

M I N U T E S
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 2, 2024
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Police Chief David McKichan, Public Works Director Steven Lang, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum, Park and Rec Director Jason Sehon, City Attorney Craig Byram, Library Director Julie Clinefelter and City Clerk Ann Kasel

APPEARING IN PERSON: Austin Daily Herald, Steve Kime

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

Added to the agenda:

Licenses:

Exempt Gambling (raffle): NWTF Cedar River Longbeards on January 27, 2024
Gas Station: Suraj's Pump and Munch, LLC, 901 4th Avenue NE
Massage Therapist: Jada DeClue, 1807 3rd Avenue SE
Massage Therapist: Katy Clark, 2107 9th Street SW
Massage Therapist: Patrick Whalen, 401 North Main Street
Sign Installer: Signs of Schuppe, Oronoco
Tobacco (transfer): Suraj's Pump and Munch, LLC, 901 4th Avenue NE

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Postma, approving the agenda as amended. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, approving Council minutes from December 18, 2023. Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Licenses:

Exempt Gambling (raffle): Austin Area Chamber of Commerce on March 1, 2024
Exempt Gambling (raffle): Austin Area Chamber of Commerce on April 25, 2024
Massage Establishment: DS Massage, 2105 3rd Avenue SE
Massage Therapist: Daniel Stallkamp, 2105 3rd Avenue SE
Mobile Business: On the Hook Fish and Chips, Laramie, Wyoming
Mobile Business: Stage Coach BBQ & Grill, Brownsdale
Right of Way: Dobbs Construction, Inc., Dodge Center
Right of Way: Husemoller Excavating, 26375 555th Avenue
Right of Way: JJD Companies, LLC, Blooming Prairie
Right of Way: S & S Drainage, 1705 16th Street SW
Taxi Driver: Antonio Patino, Jr., 1015 4th Avenue NE
Temporary Liquor: Austin Catholic Schools on January 27, 2024
Exempt Gambling (raffle): NWTf Cedar River Longbeards on January 27, 2024
Gas Station: Suraj's Pump and Munch, LLC, 901 4th Avenue NE
Massage Therapist: Jada DeClue, 1807 3rd Avenue SE
Massage Therapist: Katy Clark, 2107 9th Street SW
Massage Therapist: Patrick Whalen, 401 North Main Street
Sign Installer: Signs of Schuppe, Oronoco
Tobacco (transfer): Suraj's Pump and Munch, LLC, 901 4th Avenue NE

Claims:

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

Carried.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested the Council adopt a resolution designating the City's deposit and investment accounts for 2024. He stated there are no changes from 2023.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Baskin, adopting a resolution designating depositories for checking and investment of public funds for 2024. Carried 7-0.

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested the Council approve budget adjustment number one. The adjustment would transfer the fund balance in Fire PERA Fund 29 into the Fire Fleet Fund 73 and rename Fund 73 the Fire Equipment Fund 73. He stated this would allow the fund to be used for additional equipment purchases beyond vehicles.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, adopting a resolution approving budget adjustment number 1. Carried 7-0.

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested the Council approve budget adjustment number 2 which would officially amend the budget to account for the Hormel Foundation Grants awarded to the City.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, adopting a resolution approving budget adjustment number 2. Carried 7-0.

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested the Council set the mileage reimbursement rate for 2024 at 67 cents per mile.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Baskin, adopting a resolution setting the mileage reimbursement rate for 2024. Carried 7-0.

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum presented a feasibility report to Council for street improvements on 8th Street NE (16th Avenue to 18th Avenue NE) and lift station construction, Project 23104 & 23201. He stated the project is feasible and will have a total cost of \$2,400,000. Mr. Wenum reviewed the project and requested a public hearing be held for the improvement on February 20, 2024.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution receiving feasibility report and calling for a public hearing for February 20th for street improvements on 8th Street NE (16th Avenue to 18th Avenue NE) and lift station construction, Project 23104 & 23201. Carried 7-0.

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum presented a feasibility report to Council for street improvements on 9th Street SW (17th Avenue to 22nd Avenue SW) and 12th Street SW (17th Avenue to 21st Avenue SW), Project 24101. He stated the project is feasible and will have a total cost of \$1,725,000. Mr. Wenum reviewed the project and requested a public hearing be held for the improvement on February 20, 2024.

Council Member Baker asked about the ash trees being removed.

Mr. Wenum stated ash trees located on the boulevard would be removed. The trees would be evaluated by the Park and Rec Department before removal.

Council Member Baker also asked if the sidewalk would go all the way up and down 9th Street SW.

Mr. Wenum stated sidewalk is proposed on 9th Street SW and that would be reviewed in the public hearing.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Helle, adopting a resolution receiving feasibility report and calling for a public hearing for February 20th for street improvements on 9th Street SW (17th Avenue to 22nd Avenue SW) and 12th Street SW (17th Avenue to 21st Avenue SW), Project 24101. Carried 7-0.

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum presented a feasibility report to Council for street improvements on 4th Avenue NE (17th Street to 19th Street NE), Project 24102 and 1st Avenue NE (8th Street to 10th Street NE), Project 24103. He stated the project is feasible and will have a total cost of \$1,215,000. Mr. Wenum reviewed the project and requested a public hearing be held for the improvement on February 20, 2024.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, adopting a resolution receiving feasibility report and calling for a public hearing for February 20th for street improvements on 4th Avenue NE (17th Street to 19th Street NE), Project 24102 and 1st Avenue NE (8th Street to 10th Street NE), Project 24103. Carried 7-0.

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum presented a feasibility report to Council for street improvements on 2nd Avenue NW (14th Street to 19th Street NW), 16th Street NW (Oakland Avenue West to 2nd Avenue NW) and 17th Street NW (Oakland Avenue West to 2nd Avenue NW), Project 24104. He stated the project is feasible and will have a total cost of \$1,600,000. Mr. Wenum reviewed the project and requested a public hearing be held for the improvement on February 20, 2024.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, adopting a resolution receiving feasibility report and calling for a public hearing for February 20th for street improvements on 2nd Avenue NW (14th Street to 19th Street NW), 16th Street NW (Oakland Avenue West to 2nd Avenue NW) and 17th Street NW (Oakland Avenue West to 2nd Avenue NW), Project 24104. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Helle, adopting a resolution accepting donations to the City of Austin. Carried 7-0.

REPORTS

Mayor King welcomed the new Park and Rec Director Jason Sehon.

Council Member Helle stated the Culture and Arts Commission has spots available.

Council Member-at-Large Austin thanked City Clerk Ann Kasel for her work with the Council.

Council Member Baskin thanked the Police Department for a recent ride a long.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Baker, adjourning the meeting to January 16, 2024. Carried.

Adjourned: 5:53 p.m.

Approved: January 16, 2024

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____