

CITY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday, December 8, 2020

The monthly meeting of the Paxton City Council was held on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Mayor Ingold called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll call showed the following aldermen in attendance: Evans, Geiken, Hoedebecke, Pacey, Satterlee, Wilson and Withers. Also, in attendance were: Mayor Bill Ingold, Treasurer/Comptroller Tammy Jensen, Assistant Public Works Director Bob Carleton, EMS Director Ed Hanson, Police Chief Coy Cornett, and members of the audience and press.

The Mayor led the meeting in the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Mayor Ingold asked if there were any changes, corrections or additions that needed made to the minutes from the November Council meeting. Alderman Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes of the November Council meeting. Aldermen Pacey seconded the motion. All approved on a voice vote.

LIST OF CLAIMS

Alderman Evans made a motion to approve the lists of claims, except for the EIEC. Alderman Geiken seconded the motion. Roll Call: ayes – Alderman Evans, Geiken, Hoedebecke, Pacey, Satterlee, Wilson and Withers. Seven ayes, motion carried.

Alderman Withers made a motion to approve the EIEC bill. Alderman Pacey seconded the motion. Roll Call: ayes – Alderman Evans, Geiken, Hoedebecke, Pacey, Satterlee, and Withers. Abstain – Wilson. Six ayes, one abstain, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND INVESTMENT REGISTER

The reports have been emailed to all Aldermen. Alderman Wilson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Investment Register. Alderman Pacey seconded the motion. All approved on a voice vote.

FINANCE/BUDGET

There were no committee meetings.

The Tax Levy Ordinance is ready for this year. Everything is staying the same as last year, no increases in anything. Alderman Wilson made a motion to **APPROVE ORDINANCE 20-30 TAX LEVY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PAXTON, ILLINOIS FOR 2020–2021**. Alderman Hoedebecke seconded the motion. Roll Call: ayes – Alderman Evans, Geiken, Hoedebecke, Pacey, Satterlee, Wilson and Withers. Seven ayes, motion carried.

Health insurance changes will be discussed in a Finance Committee meeting at 6:15 p.m., Tuesday, December 15th. This City Council meeting will be adjourned until 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 15th.

PUBLIC WORKS

There were no committee meetings and nothing on the agenda.

Assistant Public Works Director Carleton let the Council know that meter changes have been postponed due to the uptick in Covid cases.

Mayor Ingold also spoke regarding the long term and short term goals for the wastewater plant. There have been some immediate needs that should be addressed. Mike Friend, with Farnsworth Group, spoke to the Council regarding those immediate needs. He put together a team of people, with Mayor Ingold, to address these issues. Mr. Friend will be the point of contact on the Farnsworth side on this project. He will work with the City to address these needs and plan a path forward. Mayor Ingold stated that bringing technology up to speed is needed with older equipment.

Regular maintenance is still occurring, stump grinding is still taking place. After the stumps have settled over the winter they will be covered with dirt. A few trees have been taken down. Sidewalk work has been stopped for the winter.

PUBLIC SAFETY

There was a committee meeting.

Alderman Pacey made a motion to approve the purchase of hams for ERS volunteers. Alderman Withers seconded the motion. Roll Call: ayes – Alderman Evans, Geiken, Hoedebecke, Pacey, Satterlee, Wilson and Withers. Seven ayes, motion carried.

Changes to Ordinance 96.01 were discussed. Alderman Pacey let the Council know that this is not a leash law for cats. You are expected to have control of your animal, and animals are not to run at large in the City. The committee recommended the change. Alderman Pacey made a motion to **APPROVE ORDINANCE 20-31 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 96: ANIMALS OF THE CITY OF PAXTON CODE OF ORDINANCES AS IT RELATES TO RUNNING AT LARGE.** Alderman Hoedebecke seconded the motion. Roll Call: ayes – Alderman Evans, Geiken, Hoedebecke, Pacey, Satterlee, Wilson and Withers. Seven ayes, motion carried.

Chief Cornett discussed the QR code project that he has been working on. This should be implemented this week. Chief has spoken with twelve businesses to start with on this project. This could also be expanded to residents on vacation.

There will be a Christmas Celebration, out near American Street, on Friday, December 11th, from 5 – 8 p.m. Chief Cornet has spoken to ERS Director Hanson to help direct traffic.

There have been some issues programming the new radios. As soon as they are done, they will be installed in the squad cars.

CITY PROPERTY

There were no committee meetings.

Mayor Ingold spoke regarding the sale of a wrangler. He has spoken to someone regarding selling that piece of equipment. The sale price is \$18,500. It was purchased for \$19,500 two

years ago. Alderman Withers made a motion to approve the sale of this piece of equipment. Alderman Geiken seconded the motion. Roll Call: ayes – Alderman Evans, Geiken, Hoedebecke, Pacey, Satterlee, Wilson and Withers. Seven ayes, motion carried.

Mayor Ingold would like to replace a truck with a newer one using the \$18,500 and an additional \$10,000. Alderman Withers made a motion to approve the purchase of a truck, not to exceed a cost of \$30,000. Alderman Pacey seconded the motion. Roll Call: ayes – Alderman Evans, Geiken, Hoedebecke, Pacey, Satterlee, Wilson and Withers. Seven ayes, motion carried.

Mayor Ingold also talked about using some of the funds that came from the insurance claim to purchase some equipment. He will get more info to the Council on this for a future meeting.

LICENSE, PERMIT, ZONING & INSURANCE

There was a committee meeting.

Alderman Satterlee let the Council know work is progressing and is estimated to be completed on April 2021. There will be another committee meeting on January 12th, at 6:30 p.m. There was some discussion on potential zoning changes. City Attorney Miller let the Council know that any zoning changes go to the Planning Commission and are recommended for approval to the Council to vote on. There are options for public hearings at each of these meetings. There was further discussion on this item.

COMMUNITY

There were no committee meetings and nothing on the agenda.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

There were no committee meetings and nothing on the agenda.

LONG TERM PLANNING

There were no committee meetings and nothing on the agenda.

OTHER

Mayor Ingold reminded everyone that it is time to circulate petitions for elections.

Alderman Withers made a motion to adjourn tonight's regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council until 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, December 15th. Alderman Wilson seconded the motion. All approved on a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gwen Smith
City Clerk