

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 12 OCTOBER 2021

21C-0397 – 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 12 October 2021.

21C-0398 – ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following members were present: Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Renner. Wienen was absent.

21C-0399 – ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

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

21C-0400 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was recited.

21C-0401 - REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

No reports.

21C-0402 – CITIZENS COMMENTS

None.

LIQUOR COMMISSION

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Kieffer to adjourn as the City Council and reconvene as the Liquor Commission.

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

21C-0403 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AN APPLICATION FOR A CLASS D RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE VICTORY CAFÉ, 200 N. MAIN STREET, BY DELBERT L. HOUY, DBA SHERNEUBON, LLC

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve a Class D Corporation Liquor License for Sherneubon, LLC, Delbert L. Houy for the Victory Café at 200 N. Main Street.

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Bernstein, to adjourn as the Liquor Commission and reconvene as the City Council.

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA CA21-18

21C-0404 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

21C-0405 – APPROVAL OF HALLOWEEN TRICK-OR-TREAT IN THE CITY OF GALENA ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31 FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

21C-0406 – APPROVAL OF A REQUEST BY THE GALENA DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION TO CONDUCT THE FIRE IN THE SKY FIREWORKS FROM GRANT PARK ON DECEMBER 4, 2021

21C-0407 – APPROVAL OF STRAY DOG PICK-UP CONTRACT WITH JO DAVIESS COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD OF DECEMBER 1, 2021, THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2022

Motion: Bernstein moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve Consent Agenda, CA21-18.

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

21C-0408 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON FALL OPEN BURN

Motion: Westemeier moved, seconded by Kieffer, to approve fall open burn for 4 days with the Fire Chief setting the dates.

Discussion: Kieffer suggested not having open burns on weekends when town is full. He recommended having it for a two-week period on Monday, Wednesday and Friday both weeks. Mayor Renner stated he understands what his intent is; however, people are off work on the weekends adding fires must be out by dark and must be manned at all times.

Westemeier recommended looking at dates in November with possible rain dates as well.

Hahn recommended keeping the curbside pickup for those that don't burn. Mayor Renner agreed.

McCoy was opposed to open burn. Open Burn is against the CDC guidelines. It is a hazard even outside of COVID. McCoy feels the city needs to be sustainable at all times. Bernstein

agreed. She noted last year there was a moratorium due to COVID. She noted we are still in the pandemic and stated she was opposed to open burn. Bernstein advised even with windows closed, the smoke smell still gets inside of homes.

Westemeier advised the landfill has a very large pile. Some residents don't have transportation to haul yard waste up there. Westemeier noted residents use wood burners and burn pits which small as well. The burn would be for 4 days and then it would be gone. If we don't do a burn, we continue to let people break the law by burning or putting it in fire pits.

McCoy voiced concern that if we know people are doing this and we aren't doing anything about it, we are condoning bad behavior. He is concerned the city is creating an unhealthy environment. As a city, he feels we shouldn't condone anything that the CDC says is bad.

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

The motion carried.

21C-0409 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON CONTROLLED PRAIRIE BURN AT GATEWAY PARK

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve a controlled prairie burn at Gateway Park.

Discussion: Mayor Renner stated open burn in prairie areas is permissible by the CDC. Bernstein said she called Mr. Johanason and had him explain the natural process. Johanason helped her understand different selective weather conditions and cloud cover to direct the smoke from the City.

Mayor Renner agreed they do a great job out there.

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

The motion carried.

21C-0410 – FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE IMLRMA MINIMUM/MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Kieffer to approve the first reading and waive the second reading of an Ordinance authorizing the execution of the IMLRMA Minimum/Maximum Contribution Agreement.

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

21C-0411 – WARRANTS

Motion: McCoy moved, seconded by Bernstein, to approve the Warrants as presented, 21C-0411.

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

21C-0412 – ALDERPERSONS' COMMENTS

October Fest – Westemeier thanked all of the vendors who participated in Oktoberfest. It was a great weekend.

Country Fair – Westemeier stated Country Fair was great even with the rainy Sunday. Hahn agreed and thanked the Public Works crew on doing a great job organizing the street closures and signage. Kieffer agreed adding the Police Department did a great job as well.

Outdoor Dining – Hahn requested an item be added to the next agenda for downtown street closure and outdoor dining.

Driscoll Street - Westemeier commended the Public Works crew and Matt Oldenburg for a great job on Driscoll Street. They could have blacktopped over the old street, but they did it right so it will last longer.

Parking – McCoy shared a shirt showing his interpretation of parking in Galena.

21C-0413 – CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

Downtown Parking – Moran advised he will be presenting information on downtown parking at the next meeting.

Paving – Moran reported the paving has been pushed back to next week due to rain.

Grant – Moran advised he will present a draft of the grant with Rose Noble/Galena Country Tourism in order to get an endorsement before submitting.

Insurance – Moran advised this is the 4th year we have had an insurance premium freeze.

21C-0414 – MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Renner agreed with all of the statements and thanked everyone who helped.

21C-0415 – MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by Hahn, to recess to Executive Session to discuss the following:

- Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance, Section 2 (c) (1)
- Purchase or lease of real estate, Section 2 (c) (5)
- Pending, probable or imminent litigation, Section 2(c) (11)

Discussion: None.

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

NAYS: None
ABSENT: Wiene

The motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 6:55 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:25 p.m.

21C-0416 – ADJOURNMENT

Motion: McCoy moved, seconded by Hahn to adjourn.

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Simmons
Deputy City Clerk