

June 1, 2022

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting June 1, 2022 at City Hall.

Mayor McIntire called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. with the following council in attendance: Lawrence Coultas, Ron Bell, Bill Jacquot, Terry Gregory, Sandy Long, Jeff Pittman, and City Clerk Teri Little

Also, in attendance were Wanda Cody, City Treasurer; Caleb Handy, Police Chief; John Simmons, Supt of Public Works; John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney; Greg Hillis, Benton & Associates; Carmen Ensinger, Scott County Times; Barb Hoots

At the start of the meeting Mayor McIntire asked for all in attendance to observe 21 minutes of silence for the victims of Uvalde TX tragedy.

Sandy Long led those attending meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wanda Cody, City Treasurer presented bills for approval.

MOTION: Lawrence Coultas moved, and Sandy Long seconded to pay the bills as presented. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire asked for any corrections for the minutes May 4, 2022 meeting.

MOTION: Lawrence Coultas moved, and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular May 4, 2022 meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire asked for any corrections for the minutes of the special May 19, 2022 meeting.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved, and Terry Gregory seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the special May 19, 2022 meeting. Roll call resulted in 5 yeas and Ron Bell abstaining. Motion carried.

Greg Hillis, Benton & Associates presented update on library progress. Windows were received but incorrect ones. The company has been contacted and should receive new ones mid-July. Drywall and inside work are at a standstill till windows are received and installed.

Trotter Construction has submitted application #6 for payment for May in the sum of \$61,448.40.

MOTION: Lawrence Coultas moved, and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve application of payment #6 for Trotter Construction in the amount of \$61,448.40. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

There is some miscellaneous electrical that is needed and quote from Scott Brother's Electric out of Jacksonville is \$3275.00. They are the electricians on the job for the new library addition so no need for other bids.

Would like to submit the USDA PER report sent in as soon as possible as the interest rate is set to go up again after July 1st. They normally do not like to give over one million dollars to one entity, however, there are not very many applications on file so may be eligible for more.

MOTION: Lawrence Coultas moved, and Ron Bell seconded to approve the submission of the PER report to USDA. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Hillis would like to have authorization for the mayor to sign PER application for USDA when available.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved, and Ron Bell seconded to authorize Mayor Rex McIntire to sign PER application for USDA. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

According to BABA all materials used have to be American made. It is a \$2.6 million dollar project with total being \$3.6 million total.

Looks like week of June 13th Utility Pipe will be in town to start the water meter installation.

Update on the USDA reimbursement for the swimming pool is that all paper work and canceled checks have to be resubmitted.

Bill Jacquot, Alderman did not have an update for cemetery stones due to rain.

Wanda Cody, City Treasurer passed out the profit/loss statement for the month and the expenses.

Sandy Long, Alderman wanted to address issues in regards to the municipal court process. She feels that we are going in circles on a few certain reoccurring offenders. They never seem to get things cleaned up or they do and in a couple months right back on the list. She feels we need to have stiffer fines, maybe lien on taxes. They need to have an incentive to get things cleaned up and keep it that way.

John Simmons also voiced his concerns of this as well. He feels like he is spinning his wheels and spends a lot of time presenting these cases each month and feels like it goes nowhere.

It was suggested that the wording in the ordinance for in operable vehicles be revisited as well.

John Simmons, Supt of Public Works requested 3 bids for the Salt shed and the Blower Building from Jaime Arnold, Sandy Creek Construction and Anslyn Construction and only Sandy Creek Construction Responded. Their bid was \$495.00 for the Salt Shed and \$485.00 for the Blower Building.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved, and Jeff Pittman seconded to accept the bid from Sandy Creek Construction for \$495.00 for roof repair for Salt Shed. Roll call resulted all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved, and Jeff Pittman seconded to accept the bid from Sandy Creek Construction for \$485.00 for roof repair for Blower Building. Roll call resulted all yeas. Motion carried.

A new backhoe is needed as the 2007 one that is currently in use is in rough shape. The last payment on it is due this month.

The city trucks are also in need of replacing. Would like to look into replacing one a year. Can look into Public Utilities grants and it is also in the appropriation ordinance for a new truck. John will get with the purchasing committee and discuss options on both backhoe and trucks.

Changing of the cemetery ordinance for all caskets having to be in a vault will be tabled as the cemetery committee has not had a chance to meet on this issue.

Monthly report – Locate Tickets – 21; Work Orders – 22; Funerals/Grave Openings – 3; Petersburg Plumbing jet out sewers – 1 day; Swimming Pool up and going, started May 13-26; Flushed fire hydrants; Monthly meter reading – 3 days; Monthly odorant report – yes; lots of mowing; Zoning permits – 2; Lots of cold patching; Water leaks – 1; Ordinance Violations – 4; Installed 600ft of 3” gas main off of Commercial St, with the help of USDI this is to provide gas for the future Dollar General Store; Abandon 268ft of 1” steel line on Lower Aley Rd. Old line to Ganze’s; Cut a lot of brush; New gas services installed – 3; Tilled and seeded 3 grave spaces; Put up flags for Memorial Day weekend.

Caleb Handy, Police Chief passed out his monthly report. His report is as follows: Animal Complaints – 3; Assist EMS – 4; Assist Outside Agency (Police) – 5; Assist Fire Department – 1; Assist Motorist – 2; Attempt to Locate(Warrant) – 2; Burglary – 2; Building Alarm – 1; Domestic Disturbance – 4; Extra Patrol Requests – 1; Flight – 2; Found Property – 2; Gas Station Drive off; - 1; Interviews – 5; Juvenile – 3; Ordinance Violation – 1; Paper Service – 11; Property Damage – 2; Property Exchange – 1; Speak to Officer – 28; Suspicious Person – 3; Suspicious Vehicle – 3; Theft – 2; Traffic Control – 2; Traffic Stops-Citations – 6; Traffic Stops-Verbal Warnings – 6; Traffic Stops – Written Warnings – 1; Trespassing – 2; Vandalism – 1; Vehicle Complaint – 3; Well-Being Checks – 2. Total Vehicle Miles – 1525.

In light of the recent shooting tragedy in TX Chief Handy would like to start doing walk thru and drills at the schools. He would like to get the blueprints of the schools and do the first walk thru in 3-4 weeks and also again after the construction is complete and do them quarterly. He wants to do what is possible to keep our kids safe.

He pointed out that the citation count was up this month and that there were no incidents to report during the carnival.

Mayor McIntire advised that the Winchester High School Graduation was very nice. The Mayors Scholarship and the City Council Scholarship went to Tristan Lashmett

Scott County Economic Development Annual dues are due. They are \$1000.00

MOTION: Lawrence Coultas moved, and Terry Gregory second to approve paying of the Scott County Economic Development dues for \$1000.00. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire advised that the purchase of the property for the new dollar general should close by Friday.

Resolution 2022-06-01 to approve the sale of surplus real estate was presented for approval. This is for the sale of city property to DG Partners, LLC for the new Dollar General store.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved, and Jeff Pittman second to approve Resolution 2022-06-01 approving sale of surplus real estate. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Reg Ankrom from Symex is unable to give the city residents a cheaper rate than Ameren this year. City residents will not have that option for a lower rate this year as they have had in the past. Ankrom stated that they just can't compete with the rate Ameren is providing.

Mayor McIntire read a flyer from Pam Hembrough. She wants to bring awareness to the Alzheimer Assoc Support Group. It is monthly on the 3rd Saturday at the United Methodist Church at 9 am and all are welcome.

John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney presented Ordinance 938 was presented. This is to amend verbiage on the Gas Rate Ordinance. It is to change the wording minimum bill to meter fee \$3.15. This will be changed in Locis and also be updated on the monthly bills as well.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved, and Ron Bell second to approve Ordinance 938 Gas Rate Amendment Ordinance. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Annual Appropriations Ordinance was passed out to be reviewed and will approve in July meeting.

One municipal court issue. Need to issue the previous citation that was tabled last month.


1. Crystal Elliott – inoperable vehicle

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved, and Bill Jacquot second to approve citation for municipal court for Crystal Elliot. Roll call resulted in 5 yeas and Ron Bell against. Motion carried.

Coonrod advised that a court date to address the Gauges house on Cherry St is in July.

Public Comments: Barb Hoots requested update on the lawsuit that was previously filed that has to do with the transportation fee gouging. Mayor McIntire advised that still waiting to here on the final judgement. The court had previously awarded in our favor but an appeal was filed and waiting for the outcome of that. If a settlement is received any money received will be distributed as a credit to the residence after court fees are deducted.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved, and Jeff Pittman second to adjourn at 10.23 pm. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.



Rex McIntire, Mayor



Teri Little, City Clerk