

SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
JUNE 5, 2017 7:00 P.M.
PROCEEDINGS REGULAR SESSION
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Mayor Don Dillman presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council members present: Connie George, Nick Sheppard, Kirk Larson and Joy Thompson. Mayor Don Dillman, City Administrator Bruce Lundy, City Clerk Beth Kar, City Attorney Emily Bauman and Chief of Police David Vincent were also present. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall June 2, 2017. The meeting was audio recorded.

Approval of Agenda – Joy Thompson motioned to approve the agenda as posted. Connie George seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Minutes – May 15, 2017 – Mayor Don Dillman asked if there were no changes then the May 15, 2017 minutes would stand as approved. No changes. Minutes stood as submitted.

Public Testimony

Lynn Grabill asked for change in way the sewer bills are calculated. He has been watering extra outside including a tree. He does not mind paying for the water he used. He minds paying for the sewer he does not use when he puts the water on the ground. His sewer bill is about 30% higher than normal when he does not water. When he moved here, Grabill proposed the City take an average of customers' winter usage. The average would be used as their sewer charge for the rest of the year. He mentioned the benefits of allowing easier budgeting and no surprises on what one owed. He heard of upcoming sewer upgrades and expects changes will be costly. He has been to Council twice before. Grabill would like to see Council approve looking into changing the sewer calculations and seeing if the computer system is capable of doing it. He has lived in other cities that figured the sewer charge that way. Mayor Dillman responded that the City has a financial advisor who can look at it. The sewer fund needs to have x amount of dollars to operate. Grabill also felt the calculation punishes those who fill pools. He would like to have an outside perspective on revenue collection and how to get it. Mayor Dillman described that the City has four years to comply with the new sewer regulations. City Administrator Bruce Lundy mentioned the bulk water machine was available too. Grabill could obtain water from it if he has a tank or way to transport it. Kirk Larson responded that's why St. Joseph kept raising sewer rates. The ones he knows charge an average rate, also charge a stormwater fee. The money has to come from somewhere.

Mark Hedrick lives on Main Street and complained about the sound of the event sign hanging by Main Street. It whips around in the wind. Joy Thompson agreed and it looked like part of the sign had come undone. Mayor Don Dillman knew Rural Electric had installed the sign. Maybe they can tighten it up. Thompson noticed the sign whips quite a bit when she delivers newspaper. It is the Chamber of Commerce's sign. Mayor Dillman will contact the Chamber to see if they can get it fixed. The event the sign advertises is almost here--June 16th. Then the sign will come down. Council discussed an ordinance on event signs.

Andrew County Health Department – Color Run 1K on June 16th -- Kathy Walter requested a route be blocked off for the color run. The proposed route is 5th and Main Streets by Bank

CBO/Wells going west to 6th; turn left, to Market, to 8th, back to Main and running back to the bank. Joy Thompson asked Chief of Police David Vincent. He said it would be challenging if we have to close all those streets. Walter suggested that the other proposal be used. The other proposed route was Main to 10th and back. They have some volunteers to guide runners and traffic at the intersections. Vincent reported it would be easier if the children participants went down Main and back. Mayor Dillman suggested she attend American Legion meeting and they might help as volunteers too. Joy Thompson motioned to allow the 5K event as long as it followed procedures. Nick Sheppard seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Ron McDaniel - Heroes for Heroes rodeo for veterans July 2nd and 3rd – The event will have several activities including helicopter rides and bull riding and is the 3rd and 4th of July in the fairgrounds. The Ninjas will be over in the lot by Orscheln's. Nick Sheppard asked how early helicopter rides would start. He was concerned about houses in the area. The rides would not start until 9 or 10 a.m. McDaniel described the event. Mayor Dillman talked about how events like this one help homeless and struggling veterans. Council asked about the noise of the helicopter. It is a small three person model with little noise--about the sound of two lawnmowers volume. Sheppard asked if there was any concern about residents' items being blown. No, it is a good sized lot. Joy Thompson motioned to allow the rides. Kirk Larson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Mutual Aid Agreement – City of Administrator Bruce Lundy described the proposed northwest mutual aid agreement. Corey Sloan, who used to be chief of police in Cameron, now is EMS in Harrison County. He created a memorandum of understanding for agencies in Northwest Missouri if there is a natural disaster. City Attorney Emily Bauman reviewed the policy and saw nothing out of the ordinary. Lundy noted that it is up to the entity to decide whether or not to send help and if the city does not have manpower, no one has to go. He sent it to Chief of Police David Vincent who also thought the City should join. Mayor Dillman asked who would file for FEMA for reimbursement. Chief Vincent thought it falls on the city where the disaster took place and they would reimburse the assisting agencies. Nick Sheppard asked about City employees being covered in any incidents. City Attorney affirmed that City employees would be covered. Connie George motioned to approve the agreement. Nick Sheppard seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Hiring Police Officer – Colby Atkins is currently in the police academy. He graduates June 16th. Atkins was present to answer any questions. He attended Minnie Cline Elementary and is from a law enforcement family. He is former City police officer Dustin Atkins's brother. Chief of Police David Vincent would like to hire Atkins and bring him on right away to begin training. Proposed starting salary: \$13/hour. The hiring would be contingent that he graduates the academy and passes his required POST test. Connie George motioned to hire Colby Atkins at \$13/hour. Nick Sheppard seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

REPORTS:

City Administrator's Report – City Administrator Bruce Lundy reported:

July Council Meetings – Reminder the July meetings will be the 2nd and 4th Mondays due to the Fourth of July Holiday and his vacation.

Andrew County Museum Event – Ag Heritage Day at the Andrew County Museum is coming up on June 10th from 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. They are having an antique tractor show, a super farmer event for kids and some other events. At the conclusion they would like to parade the tractors south to E Hwy then right to 71 and Right back to Arbor to the Museum.

Rolling Hills Savannah Library Touch a truck Program – On Monday June 12 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. the library is hosting a touch a truck event. They have asked if the City will bring the street sweeper and a dump truck to this event. It will be in the parking lot of the library.

Memorial Day -- The Cemetery looked great. Lundy heard a lot of compliments. City worker Davey Poland and his crew did a great job getting everything mowed and trimmed up. The rain made for some mud along the side of the roads but it was a great weekend. There were a lot of visitors at the cemetery. Lundy has spoken to Poland about the rock wall at the corner of the Cemetery at 5th and Park Streets. The old rock wall there is deteriorating and does not look good. They talked about having someone repair it. The other option is to tear it out, grading it out and planting grass seed there. He included a picture of the wall. One of the seasonal workers has experience laying brick. Nick Sheppard suggested doing a cost comparison of fix it or tear it out. Lundy will check with the Cemetery workers.

Memorial for Veterans and First Responders -- Lundy attended the tribute to veterans and first responders that took place on Memorial Day. There was a great crowd. Many first Responders were present and really appreciated the event and the monument. He appreciated the generous act by the donor.

Mutual Aid Agreement -- Corey Sloan of the Harrison County EMS Office has created a Memorandum of understanding in relation to a Mutual Aid Agreement between several Counties and Municipalities in the event that a disaster should strike our area. He included the document and it is on the Agenda for discussion. Chief Vincent and he believe that it is in the best interest to join this group.

Heroes for Heroes Rodeo. -- The group that brought the rodeo to town last year is coming back on July 3rd and 4th. Gary Swanson has agreed to allow them to land their helicopter on his property on the East side of Orschelns if it is approved by Council.

6th Street Project -- This was held up, waiting for Mo-DOT's notice to proceed. Notice to proceed was received and it has been advertised and put out for bid. Bid opening will be June 21st at City Hall

Force Main Project along Chestnut -- The surveyor has been slow to start. Andy Macias with Snyder and Associates was in his office last week and assured me that he has spoken to Midland. The survey will be done soon and the project started.

New Police Officer – There is an applicant that will be graduating from the Police Academy this month who Chief of Police David Vincent would like to hire. He will be coming to this meeting.

Accepting Applications -- He advertised and will accept applications for the Public Works position until June 9th. Wastewater Operator applications are also being accepted for the plant.

Retirement -- Connie George mentioned this Wednesday at Noon was the retirement party for Water Operator Ann Wilkerson. Wilkerson has been with the City 16 years.

Golf Board -- The Duncan Hills Golf Board will be meeting this Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Solar Eclipse -- The Park Board put together a committee to get involved in the eclipse plans but is not sure yet how that is going to go.

Wastewater – Lynn Grabill called and would like to propose a change in the way wastewater fees are tabulated. Currently the City charges by the amount of water that goes through the meter. He said that other communities figure the average water usage then charge that average usage through the summer for some relief for those who water gardens and flowers. Lundy explained that the possibility has been explored in the past but it has been denied each time.

Mower Bids – Jackson Lawn and Midwest Central submitted bids. Water Superintendent Jason Mercer would like for Council to approve the purchase of the Hustler Super Z \$10,485. Joy Thompson motioned to approve the bid for the Hustler Super Z mower. Connie George seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

City Attorney's report – City Attorney Emily Bauman has two ordinances she has been working on. She revised the ordinance alleys and streets, clarifying publication requirements. She met with City Administrator Bruce Lundy and City's insurance representative Jeff Arp about the City obtaining the vacant Mexican restaurant. She has a call in with county assessor how vacating alleys and streets will affect assessment on real property tax. Lundy had a question regarding someone asking for a refund on a building permit. The customer sold his house before getting the work finished. Lundy would like to see something in the future that permits are non-refundable.

Kirk Larson motioned to approve all the reports. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Second Public Testimony: Lynn Grabill felt he needed to clarify what he asked earlier. He said that his suggestion was to make income more level each month with no peaks and valleys. He asked if there needed to be a formal motion for the City to investigation his proposal. No motion is necessary to investigate, only to make any changes to the City's calculations. Grabill felt water was subsidizing the sewer. Mayor Don Dillman responded to Grabill. Tommy George mentioned how KCPL and others averaged billing. Grabill responded that was not what he's saying. Joy Thompson looked at it differently. If she was on a level payment plan, the City would lose out on a lot of revenue. Nick Sheppard commented that the City would not have a way to know what the water is used for – watering or kids running water or however it is used.

ELECTED OFFICIALS DISCUSSION

Mayor's Report— Mayor Don Dillman reported the City had received an application to fill the open spot on the Planning and Zoning Commission. He appointed Ethan Herbek. Kirk Larson motioned to approve Herbek as the Mayor's appointment. Nick Sheppard seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Council Members Discussion

Joy Thompson received a complaint about the memorial service. City's fire truck is leaking. Citizens noticed it. It was hydraulic fluid from the ladder. Fire Chief Brian Kennedy answered that the company that built it is no longer in business. He's trying to get a schematic so he can fix it. The department cannot get estimates until we know what is in it. The truck passed the safety tests. The rough number is \$6500 minimum to fix it. The 1989 fire truck has 8500 miles on it. Mayor Dillman asked if Altec did that type of work. He also asked if it potentially could affect electric. It could. Thompson reported that bushes at 12 and Chestnut hurt visibility. She received lots of compliments about the cemetery. She reported that on Price Street past Orscheln's, speeders had been horrible. Lundy talked about purchasing the speed trailer in the budget.

Nick Sheppard asked if there were ever adult sports leagues. City Administrator Bruce Lundy suggested he attend a park board meeting.

Connie George received calls about people dumping items in business owners' trash. On Price Street there are three or four driveways that Keller missed asphaltting. She called the City's new Director of Public Works Tim Spoonemore. He contacted Keller and they came back and took care of it.

Adjournment -- No further business to discuss. Council adjourned at 8:12 p.m. on a motion by Connie George and seconded by Joy Thompson. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Don Dillman, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Beth Kar, City Clerk