



Common Council Meeting – Minutes for October 16, 2023

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

Also Present: Mayor: Phil Jenkins, **City Attorney:** Brian Hoffer, **Clerk-Treasurer** Jeff Knight, **Guests:** 3 (3 IP), and one member of the press (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 opening prayer.
- Roll Call: Council members listed above were in attendance in person. Council Member Hollar was unable to attend.
- Approval of Minutes from the October 2, 2023, Council meeting: Council Member Geyer motioned to approve the minutes. Council Member Veenstra seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Petitions or Comments by Citizens:
 - Mayor Jenkins introduced Mr. Mark Mikel who is the Director of FCDC. Mr. Mikel gave an update on what has transpired at FCDC during 2023. He concluded by thanking the City for the financial support it provides. Council Member Geyer asked if FCDC had to slow the pace with which it provides rent and utility assistance. Mr. Mikel said yes. He noted that other providers like FCDC are having cash flow issues as well. He noted that other providers, as well as FCDC, became reliant on the large amount of COVID money infused into their budgets and then failed to adjust when those funds stopped. FCDC is being more judicious on how the funds are allocated. They are capping the amount issued for rent and utilities to \$3,000 per month. This is down from \$5,400. Council Member Leavitt asked what Mr. Mikel saw as the biggest need the community can help with. Mr. Mikel responded there is a need to work with employers for individuals to obtain jobs that pay a living wage. Roughly 30%-40% of the food pantry patrons are single mothers who are working two or three low paying service jobs. The Council thanked Mr. Mikel for his, and FCDC's, efforts in caring for the community.
- Reports from committees, boards, or commissions: There were none.
- Unfinished Business:
 - 3rd Reading of Ordinance 1624 – 2024 Budget: Mayor Jenkins introduced the Ordinance on third reading. CT Knight spoke, briefly, regarding the downward adjustment that was made due to the salary adjustment Park and Rec Superintendent Davis made prior to the first reading. The further slight downward adjustment was to reduce the FICA, retirement, and bonus pool amounts associated with the reduced salary. CT Knight confirmed that the new total for the Ordinance 1624 – 2024 Budget Worksheets matched the total provided in the 2024 Budget Book provided by Baker Tilly. There were no further questions. Council Member Geyer commented that Mayor Jenkins and CT Knight did a good job on the budget. Mayor Jenkins thanked everyone for their input, noting that no budget is perfect but that each budget gets better each year. Council Member Leavitt motioned to approve Ordinance 1624 – 2024 Budget on third reading. Council Member Rosa seconded. A **roll call vote** of the Council members was taken and Ordinance 1624 – 2024 Budget was passed unanimously by a 4-0 vote on third and final reading.
- New Business: There was none.



- Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers - 2023 APV's Totaling \$181,133.72: CT Knight told the Council that these vouchers contain normal course of business expenses. The larger items on the register were \$60,000 for work on Woodview Drive, monthly contract payment of \$10,000 to Boys and Girls Club, and a monthly contract payment of \$1,650 to FCDC. Council Member Rosa motioned to approve the APV's. Council Member Leavitt seconded. The APV's were approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Reports by City Officers: Mayor Jenkins informed the Council that the BOWs approved promoting Mr. Brian Van Voorst to the office of Water Superintendent and Mr. Shaun Kern to the office of Wastewater Superintendent. The promotions for both gentlemen is effective January 1, 2024.

CT Knight updated the Council regarding the reinvestment of funds. The open market provided an interest rate of 5.63% for two CD's totaling \$1.4 million.

Council Member Leavitt asked about the timing for completion of Woodview Drive. Mayor Jenkins said the City hoped to be done with the project by Thanksgiving. Council Member Rosa commented that from the school's perspective, Street Superintendent Warren and the team working on Woodview Drive have been amazing.

- Adjournment: With no further business to be discussed, Council Member Leavitt motioned to adjourn the meeting and Council Member Rosa seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm by unanimous voice vote.

Phil Jenkins, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeff Knight, Clerk of the Council