

Fairfield, Illinois  
Council Chambers, City Hall  
Regular Meeting, 6:00 P.M.  
Tuesday, June 22, 2021

Meeting called to order by Mayor Mike Dreith at 6:00 P.M.

Prayer led by Mayor Dreith followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

City Clerk Tina Hutchcraft called the roll:

Mayor: Mike Dreith  
City Clerk: Tina Hutchcraft  
City Attorney: Darrin Rice  
Aldermen: Dewey Eckleberry; Brett Coale; Clifford Reeve; Tyler Lampley; Eugene McGill;  
Jerry Lisenbee; Terry Stahl; Gary Moore

Also Present: Ken Otey, WFIW Radio; David Mills, Wayne County Press; Tyler Lashbrook, Electric Distribution; Josh Boyd, Water Filtration; Kevin Leonard, Water Distribution; Dian Downs; Flo Simpson; Kayla Warren; DiElle Rogers; Claire Vaughan; and other citizens from the community.

The minutes of the meeting of June 8, 2021, agendas and bills of June 22, 2021 were sent out to those entitled to receive them. Mayor Dreith asked for approval of the minutes for the June 8, 2021 meeting. Motion by Alderman Stahl, seconded by Alderman Reeve to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 8, 2021.

Vote yes: Eckleberry; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Coale

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried.

Mayor Dreith asked if there were any corrections or objections to the bills for the June 22, 2021 meeting. Motion by Alderman Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman McGill to approve the bills and drafts be drawn on the several funds for their respective amounts.

Vote yes: Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Coale; Eckleberry

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried.

Ordinance No. 21-0622-257 - Prohibiting a Reckless Dog Owner from Possessing a Dog – This ordinance was drafted as a result of the recent dog bite attack that occurred in the City. The Council felt the City should have an ordinance in place that would prohibit an owner of a dog or dogs that has been declared as vicious from possessing another dog within a five-year period. A motion was made by Alderman Moore, seconded by Alderman Eckleberry to approve this ordinance.

Vote yes: Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Coale; Eckleberry; Lampley

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Ordinance No. 21-0622-257 approved and duly adopted.

Resolution – Agreement with the Wayne County Humane Society for Animal Control – A resolution for an agreement with the Wayne County Humane Society for animal control was presented to Council. The last agreement with the Humane Society limited the service to be between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday. The last agreement also stated they would not handle bite calls and vicious animal calls. This new agreement states they would provide animal control services for the City on an “on-call basis” and the new agreement includes them handling bite calls and vicious animal calls. Mayor Dreith, along with the Wayne County Board Chairman, met with the Humane Society to renegotiate the agreement. The Humane Society stated that in order to handle bite dogs they would need additional pen space for these animals and asked for assistance in paying for these pens. Both Mayor Dreith and Chairman Reeves felt this was a reasonable request and the resolution states the City would pay half of the cost and the other half would be paid by the County. Alderman Moore questioned the Humane Society about their fees and their services and felt other communities in the county should help with the cost of the pens. He also felt we shouldn’t approve this agreement until the City knows what the cost of construction for the pens would be. Mayor Dreith asked if the Council would like to put cap on the amount we would be willing to spend on the construction and approve the resolution with that revision. Alderman Moore felt we needed to wait. A motion was made by Alderman Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Stahl to table this resolution.

Vote yes: McGill; Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Coale; Eckleberry; Lampley; Lisenbee

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried.

Award Bid for the Kincaid Drive Project – Howell Paving was the only bidder for this project. The total amount of the bid was \$174,257.99. This project will be paid for with Rebuild Illinois money. A motion was made by Alderman Lampley, seconded by Alderman Eckleberry to award the bid for this project to Howell Paving in the amount of \$174,257.99.

Vote yes: Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Coale; Eckleberry; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried.

Award Bid for Water Filter Chemicals – Bids were opened for chemicals for the water filtration plant and we received bids from five different companies. Motion by Alderman Reeve, seconded by Alderman Moore to accept the bids for chemicals at the Filter Plant as recommended by Josh Boyd.

Vote yes: Reeve; Stahl; Coale; Eckleberry; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried.

Resolution No. 21-0622-400/Street Closing Request for Fall Fun Fest – The Council needs to approve this resolution for the street closing for the Fall Fun Fest. The Fun Fest is scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>. Alderman Lampley made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stahl to adopt Resolution No. 21-0622-400 approving the street closing for the Fairfield Fall Fun Fest.

Vote yes: Stahl; Coale; Eckleberry; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Reeve

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Resolution No. 21-0622-400 approved and duly adopted.

Marketing Presentation and Resolution for Proposed Contract – Claire Vaughan made a presentation to the Council about the city's current website and a proposed agreement with her company, RJ Marketing. The resolution and agreement states that RJ Marketing will engineer and produce a website, promoting the City and providing a directory of information and services of the City and to provide advertising and marketing to enhance economic development of the City. A motion was made by Alderman Lisenbee, seconded by Alderman McGill to adopt the resolution to approve a contract with RJ Marketing for professional services (city website and marketing for economic development).

Vote yes: Coale; Eckleberry; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Reeve; Stahl

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Resolution No. 21-0622-401 approved and duly adopted.

Appointments – Mayor Dreith would like to have Darrin Rice serve as City Attorney. He would also like to appoint DiElle Rogers as City Collector, Kayla Warren as City Treasurer, and Flo Simpson as Zoning Officer. Mayor Dreith told the Council that Flo will be handling zoning, TIF, and Enterprise Zone but he will be the one to concentrate on economic development. Flo will also be assisting the City Clerk on various projects. A motion was made by Alderman Moore, seconded by Alderman Lampley to approve Darrin Rice as City Attorney and to approve Resolution No. 21-0622-402 thru Resolution No. 21-0622-404 for the City Collector, City Treasurer and Zoning Officer appointments.

Vote yes: Eckleberry; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Coale

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Resolution No. 21-0622-402 thru No. 21-0622-404 approved and duly adopted.

Ordinance to Vacate a Parking Area – We have been asked to vacate a parking area along NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The parking spot is in front of a building that is owned by John Williams. He has a garage door on that building and he needs to be able to access his building. He is asking for the parking space in front of that portion of his building to be vacated. A motion was made by Alderman Stahl, seconded by Alderman Eckleberry to approve the ordinance to vacate this parking space.

Vote yes: Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Coale; Eckleberry

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Ordinance No. 21-0622-258 approved and duly adopted.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Dreith reported that an important survey will be going out this week to city residents asking questions about their internet access and speeds. It is the precursor to the city's application for a NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Grant due in early August. Mayor Dreith had a meeting with Wabash Communications General Manager Barry Adair. Fiberoptic high

speed internet in Fairfield would greatly help our ability to attract business. Mayor Dreith also reported that we continue to have problems with the owners of the Briarwood Hotel. The motel is not assessing the five-percent hotel-motel tax. Records indicate they have not paid the tax since August, 2019. Attorney Rice will be seeking all legal recourse available to remedy the matter. The owner was previously served last year but has refused to respond. The Mayor has met with Connor & Connor and they will contact the state to determine the status of our water tower project. The engineering firm will also be recommending a new tower location and funding alternatives. The full Mayor's Report is attached.

South Wall Project – Mayor Dreith reported to the Council that we found out today that additional work will be needed on this project. A new support footing will need to be installed before the bid project can proceed. The additional cost will be \$10,092.00. The aldermen agreed this additional work is needed.

Miscellaneous – Ken Otey reminded the Council that Law Enforcement Appreciation Day is scheduled for Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> on the Courthouse square at 5:00 p.m.

Executive Session – Alderman Eckleberry made a motion, seconded by Alderman Moore to go into Executive Session to discuss Section 2(c)(21) – discuss minutes of closed session meetings and Section 2(c)(6) – the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body.

Vote yes: Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Coale; Eckleberry; Lampley

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried.

Return to Regular Session – Alderman Coale made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stahl to return to regular session.

Vote yes: Eckleberry; Coale; Reeve; Lampley; McGill; Lisenbee; Stahl; Moore

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Council returned to regular session at 7:54 p.m.

Resolution No. 21-0622-405/Release of Executive Session Minutes – City Attorney Rice reviewed the minutes of the Executive Session meetings. His recommendation to Council was to keep all minutes closed at this time. Alderman McGill made a motion, seconded by Alderman Reeve to approve Resolution No. 21-0622-405 regarding the release of executive session minutes.

Vote yes: McGill; Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Coale; Eckleberry; Lampley; Lisenbee

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Resolution No. 21-0622-405 approved and duly adopted.

Resolution No. 21-0622-406/Authorizing Destruction of Recordings – Alderman McGill made a motion, seconded by Alderman Reeve to approve Resolution No. 21-0622-406 authorizing the destruction of audio recordings for closed session meetings.

Vote yes: Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Coale; Eckleberry; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Resolution No. 21-0622-406 approved and duly adopted.

Adjourn Meeting – Motion by Alderman McGill, seconded by Alderman Lisenbee to adjourn the meeting.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Dreith declared meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Tina Hutchcraft, City Clerk

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Mike Dreith, Mayor