

The Dallas City City Council held its regular meeting on September 13, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. In the absence of Mayor Kevin Six, Finance Commissioner Peggy Newberry 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 Alissa Tucker, Bobby Castillo, Shasta Heidbreder, Ruby Longley, Anne Thompson, Doug Erickson, Tracy Markey, Gary Smith, and Josie Finch.

A motion was made by Northup, and 2nd by McDowell to accept the minutes of the August 23, 2023, meeting. McDowell, Newberry, Northup, and Olson AYE. Six ABSENT.

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

Alissa Tucker, Bobby Castillo, and Shasta Heidbreder appeared on behalf of the Dallas City Elementary School District. They informed the council that the school district is interested in transferring its property on the south side of East Fourth Street, including the tennis courts, to the city. All they ask is that the city pay the legal fees to have this done. The council will discuss this more at the next meeting.

Ruby Longley discussed the mowing of the city cemetery. It does not appear to have been mowed for quite a while, and she would like to see better upkeep of the city cemetery. Commissioner Northup will contact Nicholas Hellyer and discuss this with him.

Shasta Heidbreder, on behalf of the Dallas City PTO, requested that the city consider making a donation towards their upcoming Fall Fiesta that is taking place on October 4 at the grade school from 5 pm to 7 pm. A motion was made by McDowell, and 2nd by Olson to donate \$300 to the Dallas City PTO for their Fall Fiesta. McDowell, Newberry, Northup, and Olson AYE. Six ABSENT.

Discussed the abatement ordinance. The city attorney will check on this.

Doug Erickson reported that the Western Illinois Regional Council and Benton & Associates are working on completing the application for the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Grant (OSLAD) from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. He also reported that the city has received a violation notice from the IEPA regarding the sewer lagoon. TEST Inc. and Benton & Associates are looking into these violations and possible resolutions.

Discussed the work on the Lead Service Line project.

Tracy Markey reported that there has been a problem finding parts for the control panels of the sewer lift stations. Discussed continuing to try to repair the control panels or possibly replacing the control panels in the old lift stations with ones that would be compatible to the ones that will be in the new lift stations that are being built in the near future.

A representative from Subsurface Solutions recently came to town to train the new streets employee on using the precision locator that is used to find underground water and sewer lines. The city's employee did not feel that the representative did a very good job. Discussed having Mayor Six contact the company and discuss this with them.

Anne Thompson reported that there is a bush that needs to be trimmed at the corner of East Fifth Street and Linn Street. This will be looked into.

Police Chief Gary Smith gave his monthly report for August 2023. The 2017 Explorer recently had an issue that turned out to be a part that was recently replaced. This part has been replaced again with a different manufacturer. Chief Smith's training on September 14 & 15 has been cancelled. Police Officer Foster will be attending a "Police Officer in Charge" training on September 21 & 22. Chief Smith also informed the council that he is planning on having extra officers on duty for the ABATE Tristate Motorcycle Rally that is being held in town September 22-24.

It was reported that the new streets employee seems to be working out well.

Commissioner Newberry reported that she has had some request for the city to have a fall or spring clean-up day. The council does not feel that this is necessary since residents are allowed to include one large object each month with their trash for removal.

Discussed the mowing of the river bank along East First Street. There was a misunderstanding between the council and Brandan Beach on what his estimate included. Mr. Beach's estimate of \$2,500 was for the mowing of the portion of the river bank that is not owned by citizens from 260 East First Street to 530 East First Street, not to the recreation park. Mr. Beach is also willing to do the river bank from 530 East First Street to the recreation park for an additional \$1,500. The council also discussed checking to see if the city could rent the necessary equipment and have the streets employee do the area from 530 East First Street to the recreation park. A motion was made by McDowell, and 2nd by Olson to hire Brandan Beach to mow the river bank from 530 East First Street to the recreation park for \$1,500. McDowell, Newberry, Northup, and Olson AYE. Six ABSENT.

Discussed purchasing an extended warranty for the city's generator. Also discussed purchasing additional generators for the lift stations in case of extended power outages. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Northup, and 2nd by Olson to enter executive session to discuss former police personnel pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11). McDowell-AYE, Newberry-AYE, Northup-AYE, Olson-AYE, Six-ABSENT.

The meeting entered executive session at 6:43 p.m.

The meeting re-entered regular session at 6:59 p.m.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Steven K Vorhies, City Clerk