



Common Council Meeting – Minutes for August 5, 2024

Council Members in Attendance: Ben Leavitt, Austin Yoder, Dustin Geyer

Also Present: Mayor Phil Jenkins **City Attorney** Brian Hoffer, **Clerk-Treasurer** Jeff Knight **Guests:** 4 (4 IP), and two members of the press (2 IP) were in attendance.

- Call to Order: Mayor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the opening prayer.
- Roll Call: Council members listed above were in attendance in person.
- Approval of Minutes from the July 15, 2024, Council meeting: CM Leavitt motioned to approve the minutes. CM Yoder seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.
- There were no petitions or comments by citizens, no reports of committees, boards, or commissions, and no unfinished business.
- New Business:
 - First Reading of Ordinance 1631 – Amending the 2024 Salary Ordinance: Mayor Jenkins presented the amended portions to the salary ordinance. This is primarily dealing with the new firefighters as they were transitioned to the newly established 1977 Pension Plan. There would not have needed to be an alteration to the ordinance because the firefighter pay range is already included within the established bracket. Within the bracket the newly created title of 1st Class Firefighter is now included, and Exhibit B denotes the new stipend that will be paid to 1st Class Firefighter/Paramedics of \$1,000 per month. This will help differentiate between the 1st Class Firefighter/EMT's and the 1st Class Firefighter/Paramedics (higher level of training and responsibility). The salary increases for the 1st Class Firefighter/EMT, and 1st Class Firefighter/Paramedic base pay is effective back to July 1st. The stipend will go into effect once this ordinance has been approved upon third reading (first meeting in September). CM Geyer asked if the City had any 1st Class Firefighter/Paramedics on staff at this time. Mayor Jenkins said yes, the City has two, with another firefighter studying to become a paramedic but that will take about a year. CM Geyer asked if this would serve as motivation to become a paramedic. Fire Chief Lehman said yes. CM Geyer motioned to approve the ordinance, exhibit A, and exhibit B as presented. CM Rosa seconded. Ordinance 1631 was approved unanimously by voice vote on first reading.
- Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers: City 2024 APV's Totaling \$1,400,238.89: CT Knight presented the APV's and discussed the major expenditure items. The larger items, other than payroll, were \$358,542 for work completed on the fire station, \$22,000 for appraisals pertaining to property the City will use as collateral for the lease bond financing for the fire station, and \$74,900 for the new electric pickup truck used by the Planning Department. CT Knight reminded the Council that the purchase of the electric pickup truck will be covered by grant funds. CM Geyer asked what the timing of the reimbursement will be. Mayor Jenkins said will confirm that information for the Council. The other two large expenditures were for the purchase of 152 W. Lincoln and 156 S. Clark St. Both properties will be utilized, in the future, as part of the new city master plan and were purchased via approval from the Redevelopment Commission. CM Veenstra asked if the new electric pickup truck came with a warranty. Mayor Jenkins said it does and he will let the Council know what it is. CM Geyer asked if the City will be reimbursed by Redevelopment for the funds used to purchase the properties. Mayor Jenkins told CM Geyer that Redevelopment has its own source of revenue but the funds flow through these accounts of



the City and are reported on this APV Register. CM Geyer asked about the cost associated with the Veterinary Clinic. CT Knight described the timing of the payments and Mayor Jenkins described the nature of the agreement. CM Rosa motioned to approve the APV's. CM Veenstra seconded. The APVs were approved unanimously by voice vote.

- Reports by City Officers: None.
- Adjournment: With no further business to discuss, CM Leavitt motioned to adjourn the meeting and CM Yoder seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm by unanimous voice vote.

Mayor Jenkins

Attest: _____
Jeff Knight, Clerk of the Council