

M I N U T E S
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 7, 2019
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Steve King, Laura Helle, Paul Fischer, Rebecca Waller, Jason Baskin, Joyce Poshusta Council Member-at-Large Jeff Austin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mayor Stiehm

STAFF PRESENT: Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Public Works Director Steven Lang, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, City Attorney Craig Byram, Police Chief Brian Krueger, Park and Rec Director Kim Underwood, Library Director Julie Clinefelter and City Clerk Ann Kasel

OTHERS PRESENT: Honorary Council Member George Bass, Austin Daily Herald, Public

Council Member-at-Large Austin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert administered the oaths of office for newly Council Members Jeff Austin, Rebecca Waller, Jason Baskin and Joyce Poshusta.

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert administered the oaths of office for the City Engineer and City Treasurer.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, approving the agenda. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member King, approving the Council minutes from December 17, 2018 and December 27, 2018. Carried.

AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

Mower County Administrator Trish Harren presented the food drive plaque to the City of Austin for winning the friendly food drive competition between the City and County employees.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Helle, seconded by Council Member King, approving the consent agenda as follows:

Licenses:

Cab Driver: Renee Jean Perleberg, 106 Broadway
Concrete: Hutch & Sons Builders, PO Box 632
Excavation: Enventis Telecom, Corp, Mankato
Excavation: Fraser Construction Co., Rochester
Excavation: T-Ray Construction Co., Blaine
Excavation: TelCom Construction, Clearwater
Exempt Gambling (raffle): Mower County Habitat and Pheasants Forever at the Holiday Inn on February 23, 2019
Food: Coffee House on Main, 329 N. Main Street, Suite 101
Food: El Mariachi, 227 North Main
Food: Jacaranda, LLC, 1803 5th Avenue SW
Food: Japan Panda, 100 14th Street SW
Massage Therapist: Darci Gau, Lake Mills
Sign Installer: Precision Signs, 1000 10th Drive SE
Sign Installer: Rheaume's House of Lettering, St. Cloud
Tree Service: Olson Tree Service, Inc., Grand Meadow
Tree Service: Pat's Tree Service, Lyle

Claims:

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

Carried.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested the Council designate depositories for public funds for 2019. Mr. Dankert itemized the different institutions that the City uses for that purpose.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution designating depositories for checking and investment of public funds for 2019. Carried 6-0.

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested the Council designate the Austin Daily Herald as the official City newspaper. He stated the rate will increase 10% to \$4.61 per column inch.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Baskin, designating the Austin Daily Herald as the official newspaper for 2019. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Helle, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, adopting a resolution setting the mileage reimbursement rate at .58 per mile. Carried 6-0.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fisher, adopting a resolution ordering a feasibility report on the Oakland Place SE street construction project. Carried 6-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang noted the feasibility reports the Council will receive will be for the summer 2019 construction season. He noted the department is planning for the projects now.

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum presented a feasibility report to Council for the 14th Street SE (4th Avenue SE to North of 1st Avenue SE) street construction project. He stated the project is feasible and will have a total cost of \$405,000. Mr. Wenum reviewed the project and requested a public hearing be held for the improvement on February 19, 2019.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Helle, adopting a resolution receiving feasibility report and calling for a public hearing on February 19, 2019 for street improvements on 14th Street SE (4th Avenue SE to North of 1st Avenue SE). Carried 6-0.

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum presented a feasibility report to Council for the 9th Street SW (1st Avenue to 6th Avenue SW), 10th Street SW (1st Avenue to 6th Avenue SW) and 11th Street SW (1st Avenue to 2nd Avenue SW) street construction project. He stated the project is feasible and will have a total cost of \$1,405,000. Mr. Wenum reviewed the project and requested a public hearing be held for the improvement on February 19, 2019.

Council Member King asked if the streets will be widened.

Mr. Wenum stated the streets will be widened to accommodate traffic and parking.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Helle, adopting a resolution receiving feasibility report and calling for a public hearing on February 19, 2019 for street improvements on 9th Street SW (1st Avenue to 6th Avenue SW), 10th Street SW (1st Avenue to 6th Avenue SW) and 11th Street SW (1st Avenue to 2nd Avenue SW). Carried 6-0.

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum presented a feasibility report to Council for the 6th Street NW (8th Avenue to 13th Avenue NW) and 11th Avenue NW (4th Street to 8th Street NW) street construction project. He stated the project is feasible and will have a total cost of \$1,175,000. Mr. Wenum reviewed the project and requested a public hearing be held for the improvement on February 19, 2019.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Helle, adopting a resolution receiving feasibility report and calling for a public hearing on February 19, 2019 for street improvements on 6th Street NW (8th Avenue to 13th Avenue NW) and 11th Avenue NW (4th Street to 8th Street NW). Carried 6-0.

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum presented a feasibility report to Council for the 6th Street NE street (30th Avenue to 36th Avenue NE) construction project. He noted that this project is not as extensive as other street projects because half of the street is paved and half is gravel. He stated the project is feasible and will have a total cost of \$75,000. Mr. Wenum reviewed the project and requested a public hearing be held for the improvement on February 19, 2019.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution receiving feasibility report and calling for a public hearing on February 19, 2019 for street improvements on 6th Street NE (30th Avenue to 36th Avenue NE). Carried 6-0.

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum presented a feasibility report to Council for the Oakland Place SE (10th Street to 11th Street SE) street construction project. He stated the project is feasible and will have a total cost of \$950,000. Mr. Wenum reviewed the project noted that this project's goal is to eliminate the flooding in this area and requested a public hearing be held for the improvement on February 19, 2019.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution receiving feasibility report and calling for a public hearing on February 19, 2019 for street improvements on Oakland Place SE (10th Street to 11th Street SE). Carried 6-0.

Fire Chief Jim McCoy requested the Council accept a Walmart Community grant in the amount of \$3,000 for the purchase of water rescue gear.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Helle, adopting a resolution accepting a Walmart Community Grant. Carried 6-0.

Police Chief Brian Kruger requested the Council accept a donation of 40 meditest kits to the Austin Police Department.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution accepting donation to the Austin Police Department. Carried 6-0.

REPORTS

Library Director Julie Clinefelter stated the winter reading program has begun at the Austin Public Library.

Council Member Laura Helle commended staff on applying for grants and donations. She also stated the Austin Artworks Center will open a new exhibit on Friday at the center.

Council Member King welcomed the new Council members.

Council Member-at-Large Austin stated the Park and Rec board the previous week and is moving forward with replacement of Kim Underwood who is retiring in 2019.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adjourning the meeting to January 22, 2019. Carried.

Adjourned: 5:58 p.m.

Approved: January 22, 2019

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____