

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
April 15, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 pm, Council Chambers, City Hall by Mayor Fitzgerald

ROLL CALL: Present & answering to roll call were Commissioners Adleman, Hedrington, Prentice, and Mayor Fitzgerald. Commissioner Morse was absent.
City Attorney Eric Miller was present
City Administrator Sonya Hoppes was present
City Clerk Tracy Patrick recorded the minutes
Department Heads in attendance:
Wastewater Superintendent Jeff Reininger
Police Chief Adam Truman
Street Superintendent Steve Haas
Fire Chief Jason Griffin
Community Development Director Shawna Henthorn

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Fitzgerald and recited by all members present.

INVOCATION: Finance Director, Don Elliott delivered the invocation.

APPROVE AGENDA: Commissioner Adleman made a motion to amend and approve the agenda moving Items a., b., c., and d. under New Business to after the Approval of Minutes, and add a 2nd Public Comment after Item e. under New Business. Commissioner Prentice second the motion as amended. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
1. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 1, 2024. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve hiring Manuel Rocha as a Police Officer. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
- b. Manuel Rocha was sworn in as a Police Officer by City Clerk, Tracy Patrick.
- c. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve hiring Hannah Eldred as a Police Officer. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
- d. Hannah Eldred was sworn in as a Police Officer by City Clerk, Tracy Patrick

REPORT OF OFFICER

1. Finance:
Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the claims paid from March 30 – April 12, 2024 in the amount of \$342,951.91. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
2. Attorney Report:
3. Reports:
City Administrator Report and Staff Report

Accounts and Finance-Commissioner Ryan Adleman
Health & Public Safety-Commissioner Ken Morse
Streets & Public Improvement-Commissioner Brian Hedrington
Public Properties-Commissioner Courtney Prentice
Mayor-Tom Fitzgerald

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mayor Fitzgerald read a Proclamation declaring April 15, 2024 as “Purple Up Day”

ORDINANCES-SECOND READ:

- a. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to layover Ordinance 2776 Adopting a revised Zoning Code. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

ORDINANCES-FIRST READ:

- a. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to waive and move to the second reading Ordinance 2790 amending Chapter 18, Businesses, Article XI, Mobile Food Trucks and Vendors. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2790 amending Chapter 18, Businesses, Article XI, Mobile Food Trucks and Vendors. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Administrator Hoppes explained the Food Truck Application would not be required for private events that held on private property and are not open to the public. Block parties that are private events that include neighborhood residents only would be included. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.

RESOLUTIONS:

- a. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6516 approving a proposal for a Phase II for Shirland Avenue from Fehr Graham Engineering in the amount of \$24,000.00. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
- b. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6517 approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the Fraternal Order of Police. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Attorney Miller said the MOU is modifying the Collective Bargaining Agreement as a result of a grievance resolving the years of service interpretation. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
- c. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6518 approving a Compliance Commitment Agreement between the Illinois EPA and the City of South Beloit. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.

NEW BUSINESS

CONTINUED:

- e. Council discussed the proposal from Fehr Graham to draft Request for Bid specifications for the demolition and asbestos remediation for the property located at 200 Dearborn Ave. Mayor Fitzgerald said the City needs to have at least 3 proposals for the demolition and asbestos remediation and he is in favor of putting the item out for proposals. Consensus from Council was to obtain at least 3 proposals for the item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner Prentice said there have been a number of opinions regarding transparency. Commissioner Prentice said obtaining documents can be obtained through a Freedom of Information (FOIA) request at City Hall. Some documents are already

available online via the City's website. Commissioner Prentice said there was a request for a Town Hall Meeting regarding the Fire Department where residents can ask questions. Commissioner Prentice said he spoke with other members of the Council, and he is personally available for phone calls, and would be open to any meeting with Council or alone. Phone numbers for Council members can be found on the website. Sue Miller was present and spoke about the process of obtaining documents as well as obtaining the City's yearly budget. Ms. Miller said she is a concerned citizen. Ms. Miller asked if meetings could be held later than they currently are. Mayor Fitzgerald said the City previously held Committee of the Whole meetings, however they were not well attended. Mayor Fitzgerald said he also held a Coffee with the Mayor in November to answer any questions and listen to the public, however; only 1 person attended. Mayor Fitzgerald explained the various times Council meetings have been held. Mayor Fitzgerald said later meetings were not well attended either. Commissioner Adleman said he has been on the Council for 4 years now and prior to his seat on Council the City did not stream meetings as they do now. Commissioner Adleman said information is available to the public through the proper process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:57 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Adleman the council approved going into Executive Session. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. The purpose of Executive Session is to:

1. Discuss Pending Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting as provided by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

RECONVENE TO
OPEN SESSION:

At 6:25 pm

ROLL CALL:

Roll call showed all members previously at the meeting at the reconvening of the meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURN:

At 6:26 pm on a motion by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Prentice. Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor

City Clerk

Approved: