

M I N U T E S
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 5, 2022
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor King. Council Members Paul Fischer, Jason Baskin, Michael Postma, Geoff Baker and Council Member-at-Large Jeff Austin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Council Member Joyce Poshusta and Rebecca Waller

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Police Chief David McKichan, Human Resources Director Trish Wiechmann, Public Works Director Steven Lang, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, Park and Rec Director Dave Merrill, City Attorney Craig Byram, Library Director Julie Clinefelter, and City Clerk Ann Kasel

APPEARING IN PERSON: Austin Daily Herald, KAUS Radio, Laura Helle, Honorary Council Member Alexander Stoltz

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member Postma, approving the agenda. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, approving Council minutes from November 21, 2022. Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Fischer, approving the consent agenda as follows:

Licenses:

Exempt Gambling (raffle): Austin Area Chamber of Commerce on March 3, 2023
Food: Hkakabo Razi Asian Restaurant, 501 1st Street NW, Suite 1

Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills
- b. Credit Card Report.

Carried.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

City Administrator Craig Clark requested the Council approve a contract with Baudler, Maus, Forman & King for prosecution services. The contract would be for a three-year period at \$17,622 per month.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Baskin, adopting a resolution approving a contract with Baudler, Maus, Forman & King for prosecution services. Carried 5-0.

City Clerk Ann Kasel requested the Council designate polling places for 2023. There are no scheduled elections but State statutes require cities to designate them on an annual basis.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Baskin, adopting a resolution designating polling locations for 2023 elections. Carried 5-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Postma, adopting a resolution accepting donations to the City of Austin. Carried 4-0 with Council Member Baker abstaining.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, adopting a resolution setting 2023 seasonal, temporary and part-time wage rates. Carried 5-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve a contract with SRF for the design of a community entrance on I-90. The proposed contract is in the amount of \$34,021 and would be funded by the Hormel Foundation.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Postma, adopting a resolution awarding a SRF Proposal for a community entrance sign. Carried 5-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the City is working on the infrastructure project at Creekside Park and requested the Council award a design services contract to SEH, Inc. SEH has provided a proposal in the amount of \$358,340.94 for the services which include project administration, EDA grant compliance, geotechnical and surveying services, permitting, engineering design and bidding.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution awarding a contract to SEH, Inc. for infrastructure design services at Creekside Business Park. Carried 5-0.

Library Director Julie Clinefelter stated the Library is requesting to enter into a contract with Austin Aspires for the funding of 100 hotspots through 2023. Austin Aspires has the grant dollars available to purchase the data plans and the library will manage the distribution of the devices.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, adopting a resolution approving a purchase of service agreement with Austin Aspires for hotspots. Carried 5-0.

CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

Peter Waldman, 58934 240th Street, requested an update on his complaint about uncontrolled intersections in the City of Austin.

Mayor King stated the department heads will contact him in the future regarding the matter.

Honorary Council Member Alexander Stoltz thanked the Council for the opportunity to be the honorary council member.

REPORTS

Parks and Recreation Director David Merrill stated the Merry and Bright night will take place at the Hormel Nature Center on Thursday and santa will be there from 4-8 pm.

Administrative Services Director Tom Dankert stated the truth in taxation hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 7th.

Mayor King stated the City swore in a new officer Jessy Betts, from Fillmore County.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, adjourning the meeting to December 19, 2022. Carried.

Adjourned: 5:49 p.m.

Approved: December 19, 2022

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____