

CITY OF SUMPTER
COUNCIL MEETING
August 13, 2024

CALL TO ORDER – 4:00pm

- a. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- b. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE – Mayor Wise, Councilor Demaris, Councilor Briscoe, Councilor Brandt and Councilor Smith
- c. VISITORS – Cheryl Sheller, Skip Duffin, John Young, Mike Bogart, Kurt Clarke, Jane Leatherman, Jennifer Lake.

APPROVE MINUTES

- a. MSP: To accept the July 23, 2024, Council Meeting minutes as presented. Councilor Demaris/Councilor Brandt. All Councilors approved.

REPORTS

- a. Fire Chief Kurt Clarke
 - (1) SVFD Resources were sent to Newbridge Fire to provide structure protection.
 - (2) There was a structure fire in town this past weekend.
 - (3) A locked-up starter motor on a fire truck needs to be repaired.
 - (4) Chief Clarke asked if the SVFD was doing well on expenses as compared to other departments: Mr. Gaslin confirmed they are.
 - (5) Chief Clarke asked if SVFD can sign an automatic Mutual Aid Agreement (MAA) with Powder River Rural FD on structure fires. MSP: Councilor Brandt/Councilor Briscoe motioned to approve an automatic MAA with Powder River. All Councilors approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Gaslin Report – cash statement highlights; Core & Main at \$13,325 (hydrant and water pumps). In the bank: \$326K. Mr. Gaslin highlighted the city is bleeding cash; overall, cash balance is down by approximately \$40,000. MSP: Councilor Demaris/Brandt motioned to approve the expenditures and pay the city bills with one change on the check for HECO which is actually for HACH company (\$475). All Councilors approved.
- b. Grounds Refund, Lundy – Grounds used for a wedding. MSP: Councilor Brandt/Councilor Demaris motioned to refund Curtis Lund the \$200 cleaning deposit for the Grounds. All Councilors approved.
- c. American Tower (AT) Proposal – the latest proposal from American Tower is for \$157,000. They have been discussing the topic with the city attorney. There are three options, of which is the cash payment. The attorney is recommending this option since the coming decades technology may change and cell towers may not be needed. There are issues however, the attorney continues negotiation, i.e., the entire tax lot is not needed for the tower. It also specifies no other buildings can be built on the lot. AT continues to lower the monthly payments. Per Mr. Gaslin, If this payment is accepted, it will have a positive impact on the city's financial status. The city attorney lacks confidence in AT's will to negotiate and compromise; it may take time to come to a workable agreement. MSP: Councilor Briscoe/Councilor Demaris motioned to approve the taking of the lump sum payment pending the City Attorney's favorable results of negotiation. A subsequent vote will be taken on the lump sum payment in a future council meeting if conditions of the proposal meet the city needs. All Councilors approved.
- d. General Election Candidate Filing Deadline – August 27th is the final day to file for candidacy for the November 5 election. File early to assure verification of signatures.

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- e. Zoning Permit, 171 Auburn St., Hamilton – for the installation of a fence (which has already started). Fence can be on the property line. MSP: Councilor Demaris/Councilor Briscoe motioned to approve the zoning permit for Mr. Hamilton as proposed. All Councilors approved.
- f. AGENDA ADDITION: Change Order(s), Water Tank Project – there is a delay due to the construction crew waiting on additional parts and M2 is going to fix the upper tank which is leaking. The changes in costs will be covered by the grant. There was vigorous discussion about why there are additional costs if the project is delayed. The change orders are attached. MSP: Councilor Smith/Councilor Briscoe motioned to approve the change order as proposed. All Councilors approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. It has been reported that the current City of Sumpter street signs are disappearing. The mayor asks the public not to remove the signs. The city will start a list of residents who would like one of the old signs.

COUNCIL COMMENT

- a. Councilor Briscoe – asked when the new street signs will be installed. The fire department will be starting after the close of fire season. Locates are in process.
- b. Mayor Wise – there were inquiries around town to purchase Sumpter motels for conversion to multi-family use units. The mayor mentioned that the city is reviewing ordinances to understand what will be required for such land use in the city. Public meetings may be scheduled to inform the public what is happening on the subject.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. No public comments

ADJOURNMENT – 4:40 PM

MSP: To adjourn. Councilor Briscoe /Councilor Demaris. All Councilors approved.

Approved by the City Council this 24th day of September 2024.

Approved: 

Attested: 