

ASSUMPTION CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall by Mayor Pro-tem Joe Cochran who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was answered by Alderpersons Sue Burgess, Joe Cochran, Gary Nelsen, Selena Reed and Kandy Smith. Also present were Mayor Derek Page, Attorney Gregory Moredock, Treasurer Angel Palmer, Water Supt Jack Duncan and City Clerk Janet Waller.

Present in the audience was Mark Bingham from Chastain and Associates, Donny Walden, Earl Simmons, Felicia King, Deb Stoddard, April Smith, Jaylen Scoles, Rick Bradshaw, Bob Bantner, Andrea Royer, Jody Mink, Joe Mink, Herb Palmer, Donny Walden, Abby Corzine, Gary Morgan, Teta Morgan, Hayley Brownback and Tricia Stewart.

Absent was Mayor Derek Page.

Council Member Burgess, seconded by Council Member Nelsen, made a **motion to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2022 City Council Meeting**. Motion carried with Alderpersons Reed, Burgess, Cochran, Smith and Nelsen voting aye and 0 nays.

Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Burgess, made a **motion to approve the payment of bills on the Warrant Sheets**. Motion carried with Alderpersons Burgess, Nelsen, Reed, Cochran and Smith voting aye and 0 nays.

Public Comments on Agenda Items:

None

Communications from the Mayor Pro-tem:

Thank you to Congressman Rodney Davis for getting our new water plant 80 percent funded.

The house on Locust and First Street will be demolished this month.

A Special Meeting will be held on April 21 at 6:30 pm with the Illinois Housing Development Association Community Specialist Amy Bashiti.

Communications from the City Attorney:

Attorney Moredock met with the Christian County Seniors to see how Assumption can get some tax dollars from the referendum for Senior Citizens. The Christian County Seniors would like to start assisting Assumption with services.

Attorney Moredock met with Mark Bingham from Chastain and Associates with all the water and sewer issues.

Attorney Moredock informed the council they are waiting on a May 13th court date for a couple of abandoned properties.

Communications from the Treasurer:

None

Communications from the Alderpersons:

Alderpersone Joe Cochran went over the backyard chicken survey results. The survey results were tied 61 to 61. Alderperson added the petition results to his survey and removed the duplicates. There were 114 no's and 61 yes.

Alderperson Smith would like a copy of the survey and Alderperson Cochran will share the survey only with Mayor Page and Attorney Moredock due to the personal information on it.

Alderperson Smith would like to table the vote for another month and would like a trial period of 1 or 2 years of backyard chickens.

Under New Business:

Mayor Pro-tem introduced Donny Walden and asked the council to appoint him as Alderperson Ward 1. Council Member Nelsen, seconded by Council Member Burgess, made a **motion to approve the appointment of Donny Walden as Alderperson for Ward 1**. Motion carried with Alderpersone Smith, Reed, Burgess, Nelsen and Cochran voting aye and 0 nays.

Attorney Moredock swore in Donny Walden for Alderperson Ward 1.

Abby Corzine went over Summer Recreation regarding the summer vista program and will be put on the agenda for the Finance Committee. They would like reimbursed for up to \$500.00 for equipment or supplies after receipts are turned in. They are still taking applications for another person to assist with the program.

Alderperson Gary Nelsen informed the council the old website on weebly is no longer and encouraged everyone to subscribe to the new website cityofassumption.org. There is no charge to sign up as a subscriber on the website. Alerts will be sent out for instance boil orders or road closures. The city will be reviewing the facebook page and may make a new facebook business page in the near future. Updates will be announced later.

The contract with Reg Ankrom for the electrical aggregation is up for renewal by June 2022. Ameren has the best rates for electricity at this time. Mayor Pro-tem Cochran asked for a motion to renew the electrical aggregation contract. Council Member Burgess, seconded by Council Member Nelsen, made a **motion to renew the electrical aggregation contract with Reg Ankrom**. Motion carried with Alderpersone Cochran, Reed, Nelsen, Burgess, Smith and Walden voting aye and 0 nays.

Rock for the oiling and rocking will need to be purchased for \$11,500.00 out of the MFT fund. Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Burgess, made a **motion to approve the purchase of rock for \$11,500.00**. Motion carried with Alderpersone Smith, Reed, Burgess, Nelsen, Walden and Cochran voting aye and 0 nays.

The cost of mosquito spray for the summer was \$704.00. Council member Burgess, seconded by Council Member Nelsen, made a **motion to approve the purchase of mosquito spray for \$704.00**. Motion carried with Alderpersone Reed, Burgess, Walden, Cochran, Smith and Nelsen voting aye and 0 nays.

New tires are needed for Officer Zeitler's police squad. The cost is \$862.00. Council Member Burgess, seconded by Council Member Smith, made a **motion to approve the purchase of tires for \$862.00**. Motion carried with Alderpersone Nelsen, Burgess, Reed, Smith, Cochran and Walden voting aye and 0 nays.

Water Supt Jack Duncan noted the rehab will start after the Peerless Midwest finishes a couple of other jobs in the near future. Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Burgess, made a **motion to approve Peerless Midwest for Rehab of Well 10 and 11 for \$26,300**. Motion carried with Alderpersone Reed, Burgess, Walden, Cochran, Smith and Nelsen voting aye and 0 nays.

The cost to repair a generator at the Water Plant was \$1152.93. The repair was not covered by warranty. Council Member Nelsen, seconded by Council Member Burgess, made a **motion to pay \$1152.93 to Atchison Electric for the repair to the generator at the Water Plant.** Motion carried with Alderpersons Cochran, Reed, Nelsen, Burgess, Smith and Walden voting aye and 0 nays.

The cost of Matter Leak Detection is \$5,300.00 for the company to find the water leak in Assumption. Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Nelsen, made a **motion to approve Matter Leak Detection for \$5,300.00 to find the water leak.** Motion carried with Alderpersons Smith, Reed, Burgess, Nelsen, Walden and Cochran voting aye and 0 nays.

Attorney Greg Moredock went over the proposed ordinance for water leaks on resident's service lines. The ordinance requires the leak be fixed within 15 days or have a contract in place to have the leak fixed. If the leak is not fixed or a contract is not in place the resident will be fined not less than \$25.00 or more than \$100.00 a day. A customer will be disqualified from a water adjustment if they do not fix the leak in 15 days or enter into a contract to have the leak fixed. Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Reed, made a **motion to amend Ordinance 780 for penalties to be added to water/sewer bill if a leak is not fixed or a contract is not signed within 15 days and will be disqualified from a water adjustment.** Motion carried with Alderperson Cochran, Reed, Nelsen, Burgess, Smith and Walden voting aye and 0 nays.

Alderperson Smith asked for a motion to table the vote on the chicken ordinance for a month until there is more time to reach out to the community. Council Member Smith, Council Member Reed, made a motion to table the vote for a chicken ordinance. Motion did not carry. Alderpersons Reed and Smith voting aye and Alderpersons Burgess, Nelsen, Cochran and Walden voting no.

Council Member Burgess, seconded by Council Member Nelsen, made a motion for the creation of a chicken ordinance. Motion did not carry. Alderpersons Smith and Reed voting aye and Alderpersons Nelsen, Burgess, Walden and Cochran voting no.

Mark Bingham updated the council on the Chastain and Associates Engineering Agreement for Water Phase II. Council Member Reed, seconded by Council Member Burgess, made a **motion to approve the agreement with Chastain and Associates for Water Phase II.** Motion carried with Alderpersons Walden, Cochran, Smith, Reed, Burgess and Nelsen voting aye and 0 nays.

An update for Sanitary Sewer Phase 1 was given by Mark Bingham. A punch list walk thru was done with some landscaping cleanup is needing seeded.

Sanitary Sewer Phase 2 will be advertised soon and construction will begin by the end of summer.

Water Phase 2 is waiting on the nitrate vessels to be delivered and a decision if they will be installed in the old water plant or wait for the new plant.

The Larochelle Project is scheduled to start within the next week. All road closures will be back open by the end of the day during this project.

Mark presented preliminary Water Plant plans. Congressman Rodney Davis played a big part in getting this project 80 percent funded. The funds will be managed by the EPA. The City will have to pay 20 percent which is approximately \$600,000.00.

Alderperson Burgess would like the public notified when roads will be closed for watermain work and an alert sent out.

Council Member Nelsen, seconded by Council Member Burgess, made a **motion to approve Ordinance 781 for land acquisition for the Leafland Pump Station.** Motion

carried with Alderpersons Smith, Reed, Walden, Cochran, Nelsen and Burgess voting aye and 0 nays.

Council Member Burgess, seconded by Council Member Walden, made a **motion to go into Executive Closed Session for 2-C-5 for land acquisition for real estate at 8:15 pm.** Motion carried with Alderpersons Burgess, Cochran, Nelsen, Reed, Smith and Walden voting aye and 0 nays.

Council Member Burgess, seconded by Council Member Reed, made a **motion to go back into regular council at 8:22 pm.** Motion carried with Alderpersons Smith, Walden, Reed, Nelsen, Cochran and Burgess voting aye and 0 nays.

Public Comments:

There will be a VFW Auxillary Food Drive with delivery of bags on Saturday May 21st and pickup of the donated food on May 28th.

The public questioned about the status of the tornado siren.

A member of the public was impressed with Attorney Moredock as he is doing a great job with the City.

Council Member Nelsen, seconded by Council Member Burgess, made a **motion to adjourn at 8:24 pm.** Motion carried with Alderpersons Nelsen, Burgess, Reed, Smith, Cochran and Walden voting aye and 0 nays.

Derek Page
Mayor

Janet Waller
City Clerk

Council Member Nelsen, seconded by Council Member Walden, made a **motion to approve the minutes City Council Minutes of April 6, 2022.** Motion carried with Alderpersons Walden, Smith, Reed, Nelsen and Burgess voting aye and 0 nays.