

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 11 JANUARY 2016

16C-0001 – 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 11 January 2016.

16C-0002– ROLL CALL

Upon roll call the following members were present: Bernstein, Fach, Hahn, Kieffer, Lincoln, Westemeier and Renner

16C-0003– ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

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

16C-0004– PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was recited.

16C-0005 - REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Unified Destination Marketing Committee – The committee worked on the letters of intent. There are a few things that they either don't agree on or haven't gotten to yet. They are making progress and will bring their plan to the City Council before any decisions are made. The next meeting will be held January 20th with another to follow the first week of February.

Turner Hall Committee – The committee met last Thursday. They received the Historic Structures Report. A copy of the report along with a copy of the minutes was distributed to the city council. Fach urged them to read the report. The next meeting will be held at Turner Hall on February 4th at 8:30 a.m.

16C-0006 – PUBLIC COMMENTS

Don Gereau, 219 S. High St. – Gereau thanked staff and council for reviewing and making changes to the Street Performers Ordinance. It seems to meet the needs and concerns they had.

Rick Pariser, 113 S. High Street – Pariser commended the Public Works Department on the job they do. They deserve a pat on the back. They are courteous, efficient and out in all kinds of weather. They are definitely appreciated.

Lucy Mattinen, 437 N. High Street – Mattinen raised concern with not being allowed to operate an Airbnb. She also stated it would be nice if we had an ice skating rink or dog park.

CONSENT AGENDA CA16-01

16C-0007 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 28, 2015

16C-0008 – APPROVAL OF DESIGNATING THE PARKING SPACE IN FRONT OF 426 BROADWAY AS A SPACE FOR A PERSON WITH A HANDICAP

16C-0009 – ACCEPTANCE OF NOVEMBER 2015 FINANCIAL REPORT

16C-0010 – ACCEPTANCE OF YEAR-END POOL REPORT

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by Bernstein, to approve Consent Agenda CA16-01 as presented.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Fach, Hahn, Kieffer, Lincoln, Westemeier, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

15C-0449 – SECOND READING AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 110.39 “STREET PERFORMERS” OF THE GALENA CODE OF ORDINANCES

A motion to approve was made and later withdrawn.

Discussion: Hahn feels staff did a good job of trying to make the ordinance the best for everyone concerned. He feels it will work out well. Kieffer agreed and stated if need be changes can be made later on.

Bernstein questioned if there was any language in the rules with regard to signage in the street. Moran advised the language states sidewalks but could be modified to include the street and/or parking stalls.

Fach stated he is opposed to allowing any signs. He feels they are tacky and questions where the decision was made to grant performers signs. Renner agreed.

Fach also questioned the canopy used by the spray paint artist. In the ordinance there is no mention about setting up any type of protection against the weather. Renner feels tents and/or canopies should be prohibited and it should be in the ordinance.

Council withdrew the original motion and agreed to have staff make some additions with regard to tents, canopies and signage and have it brought back for approval.

Bernstein agrees in principal that we really don't want signs. The problems is we have had two that have had them for many years. In fairness to others, she is inclined to allow a 12 x 18 inch sign. She feels it wouldn't be that offensive and not everyone is going to put up a sign. She suggested leaving it in the ordinance and addressing it if it becomes a problem. Kieffer agreed.

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Westemeier, to table this item until the next meeting to allow staff to include the additions.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Kieffer, Lincoln, Westemeier, Bernstein, Fach, Hahn, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

16C-0011 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AN APPLICATION BY RJR HOLDINGS, INC., OWNER 937 GALENA SQUARE, FOR A FINAL PLAT OF SUBDIVISION FOR DIVIDING 2.11 ACRES INTO TWO PARCELS

Motion: Fach moved, seconded by Hahn, to approve the application by RJR Holdings, Inc., Owner 937 Galena Square, for a final plat of subdivision for dividing 2.11 acres into two parcels, 16C-0011.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Lincoln, Westemeier, Bernstein, Fach, Hahn, Kieffer, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

16C-0012 – FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS CITY PROPERTY

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve the first reading and waive the second reading, of an ordinance authorizing the sale of surplus city property.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Westemeier, Bernstein, Fach, Hahn, Kieffer, Lincoln, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

16C-0013 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON 2016 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Motion: Fach moved, seconded by Bernstein, to approve the 2016 Capital Improvement Plan, 16C-0013.

Discussion: Hahn stated he agrees with the plan and the intent of the plan but disagrees with the order of the construction. Hahn would also like to see Hill Street moved up and recommended waiting on 4th Street until the new water main is installed.

Jim Rigdon, Director of Public Works, advised they surveyed the town and looked at what money we have to work with this year. He wanted to address two large areas, Field Street and Technical Drive. Hill Street is on the schedule for three years down the road. Rigdon stated he would like to keep things as they are this year with the change to 4th Street. He noted we are still waiting for the state with regard to Gear Street.

Hahn questioned the repairs to Alexander Street which is basically an alley. Rigdon advised it is basically an alley. We are trying to get the alleys taken care of. This alley affects Driscoll Street from Alexander to Driscoll to Franklin Street. Rigdon advised he would like to put in curb and gutter.

Fach questioned West Street from Highway 20 to Gear Street. Rigdon stated this isn't as bad as a lot of streets. We have fallen a little behind on streets; however, if we keep getting years like this we will make a lot of progress. Staff has come up with a 5 year plan which addresses smaller areas because of the moneys we have.

Westemeier noted Hill Street between Dodge and West Streets is in need of repair as well as Elk Street from Vine to Ridge to Barry. This isn't in the 5 year plan.

Rigdon stated he would like to stay with this plan minus 4th street for this year. He would also like to look at Alexander Street which services six houses. They have had a lot of water problems over the years. This is another one of those alleys that we can address and get taken care of pretty easily. It doesn't get a lot of heavy traffic.

Moran advised all of the street work is coming out of the ½ percent sales tax approved in 2008. In years 2008, 2009 and 2010 large projects which involved water and sewer were done. We borrowed money in those years. We haven't borrowed for three years. We are starting to see some cash accumulate. As we look forward each year, he would like to keep \$50,000 in the bank in the sales tax fund. Moran recommended giving tentative approval of the work on the five year street plan advising the order can be changed at any time.

Roll Call: AYES: Fach, Hahn, Kieffer, Lincoln, Westemeier, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

16C-0014 – WARRANTS

Motion: Fach moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve the Warrants as presented, 16C-0014.

Discussion: Bernstein questioned if the first item for Jo Carroll was for electric or was it the new lights. Moran advised it was for electricity for the street lights. We are seeing a savings with the new lights. Once the entire project is complete, he will produce reports to show the cost savings.

Roll Call: AYES: Fach, Lincoln, Westemeier, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Hahn, Kieffer

The motion carried.

16C-0015 – ALDERPERSONS' COMMENTS

On-line payments – Bernstein stated she read in one of the reports that staff has been working on allowing on-line payments of water bills. This is a positive thing for the City.

Parking on Franklin Street – Westemeier feels the signs in front of the high school need to be put back up to eliminate parking up there during school hours. There is more than enough space for those cars in the lots. Having cars parked along there makes it very narrow and difficult for snowplowing.

Capital Improvement Plan – Kieffer thanked Mark Moran and staff for their work on the Capital Improvement Plan. Hahn also thanked staff for all the work they have done and appreciates the willingness to rectify his concerns. It is in his nature to overlook and criticize street stuff. Fach agreed and thanked Hahn for bringing his concerns to the table.

16C-0016 – CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Budget – Moran distributed a schedule for the upcoming budget. The first draft will be distributed at the meeting of March 1, 2016. He asked anyone with conflicts in the schedule to please let him know.

Thank you – Moran thanked American Water for being out on water main breaks the last two days.

Thank you – Moran thanked the school system for the cooperation during the inconvenience of the water break the last two days.

16C-0017 – MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Renner thanked Mark and staff for their work on the Capital Improvement Plan and thanked the residents without water for their patience.

16C-0018 - ADJOURNMENT

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

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Hahn, Kieffer, Lincoln, Westemeier, Bernstein, Fach, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Hahn

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Beth Hyde
City Clerk