

APPROVED MINUTES

The City Council held Council Meeting # 1601 on Monday, March 21, 2022, in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Peggy Williams.

The Pledge of Allegiance was completed, Prayer was led by Mark Smith, and Roll Call commenced. Present were Mayor Peggy Williams, Councilors Gary Beach, Melissa Berke, Zachariah McNew, Kristin Smith, Hugh Taylor, City Administrator Sam Sikes, Clerk/Treasurer Leann Monigold, and (via Zoom) Attorney Dean Chisholm. Councilor Zimmerman was not in attendance.

Mayor Williams welcomed all present.

Approve City Council Minutes #1599 dated Monday, February 22, 2022.

Councilor Beach **MADE A MOTION** to approve, and Councilor Smith **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Approve City Council Minutes #1600 dated Monday, March 7, 2022.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve, and Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Mayor Willimas stated the CDBG Public Hearing minutes approval was removed from the agenda because the County's minutes would be sufficient.

Announcements: None

Committee Reports:

Administrator: Administrator Sikes reported the health advisory for the drinking water may be lifted by Thursday depending on water testing results.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

Tonya Chilton, 385 Fish Hatchery Rd., with Fish, Wildlife, and Parks discussed the City needs to take the lead on a Turkey Management plan to control the turkey population in town. Ms. Chilton recommended City Council adopt a 2 prong approach plan that would include information and education for the public as well as turkey removal plans.

Ms. Chilton gave an update on the deer CWD results. 99 deer were captured, 6% were positive for CWD compared to last year which was 7%. This year 92 deer were given to the food bank compared to 89 last year. The deer tested were captured inside and outside city limits.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Approve Libby Area Business Association's request for Crazy Days road closure; from (Sears) 6th St. to 2nd St. from 10am-5pm, Saturday, August 27th:

Gail Burger, 302 California Ave., requested a road closure for Crazy Days and reported currently there are 46 vendors registered, eight food trucks, and more bathrooms available, and explained the setup.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve Crazy Days road closure request, and Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Approve updated In-State Travel Reimbursement Claim Form:

Mayor Williams announced Council does not have to approve an update for a new In-State Travel Reimbursement Claim which will become an informational item only. The current State requirements will be implemented.

Approve \$75,000 from Community Development toward purchases of playground equipment for Fireman's Park:

Councilor McNew reported the Cemetery/Parks Committee met March 17th to discuss upgrading older playground equipment which would cost about \$100,000. A commitment of \$15,000 and an additional verbal commitment of \$10,000 has been donated towards the purchase of new playground equipment. Asking Council to approve \$75,000 towards the purchase of new playground equipment from the Community Development fund.

Councilor Beach inquired about estimates. Councilor McNew stated several designs have been looked at and with 35% off the price will be roughly \$50,000 for the equipment, being community built, with another larger cost going towards 5,000 square feet of 12" ground covering material for fall protection.

Administrator Sikes stated, currently, the Community Development fund is just over \$2 million with \$541,000 to be expended in August or September for the golf course.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve spending \$75,000 from the Community Development fund for playground equipment, and Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

Public Comment: Jenny Wood, 296 Barren Creek Rd., had a fundraiser for a Carol and Chance Hilliard Memorial expression swing, raising \$4233 along with gravel and cement donated for installation. Ms. Wood would like to ask the city to have the swing installed at Fireman's Park to go along with the new playground equipment project. Mayor Williams suggested working with Councilor McNew to implement a new swing into the Fireman's Park project.

Jennifer Nelson, 1026 Washington, had concerns about rubber mulch being used as a ground softening agent due to the possible toxins found in recycled tire rubber mulch and asked to consider looking into a more natural safety ground cover.

Bruce Weatherby, 1006 W. 9th St., President of the Rotary Club informed Council a \$15,000 contribution had been approved by the Rotary board of directors to go towards the new playground project and announced Sherpa Trailers would match dollar for dollar up to \$5000 for any other contributions that came in.

Councilor Smith amended the motion to include exploration of non-rubber safety ground cover.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Approval of Resolution #1999, fee increase for City Streets Opening:

Mayor Williams read the Resolution and explained the changes. Council discussed the changes and fees.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve Resolution #1999, and Councilor McNew **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Approve all business license applications received to date:

Handiman to the Rescue, Mountain Girl Services, and Uncle Paul's Family Fun.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve all business applications, and Councilor McNew **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Unfinished Business:

IP negotiations: Mayor Williams stated the EPA has responded to the City's letter requesting a meeting and are agreeable to a meeting. There have been discussions with Allen Payne on how to approach that meeting.

Public Comments: None

General Comments from the Council: Mayor Williams announced a Rotarian has asked if a free public library stand could be put in Fireman's Park. Council agreed to have it put into Parks Committee.

Mayor Williams announced an Arbor Day Celebration will be held April 29th.

Adjournment:

Councilor Taylor **MADE A MOTION** to adjourn and Councilor Smith **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:36 PM.

Mayor Peggy Williams

Clerk/Treasurer Leann Monigold