

Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderman on August 3, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Alderman Present: Kelly Coleman
Rex Dale
Ken Dodson
David Langford
Chris Speck

Alderman Absent: Ronald Dishman

Mayor Curtis Hayes called the meeting to order.

Chris Speck made the motion to approve the minutes. Rex Dale seconded the motion. The vote was 5 yes and 0 no.

Ken Dodson made the motion to accept the agenda. Kelly Coleman seconded the motion. The vote was 5 yes and 0 no.

Kelly Coleman made the motion to pass the 2nd Reading on Ordinance 2020-7-1. Chris Speck seconded the motion. The vote was 5 yes and 0 no.

Maegan Smith and Tyler Asher of Small Business Development Center gave a presentation of their services. They stated they are looking at businesses that are looking to relocate to Livingston. Their services are free.

Kelly Coleman made the motion to appoint Diane Robbins to the Property Maintenance Advisory Board. Rex Dale seconded the motion. The vote was 4 yes with David Langford voting no.

Mayor Hayes presented Resolution 2020-8-1 (Resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Paving Capital Outlay Notes, Series 2020 in amount not to exceed \$1,000,000).

Ken Dodson made the motion to approve Resolution 2020-8-1. Chris Speck seconded the motion. The vote was 5 yes and 0 no.

Marcy Ackerman gave an update on the Flood Mitigation Plan. They are still waiting for the county plan to be approved. Once the county plan has been approved by Livingston, the grant can be submitted. She stated that this will be a long process and it could take up to 3 years to be completed.

Dennis Wolfe – MTAS Fire Consultant reviewed his recommendations for the fire department. He had stated that his report was based on when the department was dispatched, when they arrived and how long it had taken them to arrive at the scene at the Proctor house fire.

He stated that it is his recommendation that additional full time firefighters be hired.

The Board discussed funding for the positions, etc.

After discussion, Kelly Coleman made the motion for the Mayor and Rocky Dial to work on a plan to hire 2 new employees for the fire department now and 2 in FY 2021-22. Ken Dodson seconded the motion. The vote was 5 yes and 0 no.

Ben Winningham of UCEMC reported that an electric car hook up at been installed at Central Park for a 3 year study. This is at no cost to the city.

Mayor Hayes gave an update on the sandwich boards in the downtown area. He stated that the sidewalks are not wide enough according to ADA standards. They are getting some clarification on this.

The Board discussed off premise signs.

Alderman Speck suggested revisiting the sign ordinance and report back at next month's meeting.

Police Chief Etheredge gave a report of the activity of the police department. Chief Etheredge also reported that Jeannie Phillips had resigned. He recommended that Jeremiah Ragsdale be hired to replace Jennie Phillips. Mr. Ragsdale is a certified police officer.

Chris Speck made the motion to hire Jeremiah Ragsdale as police officer. David Langford seconded the motion. The vote was 5 yes and 0 no.

Fire Chief Rocky Dial gave a quarterly report on activities of the Livingston Fire Department.

Kristian Mansell, Codes Enforcement Officer, gave a report on the Property Maintenance.

The matter of bush hogging on private property was discussed.

Attorney John Meadows recommended that no bush hogging be done on private property. He stated that the municipal code allows for properties to be cleaned up that are in violation of property maintenance codes and that the property owners are charged with the clean up.

Alderman Langford stated that the city had always bush hogged lots and felt that the taxpayers would feel that services were being taken away from them especially since the property tax rate was increased.

Alderman Coleman stated that he had asked for this subject to be brought up because it is an illegal practice and he will stand on the side of right every time.

City Attorney Meadows stated that it has always been illegal to use public funds and public equipment on private property. If the city does this, it would be a violation and subject to investigation by the Comptroller's Office.

Attorney John Meadows presented Ordinance 2020-8-1 (An Amendment to the Property Maintenance Ordinance).

Ken Dodson made the motion to pass the first reading on Ordinance 2020-8-1. Kelly Coleman seconded the motion. The vote was 4 yes with David Langford voting no.

Rex Dale made the motion to advertise for bids on street paving. Kelly Coleman seconded the motion. The vote was 5 yes and 0 no.

Arno Proctor addressed the Board about his concerns about the response to the fire at his home in July. He stated that there are discrepancies of what took place in the various reports. He stated that the house was not fully engaged, police did not grab the hose, etc. He feels that things were not done correctly. He is glad that more firefighters are going to be hired. His mother-in-law, Sharon Paul, also addressed the Board on the way that she was treated by the Livingston Police Department.

Chris Speck made the motion to adjourn. Ken Dodson seconded the motion. The vote was 5 yes and 0 no.

Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Clerk