

The Dallas City Council held its regular meeting on September 28, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. Mayor Kevin Six called the meeting to order with the following commissioners present: Carole McDowell, Peggy Newberry, Harold Northup Jr., and Greg Olson.

Others attending the meeting were Michelle Gold, Doris Harman, and Gary Smith.

A motion was made by McDowell, and 2nd by Newberry to accept the minutes of the September 14, 2022, meeting. McDowell, Newberry, Northup, Olson, and Six AYE.

Michelle Gold reported on the city celebration that took place in July. The celebration committee feels that everything went very well. She informed the council that there is going to be a benefit for Kevin Brewer on October 16, 2022, at The Clinic. There is going to be a bake sale from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and a chicken and fish fry from noon to 5 p.m. She asked for permission to close off Pine Street from the alley north of the railroad tracks to the alley south of the railroad tracks from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on October 16, 2022. The council gave their approval for this as long as they notify Consolidated Grain and Barge so that they can notify the farmers that might be bringing grain to the elevator that day that they will not be able to use Pine Street in order to get to the elevator.

Mrs. Gold asked if it would be possible to get the trees along West Fifth Street trimmed. The council agreed that this needs to be done and that there are some other areas in town that need to have some trees trimmed. It was decided to run an ad for bids to trim the trees along West Fifth Street from Cedar Street to the top of the hill, West Fourth Street from Sycamore Street to Cherry Street, and Creamery Hill Road from the north intersection with Highway 9 to the grade school. Bids will be opened at the November 9, 2022, meeting.

Discussed the viewing area of the river across from the city hall.

Doris Harman discussed a hole in the street by her house. Street Commissioner Olson explained to her that the city is unable to purchase any patch at this time due to the fact that the city's supplier does not have any to sell. As soon as the city is able to acquire patch, he will have the street employee take care of this.

Discussed vehicles that have been parked along West Fourth Street for an extended period of time without being moved. The police chief will check on these vehicles.

Police Chief Gary Smith reported that he and Officer Espinoza recently spoke to a couple of classes at Illini West High School.

Mayor Six reported that a metal box was recently discovered inside one of the blocks of the old high school building by the gentleman that is working on it. He has given the box to the city. It is believed that there might be some more time capsules located inside the old high school building that have not been found yet. Mayor Six is going to contact Western Illinois University to see if they might have someone that could possibly restore some of the items that were in the metal box.

Discussed the Mayor and Commissioners salary. It has not been changed since 1999. A motion was made by Northup, and 2nd by Olson to increase the Mayor's salary to \$105 per meeting and the Commissioners salary to \$75 per meeting and to allow two paid excused absences per year. This will go into effect after the 2023 election with the council that takes office on May 10, 2023. McDowell, Newberry, Northup, Olson, and Six AYE.

Commissioner McDowell has not heard back from the city attorney regarding the letters that will be sent out to the past due water customers.

Discussed repairing the gate and fence at the city cemetery by Orchard Street. Trout Fencing will be contacted to get a bid.

Discussed Trick-Or-Treat. A motion was made by Olson, and 2nd by Northup to have Trick-Or-Treat on October 30 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. McDowell, Newberry, Northup, Olson, and Six AYE.

A motion was made by Olson, and 2nd by Northup to donate \$200 to the Dallas City American Legion to help them offset the costs of serving hot dogs on Trick-Or-Treat night. McDowell, Newberry, Northup, Olson, and Six AYE.

The city clerk reported that we have received our 2nd payment of \$59,332.90 for the American Rescue Plan Act.

Discussed children playing in the city streets.

Discussed painting the parking lines on Oak Street where the street was recently oiled and chipped. It was decided to do this next spring.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Steven K Vorhies, City Clerk