

The Dallas City Council held its regular meeting on August 11, 2021, at 5 p.m. Mayor Kevin Six called the meeting to order with the following commissioners present: Carole McDowell, Peggy Newberry, and Greg Olson. Harold Northup Jr. was absent.

Others attending the meeting were Anne Thompson, Charisse Purchatzke, Beth Greenig, Ryan Thompson, Tracey Markey, Doug Erickson, and Gary Smith.

A motion was made by McDowell, and 2nd by Olson to accept the minutes of the July 28, 2021, meeting. McDowell, Newberry, and Olson AYE. Northup ABSENT.

A motion was made by Olson, and 2nd by McDowell to pay bills. McDowell, Newberry, and Olson AYE. Northup ABSENT.

Mayor Six discussed non-council members expressing their opinions regarding motions that have been made and that this will not be allowed.

Anne Thompson informed the council that the garbage problem next to her property has been dealt with for the time being.

Tracey Markey discussed the roof on the building at the sewer lagoon. The city will contact some local contractors and get bids for the replacement of the roof with a new metal roof. Mr. Markey also reported that there is a need to put some rip rap around the sewer lagoons to help prevent the erosion of the banks of the lagoons.

Charisse Purchatzke asked about the ditches in town and whose responsibility it is to mow them. She was informed that the ditches along a city street are the city's responsibility. Commissioner Olson will talk to the streets employee and have him check on these and mow any that need it.

Beth Greenig discussed the garbage of one of her neighbors that has not been disposed of properly and is creating a nuisance. The police chief informed Mrs. Greenig that this person has been issued a citation, but that it is still waiting for the court date. Chief Smith then also explained the process that has to be followed by law. It was decided to have the police department issue this resident another citation.

Ryan Thompson discussed the old Legion Hall building and the nuisance ordinance. He would like to see the council move forward with the abatement of nuisances ordinance that has been previously discussed. The council is looking into this.

Doug Erickson reported that the paperwork from the Illinois Department of Transportation for the recent Motor Fuel Letting should be arriving next week. W.L. Miller Company will be able to proceed with the street contract as soon as it arrives. The EPA performed their sight inspection on the sewer project that was recently completed. This project will be closed out as soon as the EPA gives their final approval on it.

Mr. Erickson also discussed storm sirens and the water mains in the west end of town. He informed the council that his engineering firm would need to do some testing to record things like water pressure, water flow, etc. in the current water mains. He estimated that the costs to do the needed testing would be \$3,000-\$3,500. The council informed him to draw up an agreement to get this testing completed.

Police Chief Smith gave his report for the month of July. Ads for a part-time police officer have been run in the local papers. So far he has received one resume and one phone call. Later this month Officer Foster will be participating in an "Active Shooter" drill with the Hancock County Sheriff's Department at the Nauvoo Middle School. In September Chief Smith and Officer Foster will be training with the Carthage Police Department and doing Taser Recertification. They will also be participating in a Tactical Medical for First Responders Training at the Hancock County Sheriff's Department.

Discussed the trees that have recently been cut down and some more that appear to need to be removed. Ryan Thompson thanked the council for addressing the issue of dead trees that need to be removed, and informed the council that it is a big help to the fire department having this done.

Mayor Six reported that he is going to be attending a meeting in Macomb regarding the Brownsfield Network grant for the tearing down of buildings in town. The city is still waiting for the owner of the properties on Oak Street that need to be torn down to sign the necessary paperwork.

Discussed getting the city council members the phone numbers of city employees so that they can contact them if needed during off duty hours.

Discussed the restrooms at the boat docks. Portable toilets will remain there this year. It will be discussed at a later date as to what to do next year.

The city clerk reported that an employee of J & S Electronics came and looked at the city's computer network last week to see exactly what they feel we need for computer security. A representative from J & S Electronics will be at the next meeting to explain things to the council and answer any questions.

Discussed the motion concerning trash pick-up that was approved, but vetoed by the mayor, at the last meeting. There is a question as to whether or not the veto was handled in the correct way. Mayor Six is going to contact the city attorney to see if the veto was handled properly. If the motion stands, then any residence that receives a water bill will be charged for trash pick-up. It will not apply to businesses or multi-apartment buildings that receive only one water bill. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

Discussed purchasing a generator system for the city hall/police station. Police Chief Smith has gotten the following estimates:

21,000 watt natural gas from Lowes - \$5,597
17,000 watt natural gas from Lowes - \$4,897
21,000 watt natural gas from Menards - \$5,709
19,500 watt natural gas from Menards - \$5,449

He is still waiting for one other estimate. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

It was reported that it appears that the updating of the electrical outlets that was done at the city hall/police station was satisfactory for the needs of the city celebration.

Discussed putting gutters on the garage at the city hall/police station, as well as raising the garage and pouring a concrete floor.

Discussed the cleaning of the city hall/police station. Sally Six has informed the mayor that she would be willing to do the cleaning every two weeks for \$50 per cleaning. A motion was made by Newberry, and 2nd by Olson to hire Sally Six to clean the city hall/police station every two weeks for \$50 per cleaning. McDowell, Newberry, and Olson AYE. Northup ABSENT.

Discussed water standing on the highways after it has rained. The council will have the street employee check the grates around town and make sure that they are cleaned off so that the rain water will not stand on the highway, if at all possible.

The city clerk reported that the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund conducted an audit last week regarding the reporting of wages, making sure all eligible employees are being included, etc. There was only one minor issue that needs to be resolved. Due to the fact that all of the city's full-time employees receive a \$300 medical insurance allowance per month that has IMRF and payroll taxes deducted from it, the city is required to have a resolution for this. A motion was made by Newberry, and 2nd by McDowell to pass Resolution 2021-1, Resolution to Include Cash Payments Related to Health Insurance as IMRF Earnings, retroactive to January 1, 2018. McDowell, Newberry, and Olson AYE. Northup ABSENT.

Discussed water shut offs and making bills not paid by the 20th of the month, instead of the 30th of the month, be shut off for non-payment. It was decided to have the city attorney draw up an ordinance that will make water bills that are not paid by the 20th of the month subject to shut off.

A motion was made by Olson, and 2nd by McDowell to adjourn the meeting. McDowell, Newberry, and Olson AYE. Northup ABSENT.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Steven K Vorhies, City Clerk