

RUSHVILLE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL & CALL TO ORDER

The Rushville City Council met in the meeting room of the City Hall building. Upon convening, Mayor Carson Klitz directed City Clerk, Stacey Briney to call the roll. Upon ROLL CALL, the following answered present: Council Members: Susan Acker, Richard Davis, Jeff Ervin, Bob Lambert, Barry Rebman, Mike Ryan, and Paul Trimble. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Council Member, Terry Dodds was absent.

Others present included: Stacey Briney, City Clerk; Charlie Burton, City Attorney; Nathan Campbell, Superintendent of Operations; David Haney of *The Rushville Times*; Scott Bickerman, Scripps Park Board Member; Gogo Her, Peace Corp Fellow; and Shari Thurman.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Carson Klitz.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Scripps Park Board Member, Scott Bickerman introduced himself to the council. Bickerman reported that the golf course looks amazing right now under the circumstances that have went on out there and they have had a lot of people step up and do a lot of work. Bickerman noted this is just not the employees, but volunteers as well.

Bickerman stated there are a couple golf course people included on the Consent Agenda item to approve hiring tonight and he hopes the council approves them. Bickerman said they have hired a couple employees based on emergency purposes because they were desperately needed. Bickerman stressed that everyone has done a wonderful job and he wanted to commend them on the work they have done.

Gogo Her, Peace Corp Fellow, thanked the council for having her in Rushville this year.

Her reported the Farmer's Market is every Friday and everyone that has been there has said great things about Rushville. Her said she would like to cone off the inside of the square on the north side. Her noted she had talked to Kerr Homecenter and they did not see a problem with it. **Consensus agreed to cone off the inside of the north side of the square.**

Scott Bickerman left the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as the first item after approval of the Consent Agenda.

- a) Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting May 17, 2021
- b) Approve the Minutes of the Sidewalk Committee held May 20, 2021; Sewer Committee held May 25, 2021; TIF Committee held May 25, 2021; & Economic Development Committee held June 1, 2021
- c) Approve "Claims for Council Approval Dated 06/07/21" & Accept Monthly Reports
- d) Consider Hiring Part-Time Employees at the Pool and Golf Course (see memo)
- e) Consider \$2,500 donation to the Schuyler Co. Fair for Fireworks (*as per past practice*)
- f) Consider Reserving Central Park on Sunday, June 13th, June 27th, & July 11th, for the Community Band
- g) Consider Reserving Central Park on Saturday, August 21st, for Night Market
- h) Pass & Adopt Resolution No. 1124, Smiles Day Resolution
- i) Consider 2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 1336, Prevailing Wage Ordinance

Lambert MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. Ervin SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Acker, Davis, Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, & Trimble; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

4. ITEMS TO BE REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA – IF APPLICABLE

All items were approved on the Consent Agenda.

5. DISCUSS & CONSIDER FORMING A HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Mayor Klitz reported he had went through all of the information that was given. Mayor Klitz stated he feels this will have some longstanding effects to the city and feels it needs a lot of looking into. Mayor Klitz said he would like to appoint Bob Lambert, Susan Acker, & Richard Davis as a committee to review and investigate this information.

Ervin MOVED TO APPROVE THE TEMPORARY COMMITTEE OF BOB LAMBERT, SUSAN ACKER, & RICHARD DAVIS TO INVESTIGATE THE INFORMATION OF A HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION. Rebman SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Davis, Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, & Acker; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

Scripps Park Board Member, Tim Higgins arrived at the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

6. DISCUSS & CONSIDER REPLACING CONCRETE AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE GOLF COURSE

Council Member, Bob Lambert thinks this problem needs to be looked into further. Lambert said he would like to have the city crew do the labor on this. Mayor Klitz stated this entrance will never be ADA compliant. Parks & Recreation Committee Chairman, Barry Rebman stated he has been looking into this and cannot find where cart paths have to be ADA compliant. Mayor Klitz noted he has not problems doing the entrance, he just does not want to waste the time if it will not be right. City Attorney, Charlie Burton stated there has to be at least one (1) ADA entrance. **No action was taken at this time and this item will be placed on the next council agenda.**

7. DISCUSS & CONSIDER HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE SIDEWALK ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE OLD JCPENNEY BUILDING

Sidewalk & Lighting Committee Chairman, Paul Trimble reported the committee met to discuss the handicap accessible sidewalk that Mark & Keli Schoonover would like to put on the south side of the building. Trimble stated there is a 17'x9' section that the city would like to repair before the Schoonover's do their part. Superintendent of Operations, Nathan Campbell said Schoonover wants to do a ramp like was done on the east side of the square. Campbell stated he looked it over and that section of sidewalk is in bad shape and he would like to remove the entire thing. Campbell noted the city would let Schoonover pour his part and then we would come in and make our section ADA compliant going west. Campbell said the city crew will do the work because we have all the equipment.

Trimble MOVED TO APPROVE MARK & KELI SCHOONOVER TO INSTALL A HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE RAMP ON THE SIDEWALK OF THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE OLD JCPENNEY BUILDING. Lambert SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, & Davis; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

8. DISCUSS & CONSIDER WORKING WITH BENTON & ASSOCIATES FOR CMOM PLAN PREP

Sewer Committee Chairman, Jeff Ervin reported the EPA is on every municipality to reduce and eliminate the water seepage that goes into the sewer system. Ervin stated EPA is making everyone come up with a plan and every year each municipality has to show where they are working on their plan. Ervin said he would like to work with Benton & Associates to come up with a plan because that is not something the city can do on their own. Ervin noted it will not cost more than Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000) to do.

Ervin said the city has to update their license every five (5) years and pay Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500) for the permit. Ervin stated if the city does not do this plan, we will be fined.

Ervin MOVED TO APPROVE ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BENTON & ASSOCIATES TO COME UP WITH A CMOM PLAN. Ryan SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, & Ervin; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

9. DISCUSS & CONSIDER 1ST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1137, ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES, WAGES, AND BENEFITS FOR CITY DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENTS AND EMPLOYEES

Ryan MOVED TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 1137, ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES, WAGES, AND BENEFITS FOR CITY DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENT AND EMPLOYEES TO THE SECOND (2ND) READING. Lambert SECONDED.

Ervin asked if there was a committee meeting to discuss these salaries because there are not any changes. City Clerk, Stacey Briney said the amounts in the ordinance came from the appropriation ordinance that was passed. Mayor Klitz asked if the council had a problem giving everyone else a three percent (3%) raise and not the department heads, and Ervin said he had a problem with it. Ervin recommended the committee meet on this. **There was no vote on the motion and this item will appear on the next council agenda.**

10. DISCUSS & CONSIDER APPROVING RED GRANT APPLICATION(S)

Economic Development Committee Chairman, Susan Acker reported everyone received an overview of the RED Grants, applications from Boehm's Garden Center and Andrews Antiques, and a listing of what has gone on with the applicants that had already received RED Grant funds. Acker stated since these items went out, Double Barrell Bar-be-que have returned the Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) they received last year. Acker asked by them paying that money back, would there be Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) available this year instead of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000). Clerk Briney noted there is still just the Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) unless a supplemental appropriation ordinance is passed to increase the amount. Ervin suggested waiting to see if the city gets anymore applications. Acker said she wanted to do a follow-up so everyone was on the same page. Ervin told Acker he appreciated her work on this. Trimble noted he knows Heath White, owner of the Double Barrell Barb-be-que, did cater a few weddings and set up a couple times and wondered if the city should expect him to give all of the money back or maybe just take a percentage. Trimble said he was just trying to be fair to everyone. Acker felt the city should just move on from this.

Acker reported the application from Boehm's Garden Center is to help build on a room to put their plants in and they are requesting Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000). Acker stated the other application was from Andrew Antiques and they were asking for Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to help with expenses during the governmental closure of the business last year and to help pay four (4) months property taxes. Acker noted Andrews Antiques applied last year but decided to withdraw in order to reapply when more funds were available.

Acker stated the committee met, along with Ervin, and reviewed the application program, which says it can assist in the time of need or expansion. Acker said they did not feel that Andrews Antiques was an expansion and they were not sure what type of need it was. Acker stressed that economic development was to grow businesses. Lambert said these businesses are listed for sale as well. Ervin stated he does not think this grant is available to help pay property taxes. Acker agreed and felt that would be opening up a can of worms. Mayor Klitz asked where the city would stop if that was the case. Trimble felt the rules need to be rewritten.

Acker MOVED TO APPROVE A FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR (\$5,000) RED GRANT FOR BOEHM'S GARDEN CENTER, AND DENY THE GRANT APPLICATION FROM ANDREWS ANTIQUES. Ervin SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis Ervin, & Lambert; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

11. DISCUSS & CONSIDER APPROVING TIF APPLICATION FOR MARK & KELI SCHOONOVER

TIF Advisory Committee Chairman, Bob Lambert reported the committee met to review the application on the development of the old JCPenney building.

Lambert MOVED TO APPROVE A TIF GRANT TO MARK & KELI SCHOONOVER IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$25,000). Davis SECONDED.

Council Member, Richard Davis reported Schoonover's were granted Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000) last time and Mrs. Schoonover really wanted more money. Davis noted he does understand the cap though. Ervin said he understands where Schoonover's are coming from but if the city starts going over the cap, there will be no where to stop because then everyone else will want more.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, Ervin, Lambert, & Rebman; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

12. DISCUSS & CONSIDER APPROVING TIF APPLICATION FOR STEVE MAXWELL

Lambert reported Steve Maxwell applied for a grant for the property located at 134 S. Liberty. Lambert stated Maxwell will be putting in offices in the building. Lambert said Maxwell originally applied for Twenty-Three Thousand Dollars (\$23,000), but once he found out he could get Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), he asked for that.

Lambert MOVED TO APPROVE A TIF GRANT TO STEVE MAXWELL FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 134 S. LIBERTY STREET IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$25,000). Ervin SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Trimble, Acker, Davis, Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, & Ryan; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

13. DISCUSS & CONSIDER APPROVING TIF APPLICATION FOR STATION 1883

Lambert reported Station 1883 applied for Sixteen Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Five Dollars (\$16,265) for an air conditioner in the kitchen and installing a dumb waiter.

Lambert MOVED TO APPROVE A TIF GRANT TO STATION 1883 IN THE AMOUNT SIXTEEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$16,265). Trimble SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Acker, Davis, Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, & Trimble; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

14. DISCUSS & CONSIDER UPGRADING THE WATER METER AT THE HIGH SCHOOL TO A 6” METER

Ervin reported there is a four-inch (4”) meter feeding the high school but they are needing a six inch (6”) for the new project that is being constructed. Ervin stated Campbell has called the supplier and to build and get the meter to the city will take about six (6) weeks. Ervin said the engineer would like to get permission from the city to bypass the meter until the new one gets here. Ervin noted we will probably have to estimate June & July usage. Ervin asked Campbell if Jamie Headen of Benton & Associates has looked this over, and Campbell said he has not looked at what Midwest Meter has speeded out.

Ervin MOVED TO APPROVE CHARGING THE AVERAGE WATER BILL FOR JUNE & JULY, THREE (3) YEARS, UNTIL THE NEW WATER METER COMES IN. Ryan SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Davis, Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, & Acker; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

15. DISCUSS & CONSIDER ALLOWING A BUSINESS OWNER TO PLACE A SODA MACHINE OUTSIDE OF THEIR BUSINESS ON THE SQUARE

Trimble reported he has been contacted by the owner of Junk in the Trunk about placing a soda machine in front of the store. Trimble read the ordinance from the code book. Mayor Klitz said he thinks it would make the square look trashy. Trimble stated others put stuff in front of their businesses but it is not permanent. Mayor Klitz said if the city is looking into having our square architecturally sound, it is not a good idea. Davis noted he does not think it is a good idea.

Trimble MOVED TO APPROVE ALLOWING A BUSINESS OWNER TO PLACE A SODA MACHINE OUTSIDE OF THEIR BUSINESS ON THE SQUARE. Ryan SECONDED, AND THE MOTION FAILED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 0 YEAS; 7 NAYS – Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, & Davis; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

16. COUNCIL MEMBER & OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

TIF Committee Chairman, Bob Lambert said he has received another TIF application.

Cemetery Committee Chairman, Bob Lambert reported the gravel drive around the Veteran’s memorial is getting thin. Lambert stated Cemetery Sexton, George Vincent got an estimate from S & S Tractor on the gravel and it would cost Seven Hundred Thirty-One Dollars and Eighty-Seven Center (\$731.87).

Council Member, Mike Ryan reported the tree next to the Ray house is in pretty bad shape and he was asked if the city would take it down. Ryan said there are two (2) trees that need to be taken down, but this one is dead. Ryan stated if the city takes the dead one down, they would like us to take the other one too. Ryan noted he will look into the cost of this.

Water Committee Chairman, Jeff Ervin reported the old JCPenney building has to get a new one-inch (1”) water meter, according to the state plumbing inspector. Ervin stated their meter is in the basement and the other two (2) buildings next to it are in the basement of the middle building. Ervin said Schoonover’s have to put in the new meter at their own cost. Ervin noted the city will make them put it in the alley and while they are doing that, we should put in the other two (2) pits. Ervin stated this will help with the freezing issues. Mayor Klitz said the city will need easements and he thinks Dustin Clark owns that alley. Ervin noted Attorney Burton will check on this. Ervin stated he would like to get this done before the sidewalk work because we will have to bore because we cannot get a backhoe down the alley.

Ervin also reported the American Rescue Plan has released the money via the US Treasury. Ervin stated all of the big municipalities got money straight from the Federal government and all of the other’s money was given to the State to disperse. Ervin said the city should be getting Three Hundred Fifty-One Thousand Dollars (\$351,000) that has to be spent on infrastructure. Ervin stated the money should come in two (2) payments, with one (1) payment in late summer and the other a year after. Ervin said the city has some projects that the money can be used on. Acker asked if there was a timeline to spend the money and Ervin said he thinks it has to be used one (1) year from the second (2nd) payment.

Ervin stated he has received some complaints about stuff sitting out in the front of the Dohner building. Acker said she knows it was all town yard sales and that was probably what it was for.

Ervin reported Bickerman said the golf course looked good and he has seen a couple park board members mowing. Ervin stated he has seen Pool Committee Chairman, Tim Higgins three (3) times power washing volunteering his time. Ervin thanked all of them for their hard work.

Higgins noted the first day there was one hundred fifty-two (152) people and two hundred five (205) people the second day. Higgins said the health department did not put any regulations on us.

17. ADJOURN

Ervin MOVED TO ADJOURN. Acker SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, & Ervin; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds. THE MEETING STOOD ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY AT 7:56 P.M.

Minutes submitted by,

Stacey L. Briney, City Clerk/CMC

Date Minutes Approved