

CITY COUNCIL

November 18, 2024

The November 18, 2024 City Council meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Kate Niederkohr, President. A moment of silence was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. City Council members present Tom Karcher, Aaron Korte, Julia Lemire, Scott Moore, Kate Niederkohr, John Walker, and Kenneth Wessler.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Ben Buckland, Law Director; Keith Niederkohr, Parks Manager; Daniel Barth; Jim Stauffer; Lonnie McMillan, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the November 4, 2024 City Council meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were approved as received.

The minutes of the November 4, 2024 Safety Committee meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the November 4, 2024 Service Committee meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the November 4, 2024 Planning Committee meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the November 12, 2024 Park Board meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the November 12, 2024 Downtown Committee meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

Mr. Daniel Barth again addressed City Council with follow-up questions regarding the defeat of the twelve month cannabis moratorium within the City as addressed in Ordinance No. 249-13. Mr. Barth inquired as to what the future decisions will be regarding this issue. Mr. Barth indicated that he doesn't want to wait to see the City place a ban on cannabis and he is working on a petition. Mr. Barth forewarned members that smoke shops and related businesses can lead into a cannabis business.

Mr. Niederkohr explained a revised plan for the pool house. Mrs. Lemire indicated that she has been to the Board of Elections and the City will have until February to file an issue for the May primary ballot. Mr. Stauffer noted that the filing date is February 5, 2024 and the primary is May 6, 2024. Mrs. Lemire noted that a rough estimate of the City's cost to place the measure on the primary ballot is \$5,000.00. Mrs. Lemire indicated that she is still trying to obtain additional information for other options to fund the project. Mayor McColly stated that the area in the current pool house that would be ideal for a concession stand is not possible as there is no drain.

City Council members discussed a proposed addition to the Codified Ordinances, as recommended by the Service Committee, being Chapter 940 addressing Use of Public Sewers as prepared by Peterman Associates, Inc.

A motion was made by Mr. Korte, seconded by Mrs. Niederkohr, to proceed with an Ordinance to establish Chapter 940 Use of Public Sewers. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The President declared the motion carried.

It was noted that City Council members received the Auditor's Finance Report for October 2024.

Mayor McColly reported that Mrs. Nickie Coppler, City Auditor, is currently working on the City's budget for 2025 and this information will be presented at a December 2024 City Council meeting.

It was noted that representatives from the City attended the annual Economic Development dinner held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024.

Mayor McColly also reported that Mr. Bob Snavelly, Palmer Energy, will be attending a future City Council meeting to provide updates of the City's electric and natural gas aggregation programs.

Mayor McColly further reported that the Winter Fantasy of Lights (WFOL) is projecting massive crowds for the walk-thru events to be held on Wednesday, November 27, 2024 and Thursday, November 28, 2024 and details are being worked out to assist with transportation.

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kate Niederkohr, President