

Fairfield, Illinois
Council Chambers, City Hall
Regular Meeting, 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday, May 24, 2022

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

Prayer led by Jeff Vaughan 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; Cody Attebery; Clifford Reeve; Tyler Lampley; Eugene McGill;
Jerry Lisenbee; Terry Stahl; Gary Moore

Also Present: Jeff Vaughan, WFIW Radio; Tom Mathews, Wayne County Press; Andrew Miller, Fire Chief; D.E. Young, Garage Department; DiElle Rogers; Kayla Warren; Claire Vaughan; Dian Downs; Libby Lingafelter; Terry Weedman; Brad Winter; Wade Gregory; Dennis Weedman; Doug Skaggs; and other citizens from the community.

The minutes of the meeting of May 10, 2022 and bills of May 24, 2022 were sent out to those entitled to receive them. Mayor Dreith asked for approval of the minutes for the May 10, 2022 meeting. Motion by Alderman Lampley, seconded by Alderman McGill to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 10, 2022.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried.

Mayor Dreith asked if there were any corrections or objections to the bills for the May 24, 2022 meeting. Motion by Alderman Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Lisenbee to approve the bills.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried.

Public Comments – Brad Winter addressed the Council. He is a retired City of Fairfield Police Chief. He stated that he understood that Brent Maguire was going to possibly be nominated for the position of Chief of the Fairfield Police Department. He said that he understands that Brent has been the victim of vicious, uncalled for, campaign of flat out lies. The rumor he has heard is that Brent was compelled to leave the department and left under duress because he was about to be fired. He wanted to go on the record to say that there is no truth to that whatsoever and felt this should be addressed before the Council makes a decision on the appointment. He told the Council that he conducted Brent's background investigation and watched him rise up through the ranks of sergeant and detective. He was a great officer for the police department and always did a good job.

Resolution to Appoint the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief – A motion was made by Alderman Lampley, seconded by Alderman Stahl to approve the appointment of Andrew Miller as Fire Chief and Wade Gregory as Assistant Fire Chief.

Vote yes: Lisenbee; Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Attebery; Eckleberry; Lampley

Vote no: none

Abstain: McGill

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Resolution No. 22-0524-430 and Resolution No. 22-0524-431 approved and adopted.

Resolution – Police Chief Appointment – Mayor Dreith would like to appoint Brent Maguire as Police Chief. No motion was made and no action was taken on this agenda item.

Resolution – Recreation Committee Appointment – A motion was made by Alderman Moore, seconded by Alderman Stahl to approve the appointment of Tyler Lampley to the Recreation Board.

Vote yes: McGill; Moore; Reeve; Stahl; Attebery; Eckleberry; Lisenbee

Vote no: none

Abstain: Lampley

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Resolution No. 22-0524-432 approved and adopted.

Resolutions – The following resolutions were presented to Council for approval.

Resolution No. 22-0524-433 City Collector – DiElle Rogers

Resolution No. 22-0524-434 City Treasurer – Kayla Warren

Resolution No. 22-0524-435 Board of Fire & Police Commissioner – Stan Phelps

Resolution No. 22-0524-436 Police Pension – Terry Weedman

Resolution No. 22-0524-437 Zoning Board Appointments

Niki Roethe

Patrick Halbert

Alderman Moore made a motion, seconded by Alderman Lampley to approve the above resolutions.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Resolution No. 22-0524-433 through Resolution No. 22-0524-437 approved and duly adopted.

Ordinance Setting the Fee for Class Q Liquor License – At the last meeting the Council approved a Class Q Liquor License for a bed & breakfast. Attorney Rice explained that we need to approve the fee for that license. A motion was made by Alderman Lampley, seconded by Alderman Eckleberry to approve a fee of \$500.00 for a Class Q Liquor License.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Ordinance No. 22-0524-286 approved and duly adopted.

Seek Bids for a Salt Storage Shed – The Street & Bridge Department would like to have a structure built to store salt. We would have to pay for the structure out of the general fund but we would be able to reimburse the general fund from Motor Fuel Tax. A motion was made by Alderman Lisenbee, seconded by Alderman Lampley to approve seeking bids for a salt storage shed.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried.

Award the Bid for a Water Tower – We received two bids for the construction of a new water tower. The low bid received was from Caldwell Tanks, Inc. in the amount of \$1,618,800.00 for a 300,000 gallon tank. The total cost of the project including engineering is estimated to be \$1,836,960.00. This project will be paid for using TIF funds, \$200,000 from a grant from Darrin Bailey, and the remaining will be paid for using a loan from our line of credit with Clay City Banking. We should be able to pay this loan back within a year. A motion was made by Alderman Moore, seconded by Alderman Eckleberry to award the bid for the new tower to Caldwell Tanks, Inc. in the amount of \$1,618,800.00.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried.

Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Property – The Council had previously authorized the sale of the Highland Avenue property to the Industrial Trust. They would then make this property available to the current tenants of the property. Attorney Rice explained that this needs to be approved by ordinance for purposes of title insurance. A motion was made by Alderman Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Lampley to approve the sale of the Highland Avenue property to the Fairfield Industrial Trust.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Ordinance No. 22-0524-287 approved and adopted.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Dreith reported on new information received from the census. He also reported that none of the candidates that tested for the police department were successful. He will meet with Board of Fire & Police Commissioner Terry Weedman to discuss a new strategy for the next testing. The full Mayor's report is attached.

Executive Session – Alderman Eckleberry made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stahl to go into Executive Session to discuss Section 2(c)(21) – discuss minutes of closed session meetings; Section 2(c)(6) – the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body; and Section 2(c)(2) – collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried.

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

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Dreith declared motion carried and Council returned to regular session at 7:22 p.m.

FOP Contract – Mayor Dreith asked the Council if there was any discussion or concern about the proposed FOP Contract. Alderman Moore stated that he has concerns with the residency clause in the contract. He thinks we need to look at the safety of our residents and a 45 mile residency puts our residents at risk. We had the incident of Deputy Riley on I-64 which we needed to get there in a hurry, and we did. He stated that recently we had a soft lock down at the Fairfield Community High School and he stated it took our police department 15 minutes to respond. He thinks living so far away puts are residents at a greater risk as well as the officers themselves. Alderman Lampley thinks it would also be a safety issue. No motion was made, and no action was taken on this agenda item.

Adjourn Meeting – Motion by Alderman Moore, seconded by Alderman Eckleberry to adjourn the meeting.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Dreith declared meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Tina Hutchcraft, City Clerk

Mike Dreith, Mayor