

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 26 FEBRUARY 2024

24C-0061 – 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 26 February 2024.

24C-0062 – ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following members were present: Bernstein, Johnson, Kieffer, Wiene, Renner.

Absent: Tegtmeyer, Westemeier

24C-0063 – ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

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

24C-0064 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was recited.

24C-0065 - REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

No reports.

24C-0066 – CITIZENS COMMENTS

Cathy Elwell, 517 4th Street – Elwell thanked the mayor and council for their service to the community. Elwell expressed her thoughts about the Parker Development and the associated lawsuit and urged the council to let the judge's ruling stand and start over. She recommended the council follow the procedures to the letter of the law; put the community first, listen to the constituents and not the developer.

LIQUOR COMMISSION

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

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Johnson, Kieffer, Wiene, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Tegtmeyer, Westemeier

The motion carried.

24C-0067 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO PERMIT EMPLOYEES 18 YEARS AND OLDER TO ATTEND BAR, DRAW OR MIX ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by Johnson, to approve action on amending an ordinance to permit employees 18 years and older to attend bar, draw or mix alcoholic beverages, provided a person 21 years or older is on premise and eighteen the year old is certified by the state, 24C-0067.

Discussion: Kieffer feels it is a good idea, provided someone 21 years or older is on premise supervising.

Bernstein questioned what advantage this might have. Wiene advised several large lodging businesses brought this up. She noted they have to have someone on staff over 21 years of age to have the bar open. Staffing has been a problem. Under the current ordinance someone 18 years old can serve drinks but not tend bar.

Johnson agreed staffing is an issue. The ordinance will not remove the requirement of having someone 21 years of age present. It will allow someone 18 years of age to be a supplemental bartender. Renner stated the 18-year-old must be Bassett certified through the state and a copy of certification must be provided to the city.

Amended

Motion: Bernstein moved, seconded by Kieffer, to amend the motion to include proof of Bassett Certification for anyone under the age of twenty-one must be sent to city hall.

Roll Call: AYES: Wiene, Bernstein, Johnson, Kieffer, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Tegtmeyer, Westemeier

The motion carried.

Main Motion

Roll Call: AYES: Kieffer, Wiene, Bernstein, Johnson, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Tegtmeyer, Westemeier

The motion carried.

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

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Wiene, Bernstein, Johnson, Kieffer, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Tegtmeyer, Westemeier

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA CA24-04

24C-0068 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12, 2024

24C-0069 – APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH ACCO UNLIMITED FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF GUTTER GRATES AT THE SWIMMING POOL FOR A COST OF \$20,512

24C-0070 – APPROVAL OF A REQUEST FOR A FESTIVAL PERMIT BY CHRISTINE MELAAS FOR THE THIRD ANNUAL HOLIDAZE, DECEMBER 7, 2024, FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. AT THE GREEN STREET PLAZA AND ON COMMERCE STREET

24C-0071 – ACCEPTANCE OF JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion: Wiene moved, seconded by Bernstein, to approve Consent Agenda CA24-04.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Wiene, Bernstein, Johnson, Kieffer, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Tegtmeyer, Westemeier

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

24C-0072 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A REQUEST FOR A FESTIVAL PERMIT BY THE GALENA ART AND RECREATION CENTER FOR THE FIRST ANNUAL BIBS AND RIBS EVENT, DEPOT PARK, SEPTEMBER 28, 2024, 11:00 A.M. TO DUSK

Motion: Wiene moved, seconded by Johnson, to approve the request for a festival permit by the Galena Art and Recreation Center for the first annual Bibs and Ribs Event, Depot Park, September 28, 2024, 11:00 a.m. to dusk, 24C-0072.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Bernstein, Johnson, Kieffer, Wiene, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Tegtmeyer, Westemeier

The motion carried.

24C-0073 – U.S. WATER MONTHLY WATER AND SEWER OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REORT

Andrew Schuler presented the December and January reports.

Schuler advised 52 percent of water produced was billed with 47 percent unaccounted. Schuler believes some of the unaccounted water is due to aging meters. The water being treated at the wells is getting back to the treatment plan. He has been working with Core & Main on the twenty largest meters/highest users. These meters are old compound meters known to be problematic. Staff are currently getting quotes to replace them. Residential meters are being replaced with the lead line replacement. Typically, a 5/8-inch meter is good for 15-20 years. The city's meters were installed in 2001. A meter will also be installed on the hydrant at Public Works.

Hydrant maintenance will be starting as well as leak surveys in problem areas.

Renner noted the water breaks are breaking in circles. Schuler advised that is due to the ground shifting and not necessarily that the pipes are bad.

Chris Gutschow, U.S. Water representative, advised they are listening to the trouble areas and looking at the data. The water is getting to the treatment plant. The BOD numbers are staying very flat. There is not a lot of infiltration. They will continue to work on leak detection to try to identify problem areas and will continue to work with Matt Oldenburg to identify the larger meters.

Bernstein questioned how long all of this would take. Gutschow advised they are planning to ramp things up. They started looking at the large meters. He advised it is hard to give a timeline. He hopes to have a better idea and more direction by the next meeting.

24C-0074 – WARRANTS

Motion: Bernstein moved, seconded by Wiene, to approve the Warrants as presented, 24C-0074.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Johnson, Kieffer, Wiene, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Tegtmeyer, Westemeier

The motion carried.

24C-0075 – ALDERPERSONS' COMMENTS

Thank you – Johnson thanked the citizens who take time out of their schedule to come to speak and step outside of their comfort zone.

Electricity Costs – Bernstein noted the electricity costs in the water reports are running high. She questioned if there might be the possibility of exploring the addition of more solar panels.

Fire Department – Bernstein commended the Galena Fire Department for a job well done fighting a chimney fire in her neighborhood. A lot of personnel were there, and the neighbor could not say enough good things on how they handled it.

24C-0076 – CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Comprehensive Plan Proposals – We received two proposals back: one from Madison and one from Chicago. An item will be placed on the first meeting of April with a recommendation.

Parker Project Update – The applicant has 30 days after the ruling to file an appeal. Hooten has requested additional time. He has recently hired a new attorney and he would like 30 days to get up to speed. The attorney for Clark has agreed. Attorney Cox felt the city should be given the same opportunity. The judge granted everyone the same extension.

24C-0077 – MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Renner wished the girls and boys basketball teams good luck, commended them for a great season and thanked all city departments for their work.

It is starting to get nice, so people are coming to town!

24C-0078 - MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moran advised there was no longer a need to enter executive session.

24C-0079 – ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Wiene moved, seconded by Kieffer, to adjourn.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Kieffer, Wiene, Bernstein, Johnson, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Tegtmeyer, Westemeier


The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting

26 February 2024

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Beth Hyde". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Mary Beth Hyde
City Clerk