

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

MAY 17, 2021

President of the City Council, Rob Lessen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was stated by all present. Roll call was taken and the Mayor, Rock Anderson was absent. The minutes from the previous meeting were presented. Ken Harryman made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Travis Wood seconds the motion. The Motion was approved. Rob Lessen presented the evenings agenda. Under Unfinished Business an Executive session was added. Travis Wood made the motion to accept the revised agenda. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

TOM GORMAN; PART-TIME SEASONAL MOWER

Tom Gorman reported that he had received one application for the part-time position. Tom also stated that Justin Warford who applied had worked in the past as a lawn mower for the City. Mary Lou Peace stated that she did not think that the ad was run in the paper correctly. The City Council then spent over 35 minutes or so discussing where they needed to hire a part-time employee or instead a mowing company. Dickie Cleland made the motion to amend the previous motion on the job description. Mary Lou Peace seconds the motion. The motion was approved. Dickie Cleland then made the motion to advertise for a contract mowing company that uses their own equipment to cut Hookie, Big Ball Park, City Park, McDonald Park and the WIFI Park. Mary Lou Peace seconds the motion. All members of the City Council except Travis Wood voted Yes on the motion. Travis Wood then made the motion to publish for a contract mowing company that mows the previously listed parks per Dickie Cleland's motion and publish an ad for a seasonal employee to work up to 30 hours and week at \$13.00 an hour and include Justin Warford's application. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. Ken and Travis vote yes on the motion. Dickie and Mary Lou vote no. Rob Lessen votes yes to break the tie. The motion passes.

SHELTER HOUSE ROOF BIDS

Tom Gorman stated that two bids had been received for the roofing project at the City Park. 1) Border to Border at \$9,728.00 with a 26-gauge metal.

2) HCC at \$16,240.00 with a 29-gauge metal.

Dickie Cleland made the motion to accept Border to Border's bid. Motion died due to the lack of a second to his motion. Mary Lou Peace stated that she would prefer to wait on this cosmetic replacement roof and in a couple of years revisit this topic. Mary Lou made the motion to table this and address this issue in the future. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

206 E PERRY PROPERTY

Greg Poe the owner of the property was present. Greg reported that since the last meeting in January it took longer for Mr. Jameson to take care of the sell and deed to the property. Since then, Mr. Poe said he has done some work to the structure but with all the rain he has found 4 foot of water in the basement which he needs to pump out. Travis Wood suggested to table this matter until the first meeting in July. Mr. Poe will be back to attend this meeting.

EVANS PUBLIC HEARING, CONTINUED

Bette Lessen reported on the structure located at S. 4th St and Walnut Street. Dickie Cleland made the motion to follow the City Ordinance on Dangerous Structures. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Travis Wood made the motion to amend the agenda to move the Executive Session under Unfinished Business. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

Travis Wood made the motion to go into Executive Session for 10 minutes on Legal matters with the Council, Attorney, City Clerk and then include Dr. Stewart. 7:25 p.m.

Travis Wood made the motion to go back into Regular Session at 7:35 p.m. Dickie Cleland seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

Travis Wood made the motion to go back into Executive Session for 5 minutes with the Council, Attorney, City Clerk and Dr. Stewart on Legal matters. 7:36 p.m.

Travis Wood made the motion to go back into Regular session at 7:41 p.m. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

CHRIS WILSON POLICE DEPT. REPORT

Chris Wilson was present to firsthand in his letter of resignation effective at the end of his shift May 26th.

Chris then also presented Rick Fox's letter of resignation effective the end of his shift June 18th.

Chris stated that he did not want to leave the department in limbo so he recommended that the City Council appoint Craig Farnsworth as the Chief of Police and to increase his salary to \$21.00 an hour beginning May 27th. Also to promote Sierra Roberts from part-time employee to full time immediately and to set her up for the academy with classes beginning in June and finishing in October.

With Rick Fox leaving in June, Cory Strong will replace Rick as the SRO Officer at the School this fall.

Chris also recommended William Dean as the part-time officer to replace Sierra at the same rate of pay, \$15.00 an hour.

With a young staff as the department is, Chris felt that Chris Holtz would make a great Assistant Police Chief for Arma and to have his pay set at 19.50 an hour.

Chris's last request to the City Council prior to his departure is to purchase the body camera's that Chris had reported on at a prior meeting. The total expense is \$39,614.76 and with the funds still available under Capital Outlay the department could put down \$25,000.00.

Mary Lou Peace made the motion to accept all of Chris's recommendations. Travis Wood seconds the motion. Dickie Cleland brought up the matter of not publishing this open positions, but he would do whatever the rest of the Council chose to do. Motion was approved.

Mary Lou Peace made the motion to allow the purchase of the Body Camera's with a \$25,000.00 up front payment. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

BRAD STROUD, WALKING TRAIL

Brad handed out information on Living Well's proposal for a sidewalk path around McDonald park. Brad also brought up the idea of a storybook walk that would engage parents and children. Dickie Cleland made the motion to move forward with this project. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

DANIELLE WEST 306 E. WASHINGTON

Danielle West was not present.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

Bette Lessen reported that President Biden has enacted a new COVID relief plan that the City of Arma will benefit from. In about 3 months the City should receive \$100,000.00 and then one year later receive the second half of the \$200,000.00 that the City can use towards revitalization.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

Mike McLeod was not present, but he did send out a monthly report to a City Council members.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mary Lou Peace asked about purchasing a 3rd \$100,000.00 certificate of deposit. Bette said as soon as the City receives the funds she will report to the Council.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications were presented.

PURCHASE REQUEST

No request was made.

Ken Harryman made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Dickie Cleland seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

Bette Lessen, City Clerk