

HECTOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, May 10, 2021

6:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

MINUTES

The meeting called to order at 6:09 p.m. by Mayor Squibb, followed by a Roll Call to determine a quorum.

Members present: CM Best, CM Ebbers, CM Heerdt, CM Krueger, and Mayor Squibb

Also present: City Administrator Aukrust, Deputy Clerk Beckler, Chief Pierce, Airport Manager/PUW Schellenberg, PUW Deal, Fire Chief Kramer, City Attorney Griffin Leitch, Jeremy Boots of Moore Engineering, Karl Larsen of ARI, AAC Chair Sam Heiderscheidt, Derek Borth, Janis Weikle, Amy Hollan, Nancy Fosland, and Gary Bipes

1. Approval of the agenda and any agenda additions:

Add 8. h—Citizen of the Year Award

A motion by CM Best, seconded by CM Heerdt, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with additions.

2. Consent Agenda –

1. Approve proposed Minutes from April 12, 2021, City Council Meeting

2. Approval of Payables & Payroll

3. Approval of Personnel Committee recommendation—Hector PD

A motion by CM Heerdt, seconded by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda. CM Best abstained.

3. Public Hearings: None

4. Petitions, requests, and communications:

1. Karl Larsen: ARI—

- a) Report: Mayor Squibb recommended everyone listening to Karl Larsen and table any recommendations. Council all agreed. Mayor Squibb noted that this report contains the estimated construction budget, NOT total project numbers. It does not include soil testing, demolition costs, engineering costs, design costs, & other soft costs. New Facility: Includes new pool house, pump house, pool deck, & pool (based on current program) at a price tag of \$1,500,000.00. New Facility, engineer fees, design, demo, etc., would be around \$2,500,00.00. These are all approximate amounts.

2. Mayor Squibb: Choose to respond to the letter to the editor that was in the newspaper. Mayor Squibb encouraged the rest of the Council to do the same. Mayor Squibb said Council needs their voices heard, and its Council's job to protect employees & residents. Nobody likes the answers that are being displayed but have to go off the reports that are being submitted.

3. Jeremy Boots: Moore Engineering—

- a) 2021 Seal-coat schedule will be set soon

5. Ordinances and Resolutions:

**RESOLUTION 2021-14 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS
AND DESIGNATING THEIR USE—POOL FUND**

A motion by CM Best, seconded by CM Krueger and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2021-14.

**RESOLUTION 2021-15 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS
AND DESIGNATING THEIR USE—CEMETERY**

A motion by CM Heerdt, seconded by CM Krueger, to accept the donation for a mini-biff at the cemetery for the 2021 Memorial Day weekend. Voting Nay CM Ebbers, Motion Carried.

CM Best asked to have a discussion regarding the mini-biff at the cemetery. CM Best stated that the Council only approved the mini-biff to be out there and nothing else at the last Council meeting. No tables, chairs, or tents. CM Best wanted it clarified that allowing a mini-biff at the cemetery is not also allowing people to have an organized activity out there, too. Mayor Squibb said that the request was only to have a mini-biff out there during Memorial Day Weekend and nothing more.

6. Reports of officers, boards, and committees:

1. Administration—City Administrator A. Aukrust

- a) City Attorney Griffin Leitch: Pump at the Beef Plant. Leitch stated it would be best to do mediation with the beef plant.
- b) COVID-19 Update: County EOC meeting update: COVID vaccine clinic on June 3 at the Hector Community Center.
- c) CDS will do the 2020 Audit Review at the June meeting. CDS already told us that we had an excellent clean audit, and there are no issues.
- d) Land Parcel—Mayor Squibb: Sampson family agreed to sell Squibb and surrounding neighbors the property behind their homes. That parcel will be subdivided among the neighbors.
- e) Land donation—Mayor Squibb: Sampson's family would like to donate the property at the intersection at 8th and Elm Ave E. for use as a park. It is zoned commercial at this time. CM Heerdt said it would be great if Sampson's would donate the park equipment and bathrooms, too. No action was taken.
- f) Countrywide Lumber request—Mayor Squibb and Derek Borth: CWL would like to purchase the city shop by the water tower. Borth stated that he would like to do this ASAP because they are entirely out of space, and items are being placed on the street. Aukrust noted the city needs to find a location for the city property.
- g) Park and Rec position—CM Krueger: Krueger asked if possible to take some money from the pool budget to get a park and rec position for the summer. CM Heerdt said he doesn't want to take funds from the pool budget for this position. Mayor Squibb stated it might be too late in the season to find someone and plan any activities. CM Krueger stated that maybe the school activity director would be interested and the current lifeguards who would have worked at the pool. CM Krueger asked Nancy

Fosland if Hector Community Spirit would support this? Fosland stated they would support it; however, Community Ed participation is very low. Fosland then said that Hector Community Spirit did not have many youths come to the Easter Egg Hunt at Prairieview this year. Fosland also stated it is tough to get the kids active in things. CM Ebbers said he has noticed the enrollment was down in youth activities.

h) Citizen of the Year: CM Heerdt wanted to know if it is okay to move forward with Citizen of the Year. Mayor Squibb stated business is back to usual with Corn Chaff Days.

2. Public Utilities/Ambulance—Mike Morris and Gayle Deal

a) Public Utility update: Beef plant update—Mike Morris: The high service pump gave out. WW Goetsch currently has the pump and is putting new bearings in it. Phosphorus results are under the limit since November of 2020. Another major crack in a water main at the NE corner lot of HWY 212 and HWY 4. There have been three separate cracks, and it finally got patched up. There are issues from Pro Communication to Hwy 212 with that main. CM Ebbers proposed that the city put in a new line soon from Hwy 212 to Pro Communication.

b) Ambulance update: Gayle Deal: 12 more runs since the last meeting. Everything is running fine. Two recruits are starting EMT classes.

c) Effluent shelter—CM Ebbers: "I'm very impressed. Gayle and Gina are doing an amazing job out there at the wastewater plant." CM Ebbers stated that he would like to see the city build an effluent shelter, get a quote, and see how it fits the 2022 budget.

d) Add seasonal mowing positions—CM Ebbers: I would like to add a few part-timers to help mow the cemetery and blight properties. That way, PW can have more time to do their other job duties. Administrator Aukrust asked Council to approve the posting for additional seasonal part-time help.

A motion by CM Best, seconded by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to approve the posting for part-time seasonal help.

3. Police Department—Police Chief Z. Pierce

4. PD update: The full-time patrol officer position that has been open since February is still open. No applications have been received. Fire Department—Fire Chief R. Kramer

a) FD update: The painting of the fire hall will start soon. The second round of turnout gear was delivered and will be put into service. In addition, the FD will donate around \$2,500 to the city for the softball fence.

5. Airport—Airport Manager G. Schellenberg

a) AP update: PTO shaft has broken off the mower. Working with Welsch Implement out of Redwood Falls to get a new one.

b) FAA technical meeting changed to May 12

6. EDA—Rescue Funds

a) We are supposed to find out by May 15 as to what the funds will cover.

7. Unfinished business: Pool fundraising-Jeff Heerd: OP fundraiser raised over \$20,000, including pledges, meat raffle, and auction items. So far, with pledges, they are at \$50,000, and matching with Sampson's would be \$100,000.

a) Miscellaneous: Residents addressing the Council

1.) Sandy Hughes—Picnic table donation request: CM Best spoke on behalf of Sandy Hughes--she requests that the table the Hughes family donated gets moved from the pool to the Downtown City Park.

2.) Gary Bipes-Requested that the packer is parked between his hanger and his neighboring hangar.

8. Adjournment:

A motion by CM Best, seconded by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.