

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 24 MAY 2021

21C-0210 – CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Renner called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Chambers at 101 Green Street on 24 May 2021.

21C-0211 – ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following members were present: Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Wiene, Westemeier, Renner

21C-0212 – ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Mayor Renner announced a quorum of Board members present to conduct City business.

21C-0213 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was recited.

21C-0214 - REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

No reports.

21C-0215 – CITIZENS COMMENTS

Jack Deiter, 301 North Main Street, thanked the mayor and city council for putting the topic of closing the 300 block of North Main Street on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA CA21-10

21C-0216 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 10, 2021

21C-0217 – APPROVAL OF REQUEST BY THE KIWANIS CLUB FOR A STREET CLOSURE PERMIT FOR THE GREEN STREET PLAZA TO FACILITATE FOOD, DRINK AND LIVE MUSIC ON JULY 4, 2021

21C-0218 – APPROVAL OF A REQUEST BY THE ILLINOIS SPORTS OWNERS ASSOCIATION TO CONDUCT A CAR SHOW IN DEPOT PARK ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by Bernstein, to approve Consent Agenda, CA21-10 with the exception of 21C-0219 and 21C-0220.

Discussion: Mayor Renner explained that he believed the contracts for watermain valve replacements and hydrant replacements should be made within the budgeted amounts of \$10,000 and \$7,000. He felt it was too early in the fiscal year to amend the budget.

Roll Call: AYES: Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Wiene, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

21C-0219 – APPROVAL OF UNIT COSTS FOR WATERMAIN VALVE REPLACEMENT WITH LOUIE’S TRENCHING SERVICE

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by McCoy, to approve a contract with Louie's Trenching Service for watermain valve replacement for \$10,000.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Wiene, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Hahn

The motion carried.

21C-0220 – APPROVAL OF UNIT COSTS FOR HYDRANT REPLACEMENT WITH LOUIE'S TRENCHING SERVICE

Motion: McCoy moved, seconded by Kieffer, to approve to approve a contract with Louie's Trenching Service for hydrant replacement for \$7,000.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: McCoy, Westemeier, Wiene, Bernstein, Kieffer, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Hahn

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

21C-0221 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A REQUEST BY MONTGOMERY TRUCKING TO ASSIGN THE GARBAGE AND REFUSE COLLECTION CONTRACT AND CURBSIDE RECYCLING CONTRACT TO WASTE CONNECTIONS, INC.

Motion: Westemeier moved, seconded by Hahn, to approve the request by Montgomery Trucking to assign the garbage and refuse collection contract and curbside recycling contract to Waste Connections, Inc.

Discussion: Westemeier thanked Montgomery for years of good service and said the employees would be retained by the new company. He said the company will operate under the same name and the customers should not see any adverse changes.

Roll Call: AYES: Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Wiene, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

21C-0222 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A REQUEST BY JACK DEITER, BIG BILL'S SANDWICH SHOP & COFFEE BAR, 301 NORTH MAIN STREET, TO CLOSE A SECTION OF THE 300 BLOCK OF NORTH MAIN STREET TO TRAFFIC FOR OUTDOOR DINING

Motion: Bernstein moved, seconded by McCoy, to reconsider the decision made regarding the 300 block of North Main Street to leave the street open to traffic.

Discussion: Bernstein stated that trucks do turn immediately next to the Big Bill's outdoor seating area. She feels it is unfair to Big Bill's business not to close the street to traffic.

Kieffer stated that Big Bill's is the only business on the block complaining about the setup as far as he knows.

McCoy explained that he visited the location and that trucks must stop at the stop sign on Franklin and then slowly accelerate up North Main Street. The acceleration is extremely loud.

Kieffer said that the intersection will be loud whether or not the street is closed because trucks must stop on Franklin as the travel from Commerce to Main.

Renner stated that this year is different than last year when the outdoor seating was first approved. Last year restaurants had periods of no indoor dining or limited indoor dining. All capacity restrictions are expected to be lifted in early June. He supports removing all seating from the streets and opening the streets to traffic and parking.

Motion: Bernstein moved, seconded by McCoy to close the 300 block of North Main Street for outdoor dining.

Roll Call: AYES: Bernstein, Wiene, McCoy,
NAYS: Kieffer, Westemeier, Hahn, Renner

The motion failed.

21C-0223 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AN APPEAL BY LEO KERN, 909 THIRD STREET, OF A DECISION BY THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION TO DENY THE INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PANELS ON HIS PROPERTY

Motion: Westemeier moved, seconded by Kieffer, to approve the appeal by Leo Kern.

Discussion: Kieffer stated that the proposed panels would be difficult to see from the public streets.

McCoy supports the Historic Preservation Commission decision to deny. He noted that the panels could be seen from the Washburne House and the flood levy.

Renner stated that he believes the application meets the criteria for solar installations in the historic district. He also noted that rooftop solar arrays are visible in the downtown as well as other rooftop mechanical equipment. He said that the council will need to review the ordinance in the future and adjust to find ways to facilitate solar in the community.

Bernstein said that she appreciated the opportunity to hear the discussion and the give and take. She said that she thinks the council may need to review the topic of solar in the historic district in the future.

Westemeier stated that he could not see the roofs from Prospect Street.

Roll Call: AYES: Kieffer, Westemeier, Bernstein, Hahn, Renner
NAYS: McCoy, Wiene

The motion carried.

21C-0224 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A REQUEST BY NW ILLINOIS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BLACKHAWK HILLS REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR CITY OF GALENA FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION IN A COUNTY-WIDE HOUSING STUDY

Discussion: Mayor Renner explained that the City was contacted by the IL Realtors Association with an offer to provide a grant of up to \$1,500 for the housing study. The IL Realtors agreed to work directly with NW IL Economic Development to supply the grant.

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Westemeier, to table this item.

Roll Call: The motion was tabled without a vote under the rules of procedure for New Business items receiving a motion and second to be tabled.

21C-0225 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON CONTRACT FOR REPAIRS TO THE GRANT PARK GAZEBO

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by McCoy to approve a contract with White Construction for repairs to the Grant Park Gazebo in the amount of \$14,028.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Wiene, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

21C-0226 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE SALE OF SEASON PASSES FOR THE 2021 POOL SEASON

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Westemeier to approve the sale of season passes for the 2021 pool season.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Wiene, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

21C-0227 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON CHANGING THE MEETING FREQUENCY OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION TO ONCE MONTHLY

Motion: Westemeier moved, seconded by Hahn, to approve changing the meeting frequency of Historic Preservation Commission meetings to once monthly.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Wiene, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

21C-0228 – WARRANTS

Motion: Wiene moved, seconded by McCoy, to approve the Warrants as presented, 21C-0228.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Westemeier, Wiene, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

21C-0229 – ALDERPERSONS' COMMENTS

Wienen expressed her appreciation for the quality of the city council packets prepared by staff.

Bernstein thanked Janelle Keeffer for her work preparing for the pool season. She also stated that she thinks the housing study is great and needed to identify housing needs, including the possibility of affordable housing.

McCoy noted that he will not be present at the next council meeting.

21C-0230 – CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

There was no report from the City Administrator.

21C-0231 – MAYOR'S REPORT

There was no report from the Mayor.

21C-0232 – ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Wienen, to adjourn.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Bernstein, Hahn, Keeffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Wienen, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janelle Keeffer
Recording Secretary