

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
October 16, 2023

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

ROLL CALL: Present & answering to roll call were Commissioners Adleman, Hedrington, Morse, Prentice, and Mayor Fitzgerald.
City Attorney David Kurlinkus was present
City Administrator Sonya Hoppes was present
City Clerk Tracy Patrick recorded the minutes
Department Heads in attendance:
WWTP 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 Morse made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Diane LaForge and Jeannie Nichols were present from 50 North. Ms. LaForge said the City supported the group last year. The group has grown and is going stronger than ever. Membership is up from 45-50 participants to 75-85 this year. 50 North is a group that anyone over 50 years of age can participate in. 50 North is asking for the same amount of \$5,000.00 to help support. The funds will be used to offer more programs with entertainment. The group currently meets in the Roscoe Community Center. Mary Fanniepennie with United Way was present to speak to Council about Campaign support. Ms. Fanniepennie reviewed the programs that are beneficial to South Beloit in particular the UW Program. Ms. Fanniepennie said the UW dollars help out the 211 program.
Mayor Fitzgerald spoke about the negative remarks on social media regarding the road conditions of Blackhawk, Gardner St, and Highway 251. Mayor Fitzgerald said these 3 main roads are state highways. The 800' of Blackhawk that was recently repaved by the railroad crossing was not slated to be completed for another 10 years. Also, the railroads are difficult to deal with. Mayor Fitzgerald said Hayes Avenue will be done next year since the sewer needs repaired before repaving the street. Mayor Fitzgerald said the City's budget can be seen on the City's website. Mayor Fitzgerald reviewed how property taxes are distributed for an average home for every \$20,000 in property taxes, and encouraged citizens to call if they have any issues.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
1. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 2, 2023. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:
1. Finance:

Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the claims paid from September 30 – October 13, 2023 in the amount of \$343,564.74. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

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

ORDINANCES-FIRST READ:

- a. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to waive the first read and move to the second read Ordinance 2764 amending the Employee Handbook. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve Ordinance 2764 amending the Employee Handbook. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve the 2024 Budget Timetable. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- b. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Trick or Treat hours from 4:30 – 7:00 on October 31, 2023. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.
- c. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve the request for funding in the amount of \$600.00 from the Parks & Rec Advisory Board for an October event at the City Park. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Cindy Morse was present on behalf of the Parks & Rec Board. Ms. Morse said the funds would be used for the following:
 - Payment to the singer \$100
 - For volunteers to help with kids
 - Lunch for workers
 - Candy
 - Additional pumpkinsCouncil discussed the remaining amount of \$300.00 left in the Parks budget as well as planning events for next year. The goal is to have 3 events with set amounts for funding. The board will work together with other entities such as the Lion's Club and work on getting sponsors to help fund events. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- d. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve a Paramedic Sign-On Bonus Employment Agreement for the Fire Department. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- e. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve hiring Kylie Kamholz as Assistant to the Finance Director at a rate of \$17.00/hour. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- f. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve hiring Jordan Doll as full time for the Streets Department at a rate of \$17.34/hour. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

ADJOURN:

At 6:08 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Morse. Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor

City Clerk

Approved: