

MINUTES

March 10, 2020

The Winchester City Council met in regular session at City Hall on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Present and participating were: Mayor Terry Harrell presiding; Beth Rhoton, City Administrator; Teena Waggoner, City Recorder; various Department Heads; news media; and the following Council Members:

Present: Councilwoman Alexander
Councilman Cagley
Councilman Snead
Councilman Spencer
Councilman Womack

Mayor Harrell called the meeting to order with a prayer by Councilman Steve Cagley and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Spencer.

Mayor Harrell opened the meeting with a Public Hearing for Ordinance #1022, an ordinance creating a Tree City. Cameron Crownover is the Arborist interested in Winchester becoming a Tree City and he briefly spoke about the ordinance. He hopes to educate the city and citizens about what trees can do for the community and how to maintain and care for existing trees, and plant trees for our future generation. The Tree Board will oversee the Public Trees. City Administrator Beth Rhoton mentioned a few of the requirements in order to qualify to become a Tree City. Some of the requirements include creation of this ordinance, appointing board members, allotting a budgetary amount each year, participation in Arbor Day, etc.

The Public Hearing was closed, and the Regular Council Meeting immediately followed.

Under unfinished business, Councilwoman Alexander made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2020 Council Meeting. Councilman Cagley seconded the motion and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Next, Councilman Spencer made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance #1022, an ordinance creating a Tree City. Councilman Womack seconded the motion and the motion passed with the following roll call vote.

Ayes: Councilman Snead
Councilwoman Alexander

Councilman Cagley
Councilman Spencer
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

In the first order of New Business, Winchester Building and Codes Director Pat Sanders asked the Council for permission to seek sealed bids for demolition and debris removal of condemned property located at 904 Gem Street. Mr. Sanders stated that he would like to bid out the removal of condemned property from this point forward as the City of Winchester does not have the proper resources for this type of work. Councilwoman Alexander made a motion to seek bids for the demolition and removal of condemned property on Gem Street, Councilman Cagley seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

Next, Police Chief Ritchie Lewis explained that the City had received a refund from LexisNexis, and accident report company, in the amount of \$1,900.00. He asked if he could use the refund in the Police Department Small Items of Equipment to purchase two (2) walkie talkies. The Franklin County Sheriff's Department is changing to a digital system that will require us to gradually update all our walkies. Councilman Womack made a motion to approve transferring the refund to small items of equipment, Council Snead seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

In the next order of new business, Police Chief Ritchie Lewis requested permission to surplus four (4) police department vehicles.

1. 2010 Dodge Charger VIN #1129
2. 2011 Dodge Charger VIN #0319
3. 2007 Nissan Maxima VIN #4692
4. 2007 Nissan Maxima VIN #5270

The plan is to trade-in the two (2) Nissan Maxim's toward the purchase of two (2) vehicles from the Winchester Drug Fund. The other two (2) vehicles will be sold on government auction. Councilman Spencer made a motion to approve the surplus of the vehicles, Councilwoman Alexander seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

In the next order of business, Police Chief Lewis asked permission to purchase a 2013 Dodge Caravan with low mileage and a 2018 Nissan Altima

from Russell Barnett with a total cost of \$25,750.00. Councilwoman Alexander made a motion to approve the purchase of the vehicles from the Drug Fund. Councilman Snead seconded the motion and all members were in favor of the motion.

Next, City Administrator Beth Rhoton asked permission to dispose of the handicap chair lift at the David R. Bean Swimplex. This lift is unsafe for resale and will be destroyed. Councilman Womack made a motion to destroy the chair lift, Councilman Cagley seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

Under Communications, Councilman Snead wanted to thank the Downtown Program and Mrs. Stephanie Wilson for the progress that is being made downtown. Councilwoman Alexander hopes that everyone stays well during the outbreak of COVID-19. Councilman Cagley asked why a portion of the ballfield fence was being removed. City Administrator Beth Rhoton mentioned that money is budgeted each year to repair or replace fencing at the City Park. Councilman Cagley also mentioned that the parking lot at the ballfield nearest the lake is in bad shape. Mrs. Rhoton commented that there is money in the budget to repave and stripe that parking lot this fiscal year, we are just waiting on the rain to subside. Mayor Harrell mentioned to stay well, and the City has asked the employees to wash hands frequently and disinfect

With no further business to come before the board, Councilwoman Alexander made a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting, Councilman Spencer seconded the motion, and everyone voted in favor of the motion.


Terry Harrell, Mayor

Attest:


Beth Rhoton, City Administrator

Minutes taken by Teena Waggoner, City Recorder
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