

Council Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2016

The regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council of Audubon Park was held on Monday, April 18, 2016 at 3340 Robin Road, with the following present: Mayor Dorn Crawford and Councilors Darrell Shelton, Laura Stevens, Tony Williams, Drew Perkins and Joanne Bader. Also present were Assistant Chief of Police Mike Minniear, City Attorney Steve Emery, bookkeeper Susan Gordinier, City Engineer Brad Derrick and City Clerk Janette Mercer.

Call to Order

Mayor Crawford called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. He opened the floor for public comments.

Public Comments

Pete Becker, 3105 Chickadee – Mr. Becker asked how much has been spent on the Louisville Airport Authority suit. He also asked what happens if the City wins and what happens if the City loses. The Mayor replied the City has spent about \$11,000. He also noted if the City won, it would collect the citation money, and possibly legal fees, and if we lost, the City could be liable for the airport's attorney fees.

Laura Kelty, 3242 Cross Bill Rd. – Ms. Kelty asked if there was any progress made on the water drainage problem on her property. The Mayor acknowledged that he has received pictures and this problem as well as other drainage issues were being addressed with MSD.

Attorney's Remarks

Mr. Emery noted there was nothing new on any pending law suits to report. The Mayor asked if there were any questions for Mr. Emery. Mr. Williams asked if the attorney was going to be present at the Town Hall meeting on April 26th. Mr. Emery replied that he has an appointment that day in La Grange, but can be contacted by phone.

Engineer's Report

Joanne Bader wanted to be updated on the scheduled work on the pillars at the entrances. She noted that, her understanding was the winning contractor is John Henry Masonry and she has heard good things about them. She wanted to know when the work was going to start and would it happen in this fiscal year. Mr. Derrick replied that the contractor would like to be paid in full when work is completed. The Mayor added that because of cash flow the work may be better done in July; however, they will have further discussions.

Tony Williams asked Mr. Derrick to share the information one more time about the meeting with MSD and the drainage problems in Audubon Park, just to clarify. Mr. Derrick clarified that the potential MSD project would address the entire City's drainage problem, not just street drainage problems.

Police Report

Assistant Chief Mike Minniear reviewed the police report. He introduced Robert Brann as a new reserve officer and gave a brief synopsis on Mr. Brann's career. The Assistant Chief updated the gallery on one of our police officer's medical condition and explained that was the reason for reserve officers. The Mayor

asked for a motion to confirm Mr. Brann's appointment. Darrell Shelton made a motion to confirm the appointment. Joanne Bader seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Laura Stevens noted that people are not stopping at the stop signs. Major Minniear promised to add this concern to police patrol instructions.

Financial Report

Joanne Bader asked about the sale of the old plow truck and when the revenue would hit the financial report. Susan Goridiner answered the deposit was not made until the middle of April so the money will show on the May financial report. Ms. Bader asked about when bond revenue would start. The Mayor replied that he didn't think it would start until the fiscal year 2017, but would check. Joanne Bader asked about the insurance business tax revenue only being about half of what is budgeted. It was clarified that the City still has two more quarters to collect, so that appears to be on budget.

Tony Williams asked about the line item 5454-10 Public Facilities. The dollar amount reflected there should be the amount need to complete the work on the entrance columns. Mr. Williams asked if the City has a surplus of money at the end of the fiscal year do we need to set up an account by ordinance. The Mayor answered that we need to address that when we talk about the budget. Tony also asked for clarification in reference to City boards; who is responsible for their accounting, the boards or the City. There were further remarks on the books, receipts and how to reimburse.

Joanne Bader would like to know what happens to the money that is earned at the City events. Is the money put into general funds? She feels that the Parks and Recreation Board should have a say on the money and how it is spent. There were several comments on how money is spent and what control measures should be used.

Darrell Shelton asked about a cash flow report included in some previous meetings. He would like to see the cash flow report regularly; he feels that report gives a better current of where the city sits financially.

Joanne Bader questioned if the road work that was recently completed has been paid. The answer was no, some invoices are still being processed or pending.

The Mayor asked if there were any more questions or comments. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to accept the financial report. Joanne Bader made a motion to accept the report. Laura Stevens seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Forest Board Report

The Mayor gave the floor to Ann Bobigian. Ms. Bobigian introduced Ryan Lewis as a candidate for the City Forester. She gave a brief synopsis on Mr. Lewis and felt he would make a great candidate. Joanne Bader asked Ms. Bobigian to explain what Mr. Lewis' role will be as the City Forester. Ms. Bobigian proposed three initial responsibilities. He will develop a list of the ten worst trees in the easements (right of way). Mr. Lewis needs to look at Audubon Parkway and develop a five-year replacement plan. The last task, driven by a list of trees that the Board has planted over the years, will be to determine what care needs to be completed on those trees. Ms. Bobigian has a written proposal on the role of the Forester, and a request for funds for fiscal year 2017. The Mayor asked for a motion to confirm Mr.

Lewis as the City Forester. Joanne Bader made a motion to confirm his appointment. Darrell Shelton seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. A copy of Mr. Lewis' resume and the Forest Board's plan for Mr. Lewis is included as part of these minutes.

Parks & Recreation Board Report

Mayor Crawford and the Councilors spoke about the Light Up Audubon event being successful, but stressed need for more volunteers.

Unfinished Business

Mayor Crawford presented the March 21st meeting minutes for approval. Joanne Bader offered three editorial corrections. The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Laura Stevens made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Joanne Bader seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Laura Stevens reviewed the action item list, noting coverage in previous discussion.

The Mayor started the conversation on the Waste Management contract. He noted that the cover letter and the bid package is ready and will go out this week. Darrell Shelton noted that the bids should be opened at a public meeting. The Mayor noted such a meeting is not required, but agreed to confer with the City Attorney.

New Business

Mayor Crawford circulated a short-term budget and tax calendar to display a timeline that this process should follow in order to get the tax bills out on time. The Mayor noted the expected late arrival of the preliminary rolls from the PVA, needed to start the process. He showed how the calendar's timeline could still meet the deadline, without the possibility of a discount period. The Mayor asked for a first reading of the proposed "*Ordinance Adopting the City Budget for the Fiscal Year 2017*". There were lengthy discussions and questions about the numbers depicted.

Closing Public Comments

Laura Kelty, 3242 Cross Bill – Ms. Kelty wanted to address the Forest Board's 5 year plan. It is her opinion that the City can't really make a property owner plant or take care of the trees on their property. She also suggested that since the 2% discount on the property taxes was going away, it might be a good idea to lower the insurance business taxes 2% to make up for what was lost. She noted that she thought the Town Hall Meeting for the budget process was unusual; however the Council and the Mayor reminded her it has been conducted for the last two budget cycles.

The Mayor and the Councilors addressed the Forest Board plan. They reminded everyone that the plan is in the early stages and will require some tweaking.

The Mayor addressed the potential changes in the insurance tax rate. He reminded everyone that it is past the statutory deadline for this year, however something to look at in the future.

Gil Zinner, 3315 Wren – Mr. Zinner wanted to know if the Councilors has established a priority list for the Town Hall meeting.

The Mayor answered no, the plan will be established after hearing from the residents.

Linda Bogner, 1140 Audubon Parkway – Ms. Bogner suggested that for each line item on the budget a dollar amount should be reflected. She noted that if taxes are going to increase that most people would like to see detail.

Laura Stevens, 1021 Oriole Ct – Ms. Stevens feels that a sign should be posted in the parks stating the maximum number of people allowed on the swings at one time.

Joanne Bader made a motion to adjourn. Laura Stevens seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

A town hall meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2016 at 6:00 at Audubon Country Club.

Attested

Approved