

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday July 25th, 2023, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday July 25th, 2023, at 5:30 P.M.

The meeting was held at the City Hall Council Chambers and on Zoom.

Present: Mayor Ken Williams
Council Member Melanie Cozzi
Council Member Tim Krug
Council Member Terry Schuster
Council Member Kurt Wilson
Chief of Police Joe Brooks
City Manager Darin DeHaan
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton
Also Present: Public Works Director Bill Covell, Eric Higby, Mike Rock
Present via Zoom: Corey Buck, City Attorney Paul Chadwick & Alexa Zoellner.

Mayor Ken Williams called the meeting to order.

City Clerk Cheryl Hilton started the pledge of allegiance.

Mike Rock, Ogle County States Attorney, spoke to the City Council in support of Eric Higby as a police officer for the City of Oregon.

Police Chief Joe Brooks said Officer Lee will be leaving the police department at the end of the month. He said Eric Higby will be filling the vacancy. He has 27 years of experience with the City of Rochelle Police Department. He served as Chief of Police for 13 years. He has completed the FBI National Academy and has a bachelor's degree from Western University.

Mayor Ken Williams swore in Eric Higby as a Police Officer for the City of Oregon.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2023-014 Annual Appropriations at 5:35 pm, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2023-014 Annual Appropriations at 5:36pm, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve the July 11th, 2023, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: Council Member Terry Schuster stated on page 2 the minutes reference North 1st Street and should be North 2nd Street.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve the July 11th, 2023; minutes as amended, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$56,350.70 and the current warrants as listed:

Axon Enterprise Inc	\$5,976.00
Brown Equipment Company	\$1,861.65
Butitta Bros. Automotive - Oregon	\$757.06
Caspers Home Inspection LLC	\$1,500.00
Cassandra Chapman	\$600.00
Chana School Museum Foundation	\$200.00
Cintas	\$211.88
City of Oregon	\$250.00
City of Oregon	\$2,671.81
City of Oregon	\$5,000.00
City of Oregon	\$13,518.99
City of Oregon	\$50,400.00
Comcast	\$834.88
Comcast	\$1,051.23
ComEd	\$552.11
Constellation	\$4,081.65
Core & Main	\$83.77
Dixon Paint Co	\$245.16
Ehmen	\$1,800.00
Elevator Inspection Service	\$150.00
Envision Healthcare	\$224.00
Euclid Managers	\$1,436.14
Ferguson Enterprises LLC #3325	\$765.73
Ferguson Enterprises LLC #2516	\$2,036.49
Flanagan Flatwork	\$1,589.00
Hagemann Horticulture LLC	\$4,600.00
Hawkins, Inc	\$2,313.29
ICMA Membership Renewals	\$585.00
ILEAS	\$60.00
Illinois EPA	\$11,000.00
Illinois Public Safety Agency Network	\$4,968.00
Illinois Rural Water Association	\$535.72
Jasman Martin	\$400.00
Ken Williams	\$50.00
Kurt Wilson	\$25.00
Liz Hiemstra	\$312.50
Locis	\$705.00
Mark Nehrkorn	\$600.00
Mark Nehrkorn	\$656.67
Mark Nehrkorn	\$4,315.34
Menards	\$429.91
Mike McHale	\$200.00

Mobile Electronics	\$180.00
Motorola Solutions - Starcom21 Network	\$2,484.00
NAPA	\$793.02
Pace Analytical Services	\$1,975.00
Philip Salstrom 111	\$200.00
Postmaster	\$48.75
Postmaster	\$780.00
Republic Services #721	\$20,344.80
Robert J Pickel	\$4,400.21
Sirchie Acquisition Company LLC	\$63.14
Stillman BancCorp	\$2,036.03
Sun Life Financial	\$401.08
Terry Schuster	\$25.00
Treetop Products Inc	\$9,475.65
Verizon	\$466.70
Village of Progress	\$960.00
Visa	\$852.53
Visa	\$864.22
White Pine Mercantile, LLC	\$395.00
Willett Hofmann & Associates Inc	\$12,783.45
	\$189,082.56

Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve Ordinance 2023-014 Annual Appropriations, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve a Raffle License for the Autumn on Parade Tractor Show, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve the 2023 Street Program-Mill/Overlay Award Recommendation-Monroe Street, 2nd Street, and Franklin Street-Martin and Company for \$166,227.00, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Discussion: Public Works Director Bill Covell said the preconstruction meeting will be held on Friday. The work should take about a week to complete. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the amount should be amended; the bid amount was \$144,431.29.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve the 2023 Street Program-Mill/Overlay Award Recommendation-Monroe Street, 2nd Street, and Franklin Street-Martin and Company for \$144,431.29 as amended, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve the 2023 Street Program-3rd Street Reconstruction Award Recommendation-Martin and Company for \$384,960.96, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

Discussion: Council Member Terry Schuster said this project will likely take longer than the mill and overlay project. Public Works Director Bill Covell stated the project could take a month to a month and a half to complete. Council Member Melanie Cozzi asked if businesses and residents have been notified. Public Works Director Bill Covell said yes, he will notify the residents and businesses.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve receipt of land gift of 408 N. 3rd Street Parcel #16-03-114-007 from the Moring family, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said this is the empty lot at the end of North 3rd Street. The Moring family is granting the property to the city at no cost. The property could be used for potential development in the future. City Attorney Paul Chadwick is working on the legal documents for the transfer. Council Member Melanie Cozzi asked if there is any information regarding the Indian mound located on the property. City Manager Darin DeHaan said there are two theories regarding the mound that have never been fully investigated. The Ogle County Historical Society is willing to do investigative work for the property. Potential uses will be discussed with the Economic Development Committee next week.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve Ordinance 2023-010 Chapter 2 by adding Section 24.14 Public Art Murals of the Municipal Code of the City of Oregon in order to Establish and Regulate the Public Art Mural Program, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: Council Member Kurt Wilson said the ordinance was approved unanimously through the Planning Commission. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the ordinance does two things, provides guidance for longevity and maintenance, and allows for an Art Committee to be formed. Murals would become a permitted process, allowing the art to be protected and maintained properly. Mayor Ken Williams said it would be hard for the city to do a grant for art murals without the ordinance in place to provide guidance. City Manager Darin DeHaan said ARPA funds have been set aside for murals. There are about five murals in the que. The mural grants will go before the Art Commission for guidance and approval. Council Member Terry Schuster said he wonders if some of the volunteers doing the murals will know how to proceed with requirements of the ordinance. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the members of the Art Committee will have resources available to them to help with the process.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve ARPA fund request for the Ogle County Historical Society for the total of \$6,500.00, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: The funds will be used to repair the wrap around porch on the building.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve a Façade Grant for Ogle County Brewery for front and back exterior wall repairs, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan stated the funds are not for the mural, only for the exterior repairs made to the building. The Economic Development Committee recommended approval to the City Council.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Work Session: Discuss weeds downtown.

Mayor Ken Williams said there are weeds growing on the sidewalks downtown. He said this is not addressed in city ordinance and we want the downtown to look nice. He said we could ask business owners to maintain the sidewalks but historically this has not worked. Another option is to make this part of beautification and the city contracts this out. Council Member Tim Krug stated in previous years, the city maintained the sidewalks. Mayor Ken Williams said the employees need to be licensed to spray weeds. Employees have completed the training but are waiting to receive their license. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the UTV is being retrofitted to help with this process. Public Works Director Bill Covell said the city needs to be using pet friendly chemicals. He apologized for the delay in the removal of the weeds. City Manager Darin DeHaan said there is some confusion in the ordinance. Mayor Ken Williams suggested using the Historic District as the map for weed maintenance. He asked City Manager Darin DeHaan to prepare the revision to the ordinance and formalize the process.

Mayor Ken Williams stated after department reports are given, the City Council will be going into executive session. No action will be taken after the executive session.

Reports:

City Manager Darin DeHaan said during the fire audit at the Coliseum for CMAAA's grand opening, the fire chief noticed the door to the basement was not fire approved. This door has been replaced and the boy scouts added an anti-slip coating to the stairs. The basement has been approved for use by the fire department. He also said the nuclear plant drill was today. It is completed every couple of years in preparation for an emergency. He thanked Chief Joe Brooks and Deputy Chief Matt Kalnins for their help. The fire department and school were involved as well. It's good exercise in case the city ever had to activate the emergency operations center for a major weather event.

Public Works Director Bill Covell said the public works department put in a new culvert at Jones Terrace and Mix Street. This eliminated the flooding that was happening in a

resident's yard. They also marked handicap parking spaces, completed striping at the high school, and began cold patching the streets. The blowers for the wastewater treatment plant will be in soon and preparation has begun on one of the aeration basins. The generators for City Hall and the 10th Street lift station are here. Work will begin in about 2 weeks.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to enter Executive Session to discuss potential legal action at 6:15 pm., Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Adjourn: 6:32 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk