

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
January 21, 2025

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, and Mayor Fitzgerald. Commissioner Prentice entered the meeting at 5:01.
City Attorney David Kurlinkus 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 Truman
Deputy Fire Chief Brian Snyder
Street Superintendent Steve Haas
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 Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Anthony Rallo spoke about the amount of business Tony's Standard would lose if the Impound Proposal with Greater Rockford Auction was approved. Mr. Rallo said the city needs to think about local businesses.

Vincent Rallo spoke about the history of the family business for Tony's Standard, and said he disagrees with changing the current Tow List.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
1. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to layover the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on January 6, 2025. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:
1. Finance:
Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve the claims paid from January 4 – 17, 2025 in the amount of \$517,824.36. Commissioner Hedrington 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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:

- a. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 5676 Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with Winnebago County for Fire Dispatch. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. City Administrator Sonya Hoppes explained the agreement, and said the start date is tentatively set for February 24, 2025. Deputy Chief Brian Snyder said he and Chief Pease are working on all the appropriate paperwork regarding dispatching as well as putting together auto aide and responses for the dispatch center to make it easier to communicate that are not available through the current dispatching service. The communication will allow for better note taking with the CAD system, and have faster dispatch times. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. From the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting held on January 15, 2025 a positive recommendation was given regarding a Variance in the required front yard setback from 60' down to 4' for the property commonly known as 621 Blackhawk Boulevard, South Beloit, Illinois, Winnebago County, PIN No, 04-05-351-006. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2833 Approving a Variance in the required front yard setback from 60' down to 4' for the property commonly known as 621 Blackhawk Boulevard, South Beloit, Illinois, Winnebago County, PIN No, 04-05-351-006. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- b. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6587 Approving the purchase of a Kubota M7060HDC12 Utility Cab Tractor for the Streets Department at a cost not to exceed \$48,017.17. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- c. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Resolution 6588 Approving the purchase of a new 2025 Ford Police Interceptor SUV Squad Car for the Police Department at a cost not to exceed \$47,615.00. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- d. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve a revised Tow Agreement for the Police Department. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Mayor Fitzgerald said he did not agree with the initial agreement that was brought to Council. Mayor Fitzgerald said he would like to add if a tow is refused by a tow company they would be removed from the tow list for a certain number of days. Police Chief, Adam Truman said the initial intent was not intended to remove tow companies from the list. The agreement allows Haas Towing to be added to the tow list, and the rotating of tow companies would continue. Roll call showed 4 ayes and 1 abstain from Commissioner Prentice.
- e. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve an Agreement for Craftsman with Character. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Administrator Hoppes said the agreement is for Public Works partnership with upper classmen to come from January through May to observe and work in the Streets and Sewer Plant departments. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- f. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve a rate increase for legal services with Sosnowski Szeto LLP. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Commissioner Hedrington asked if legal services would go out for bids. Mayor Fitzgerald said the issue is changing firms in the middle of things. Commissioner Adleman agreed with Commissioner Hedrington, but believes the rate is decent. Administrator Hoppes said the increase is 5%. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 nay by Commissioner Hedrington.
- g. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve an Employment Agreement with City Administrator Hoppes. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Commissioner Hedrington questioned why the agreement would only be with the administrator when none of the Department Heads have agreements. Administrator Hoppes said the prior Agreement was lastly renewed 2 years ago. Administrator Hoppes said the only addition to the agreement for a vehicle allowance was not requested by herself.

Mayor Fitzgerald said Administrator Hoppes should be reimbursed for using her own vehicle considering the number of events and meetings Administrator Hoppes attends on behalf of the city. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

- h. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve a revised job offer for Fire Inspector James Griffin. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- i. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve hiring Jada Adams as Office Assistant for City Hall at a rate of \$17.00/hourly. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

ADJOURN:

At 5:47 pm on a motion by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Prentice. Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor

City Clerk

Approved: