lubenow voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Council Member Lubenow made a motion to approve demolition assistance at 50% of the actual cost up to \$5,000.00 per manufactured home for Lee Beemer at 1528 Albion Avenue. Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Nemmers explained the construction costs for the Winnebago Avenue street project. Nemmers stated that Lake Avenue should be paved by this weekend. The leaf pickup is scheduled to begin Monday, November 2nd in Section 2, the middle of the City.

Hoye presented the Third Quarter Financial Report.

Reynolds reminded citizens that the 2040 Comprehensive Plan is posted on the City's website for citizen review and comment until October 30th. Martin County is doing a second round of grants and applications are due November 5th. November 19th from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. there will be a community brown bag luncheon held at the Opera House for community members to give input on the Downtown Revitalization. For reservations, please contact fairmontoperhouse.org.

Council Member Cyphers reported that the new hanger at the airport is complete and everything should be moved into it by November 1st. The hanger was 90% Federally funded, 5% State funded and 5% locally funded. The aprons are complete and were 100% funded by Federal Aviation Grant. The airport is in good shape and Airport Manager Lee Steinkamp continues to work on the CARES Act funding application.

Council Member Cyphers reported that there are a lot of important things going on at Region 9, including a \$1.1 million in CARES Act funding to lend at 0% to businesses in the region that have been affected by COVID-19.

Council Member Hawkins reported that the HRA will be closing on the sales of Burton Lane and Poetter's Circle this coming Friday. They approved a work order for repairs on Building 7 and approved new dead bolt and keyless entries for the shop, office and laundry. He also reported that HRA's resident member will be moving and will need to be replaced in the new future.

Council Member Lubenow reported on the Park Board stating that the parks are now closed for the season. He also reported on the library and stated that the library is now open on Saturdays again.

A motion was made by Council Member Hasek, seconded by Council Member Cyphers and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk