



## ***Common Council Meeting – Minutes for August 7, 2023***

**Council Members in Attendance:** Ben Leavitt, Dana Hollar, Amy Rosa, Dustin Geyer, Kelbi Veenstra

**Also Present: Mayor:** Phil Jenkins, **City Attorney:** Brian Hoffer, **Clerk-Treasurer** Jeff Knight, **Guests:** 3 (2 IP, 1 OL) and 1 member of the press (IP).

- Call to Order: Mayor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance. Council Member Veenstra gave an opening prayer.
- Roll Call: Council members listed above were in attendance in person.
- Approval of Minutes from the July 17, 2023, Council meeting: Council Member Rosa motioned to approve the minutes. Council Member Hollar seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.
- There were no petitions or comments by citizens.
- Reports of Committees, Boards, or Commissions: Clerk-Treasurer Report – June 30, 2023. CT Knight presented the report that reflects receipt of the property tax distributions from the State. The ending fund balance as of 6/30/23 was \$21.5 million. When the investments were included, the total cash on hand was \$28.5 million. CT Knight noted the BMO Harris CD listed with a maturity date of 7/10/23 has been reinvested for 6 months with a rate of 5.63% (up from 3.002%). All of the CD's now have rates in the mid 5% range and the money market is 4.77%. CT Knight then shared a comparative spreadsheet that showed where the various major funds of the City were compared with the last three fiscal year ends. With all of the project spending over the course of the last three years, the General Fund balance is \$6.8 million which is only \$300,000 less than the balance from the 2020 year-end balance. The other Funds compared (MVH, Park & Rec, Public Safety LOIT, and Aviation) were higher than any period prior. Council Member Geyer asked if the City was accruing for the gains on the investments that have been or will be recognized. CT Knight responded the City does not pay taxes and thus the gains are gains and the proceeds are returned to the Funds from which they came when the investments are liquidated. Mayor Jenkins noted that there are guidelines for funds that the City can invest in, and that the City utilizes the services of Baker Tilly to help manage the overall portfolio. The cost is 10 basis points for the amount the City has invested (less the balance of the money market). Council Member Geyer asked if there was a limit we could invest. CT Knight said no, and Mayor Jenkins interjected that while there is no limit, the City does not wish to have more reserves on hand than is practical. Council Member Hollar motioned to approve the CT Report. Council Member Leavitt seconded. The CT Report was approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Unfinished Business
  - 2nd Reading Ordinance 1623 Additional Appropriations: Mayor Jenkins presented the Ordinance and walked the Council through the various funds being requested, reminding the Council that \$1 million of this is changing the funds from Carry Forwards to Additional Appropriations as they were for projects that extended from one year to the next. Council Member Veenstra motioned to approve Ordinance 1623 on second reading. Council Member Geyer seconded. Ordinance 1623 for Additional Appropriations was approved unanimously by voice vote on second reading.
- There was no New Business.



- Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers - 2023 APV's Totaling \$851,125.69: CT Knight told the Council that these vouchers include two regular payrolls, one pensioner payroll, purchase of two police cars, and payment of AIM health insurance. Council Member Hollar motioned to approve the APV's. Council Member Rosa seconded. The APV's were approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Reports by City Officers: There were none. Mayor Jenkins asked if the next Council meeting could be rescheduled to the following Monday (August 28<sup>th</sup>) due to the AIM Idea Conference taking place the week of the 21<sup>st</sup>. Council Member Rosa motioned to move the next Council meeting to Monday night, August 28<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm. Council Member Veenstra seconded. The meeting was moved to August 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm by unanimous voice vote. Mayor Jenkins also noted that the meeting scheduled for the following week will be on Tuesday since that Monday is the Labor Day holiday.

Mayor Jenkins also gave an update on the Opioid Settlement. There is the potential of pooling the various settlement funds from across the county to fund a Crisis Intervention Center at Oaklawn with also having a mobile crisis unit. Mayor Jenkins thought it would also be good to have a social worker who could go on calls with first responders. Council Member Rosa asked if this was a more broad-based program on addiction. The mayor responded that he thought this was more geared toward mental health in general. Council Member Leavitt commented on the time limits of utilizing grants. Mayor Jenkins noted that is one of the questions they are dealing with now. This would be a pilot program. Council Member Leavitt noted that if this proved to be successful, the State would have a hard time taking the funds away at the back end. CT Knight commented that as a singular municipality, the funds received are not that substantial. However, if those funds can be pooled with other communities, then something good can happen.

Mayor Jenkins then informed the Council that the City applied for and received a grant on behalf of the Elder Haus. This is a 100% paid grant from the State for a low floor minivan. The van will be delivered within the next couple of weeks.

CT Knight briefly discussed the timeline for the upcoming budget season. Mayor Jenkins said that he would like to have everything ready for the Council to review by the end of August. An issue that needs to be dealt with during the budget season is the impact the State has had on the pay thresholds given to the State police force.

- Adjournment: With no further business to be discussed, Council Member Geyer motioned to adjourn the meeting and Council Member Veenstra seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 pm by unanimous voice vote.

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Phil Jenkins, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Knight, Clerk of the Council