

Dyer City Council Meeting October 27, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bill Morse at 5:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said, and Roll was called.

Roll Call:

Alderman Randy Beard present
Alderman Donna Staton present
Alderman Myrna Burns present
Alderman Katherine Fry present
Alderman Robert Porter present
Alderman Nancy Smith absent

Public Forum:

Brian Hood appealed the council decision to deny changing the Zone in Lot 1 of Ridge View Estates on Horizon Lane from a mixed use between commercial and residential to a multi-family residential lot. See documents of appraisal submitted by Brian Hood for similar properties with multi family dwellings mixed in with single dwellings.

Mr. (inaudible name) lives at 101 Horizon Lane Dyer AR stood to address the council and stated his decision was still the same, he does not wish the zoning would be changed to include multifamily dwellings.

A motion was made by Alderman Robert Porter to deny the appeal and seconded by Alderman Katherine Fry.

Alderman Randy Beard No due to concerns with overall neighborhood and traffic.

Alderman Donna Staton No because this housing addition residents signed a covenant for single family residential area, and she feels that this would be an ongoing conflict.

Alderman Myrna Burns No the residents wish is to not to have multifamily dwellings among their homes.

Alderman Katherine Fry No because she feels that there would be too much moving in and out.

Alderman Robert Porter No this goes against the wishes of the surrounding property owners.

City Attorney Sean Brister clarified the intent of the motion and the council because he stated it sounded as though the intent wasn't clear. Alderman Robert Porter made a motion to recall earlier motion to deny appeal due to it being unclear. Alderman Katherine Fry seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Alderman Randy Beard yes
Alderman Donna Staton yes
Alderman Myrna Burns yes
Alderman Katherine Fry yes
Alderman Robert Porter yes
All yea.

A new motion made for better clarity was made by Alderman Robert Porter and seconded by Alderman Katherine Fry to deny the appeal to change zoning of Lot 1 from single family dwelling and commercial zoning to multi family.

Roll Call:

Alderman Randy Beard yes

Alderman Donna Staton yes

Alderman Myrna Burns yes

Alderman Katherine Fry yes

Alderman Robert Porter yes

All yea.

Above mentioned reasons for voting to deny the appeal remain.

Evie Goff: Evie wanted to give an update to the council that the family as well as the city officials were attempting to get BIDs for concrete work but have been unable to do so due to various reasons such as companies that would say they would BID but never show up. She also mentioned she didn't want this to fall by the wayside.

A motion was made to approve the September 2020 minutes by Alderman Myrna Burns and seconded by Alderman Donna Staton.

Roll Call:

Alderman Randy Beard yes

Alderman Donna Staton yes

Alderman Myrna Burns yes

Alderman Katherine Fry no

Alderman Robert Porter abstain

Mayor Bill Morse yes

A motion was made to approve the September 2020 General, Street and Water/Sewer/Sanitation financials by Alderman Randy Beard and seconded by Alderman Donna Staton.

Roll Call:

Alderman Randy Beard yes

Alderman Donna Staton yes

Alderman Myrna Burns yes

Alderman Katherine Fry yes

Alderman Robert Porter abstain

Mayor Bill Morse had no report to give.

Administrative Assistant/Public Works Report: Veronica Robins

Fall Festival October 31, 2020 Drive thru will start at 6 pm on Washington street. Cars will be lined up on West side of Washington street from the corner of Railroad LN to Holcomb. Cars will come from Main street down Railroad LN then out to 64 hwy or circle onto Holcomb. We will use social distancing/gloves/mask as recommended by CDC.

Hand to Hand gave us food last Thursday and it may be a regular occurrence. We have asked residents to volunteer to go get food and bring to City Hall for Give away. Lynn Hubbard has questions for City Attorney about the City Liability using volunteers their automobiles and city trailer to haul the food to town. City Attorney stated that ideally city employees should use city truck and trailer. A volunteer may use their own equipment. Cities are immune to tort.

Chris Belt sales representative for World Lawn mowers talked to the council about replacing old mowers. He left brochures for review.

Veronica Robins brought before the council requesting a raise for Recorder Treasurer Lynn Hubbard. Veronica states that she is responsible for all the audits and now that she is leaving Lynn would need to be overseeing office and work more. Mayor Morse spoke up and stated that he would ask council to consider a \$150.00 a month and no less than \$100.00. Her job is to make sure your financials are intact, make sure checks are written right and deposits are made and be spending more time in the office. Kathy and Torrie have received excellent training the first week they returned to the office. It cost well over \$1000 for in house training. There will have to be more oversight and I felt like this was my baby for 16 years and I have went thru audits and answered the questions because I felt like it was my responsibility and at the end of the day the elected official is the responsible party. Alderman Donna Staton states her predecessor was being paid \$200 a month. Veronica spoke up and said that yes, but she was also getting 20 hours a week at \$10 per hour. Kathy Fry was hired on part time when the former recorder treasurer left and Torrie was already there working part time. Christy was there and left right after Becky and the full-time position was offered to Torrie and she declined. Kathy Fry was worked into a fulltime employee because at the time I was doing a lot of grants and the sewer stuff and it was a lot. Alderman Randy Beard asked if this could be reviewed at the time of budget creation and was told that the work load was going to become heavier and she didn't think we should wait that long. Alderman Beard suggested we hire Lynn as a part time employee to assume some of the duties you have. City Attorney Sean Brister reminded the council that they could vote to increase pay of officials, but they could not vote to decrease their pay. Lynn Hubbard spoke up to say that she could not be present during the day due to full time job. A motion was made to direct City Attorney to draft an Ordinance to raise Recorder Treasurer salary to \$250.00 per month by Alderman Katherine Fry and seconded by Alderman Donna Staton.

Roll Call:

Alderman Randy Beard abstain

Alderman Donna Staton yes

Alderman Myrna Burns yes

Alderman Katherine Fry yes

Alderman Robert Porter yes

Covid Cares relief act money. I will be starting the paperwork to get all our salary reimbursed from March thru October. This includes Police Officers, me and Lonnie. There is approximately a month before the deadline, and I will start it and leave it for Lynn to finish.

Granicus Product Sheet-gov meetings peak. We are using the free version of this to create the agenda. There is a version that would allow us to record the minutes and print out. The premium version retains records forever. The one-time payment is \$3778.17. Veronica stated that she feels that the Recorder Treasurer needs her own laptop to be able to access the city information anytime as she is not always in the office.

Veronica's Departure November 6, 2020 and attached is the resignation letter. November 6, 2020 is my last day. I want to talk a few things, I will not leave you holding the bag, you would not have a water operator and if you wanted to retain my water license and I would take care of all the samples, bactine and monitoring and short forms OELs, all your forms your lead and copper tests. We have exceeded our OELs in the area north of town and I have to look at the test sites and try to figure out why. We are looking at installing an automatic flushing system to automatically run that thru and keep that water moving and not setting stagnant. We could negotiate that out, I am not going to do it for free. I would be glad to do this until you get Lonnie Licensed. Lonnie Robins is licensed for wastewater and he has all his inspection licenses. It would take him a year or year and a half to get his license. Mayor Morse suggested we pay Veronica Robins a thousand dollars a month for the work she just described. Veronica stated she would do it for that. Alderman Randy Beard asked if this was a contract? Veronica spoke up and said yes and if we do it in contract, she would like that to be extended for a whole year so that if something happened that the city decided to part ways, you would still have to pay the contract wages. Sean Brister stated that the easiest way to handle this would be to negotiate a contract and Veronica and Mayor agree on it and then do a resolution to adopt it. Veronica asked if a special meeting needed to be called before she leaves because she would want this done before her last day. Council agreed that this would be handled in special meeting. Repairs are not included in this, Veronica stated she would have to oversee the repairs but would only do reports. We can close my phone out and you can call Lonnie's phone unless you want me to keep a phone. I want to keep my number and if we can draw up a motion to do that and we could even get Katherine Fry a new phone. Lonnie will get calls on building and sewer and I would get calls on water. Complaints can be called into City Hall 8-5 M-F.

A motion was made by Alderman Katherine Fry to have her own phone and get her old number back and have her own private line separate from the City a second was made by Alderman Donna Staton.

Alderman Randy Beard yes
Alderman Donna Staton yes
Alderman Myrna Burns yes
Alderman Katherine Fry yes
Alderman Robert Porter yes

Veronica asked City Attorney if it was necessary for a motion to be made to accept her resignation and he stated no that was for the mayor to decide.

City Attorney: Sean Brister

No change since last month on annexation lawsuit, there has been a new attorney and depositions are scheduled.

Police Report: Josh Winford None

Fire Department: Josh Winford, we did receive our Act 833 grant money.

Old Business:

Court Ordinance to move to Mulberry still pending in Little Rock.

Resolution of sale of property on Rhodes street no word yet.

Mileage resolution still needs to be decided. Recorder Treasurer asked Attorney Brister what not passing Ordinance meant for the City and he stated that the 5-mil tax that is collected on real and personal property would not be allotted to us and that would seriously impact our budget. Alderman Randy Beard asked City Attorney if he had a dollar figure on that and he did not.

A motion to pass Resolution 2020-10-27-01 was made by Alderman Randy Beard and seconded by Alderman Donna Staton.

Resolution 2020-10-27-01 Mileage for City of Dyer levying a tax for general municipal purposes for the year 2020 and other related purposed

Alderman Randy Beard yes

Alderman Donna Staton yes

Alderman Myrna Burns yes

Alderman Katherine Fry yes

Alderman Robert Porter No

New Business

Budget committee to be formed. Veronica presented to council an example of the budget form and the numbers. Alderman Donna Staton, Alderman Kathy Fry and Lynn Hubbard volunteered. Mayor states that he will appoint that a later time.

A motion for Adjournment made by Alderman Katherine Fry and seconded by Alderman Randy Beard.

Alderman Randy Beard yes

Alderman Donna Staton yes

Alderman Myrna Burns yes

Alderman Katherine Fry yes

Alderman Robert Porter yes

All yea.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm

Mayor Beebe Moore

RT Lynn Hubbard