

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 19, 2011

The regular scheduled meeting of the City Council, City of Audubon Park, was held on Monday, December 19, 2011, at 3340 Robin Road with the following present: Mayor Michael Scalise along with Council Members Cindy Habeeb, Rose Mangino, Al Huber, Judy Schwenker, and Patrick Kehoe. Also present were Police Chief Cox, City Clerk Stephanie Lee, and City Attorney Patrick McElhone. Council Member Gary Vogel was absent from the meeting.

Call to Order: Mayor Scalise called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Scalise mentioned having refreshments available after the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes: Mayor Scalise asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes from the previous month. Al Huber made motion to accept the minutes as presented. Judy Schwenker seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: There were not any comments made from the public at this time.

Financial Report: The information submitted on the Financial Report showed the figures through the month of November. Mayor Scalise commented about the Financial Report being for informational purposes only with the Audit being scheduled for this month; therefore, a vote was not taken at this time.

Rose Mangino questioned entries listed (property taxes and sanitation) where she thought there was no money left over to pay expenses and were over budget. She later inquired about entries relating to the Works Department also.

In response to property taxes, Mayor Scalise said the figures that look like a negative are actually extra money that has been taken in over and above what was budgeted.

A short discussion took place regarding property taxes, the Department of Transportation grant, Works Department general expenses, and transferring funds from Road Funds, etc.

Police Report: Mayor Scalise welcomed Jeff Cox as the Police Chief.

Chief Cox read the Police Report for the month of November. A copy of the said report is made a part of these minutes.

Rose Mangino mentioned the traffic light from Audubon Parkway to Preston Highway taking a long time to change causing emissions to fill the air while the cars are waiting.

Chief Cox said the lights are normally set by the government, but he said they can ask about it.

Judy Schwenker said the lights are in sequence, and she suggested talking to Bob Flener regarding the situation.

Al Huber said he thinks the lights are set different at different times of the day.

Mr. Head inquired about the charge for speeding tickets.

Mayor Scalise said speeding tickets are State Citations, and Chief Cox said the charge depends on the speed based on a scale.

A short discussion took place regarding citation revenue and jurisdictions.

Pat Kehoe inquired about Courtesy Citations asking what they are for.

Chief Cox said it's basically a written warning with no fee associated, and he went on to add they are for traffic violations such as moving violations or equipment on vehicles.

Pat Kehoe questioned as to if anyone had suggested speaking with the State regarding the possibility of getting a flashing yellow light from Northbound Poplar Level to Audubon Parkway.

Chief Cox said you cannot make the State do anything regarding the situation, but he said he doesn't mind to ask them about it.

Al Huber said he would like to see a stop sign put in place from Audubon Parkway to Nightingale, and Mayor Scalise suggested speaking to Councilman Jim King regarding the proposed idea.

Forest Board Business: Mayor Scalise mentioned the Forest Board did not meet in December.

Rose Mangino inquired about the tree located on Meadowlark with the branch hanging down over the roadway, and Mayor Scalise said he has talked to the resident regarding the situation.

Rose Mangino also commented about not being able to see to pull out from Meadowlark and Hess Lane.

Mayor Scalise said they have tried to contact the homeowner, and he added that the Work's Department had cut the plantings back some.

Patrick Kehoe suggested being careful and checking with MUTCD regarding sight distances at ninety degree angles.

Mayor Scalise said the plantings may have to come out or be trimmed all the way back, and he said they may have to be replanted closer to the driveway versus Hess Lane.

Unfinished Business: Rose Mangino said she is concerned about the Farmer's Market, and she asked if anything was going on with the idea.

Mayor Scalise said he has two people very interested in doing something on it. He said there is a gentleman from Valley that belongs to Audubon Baptist, and he also commented about there being a lady that has expressed interest as well.

Rose Mangino expressed her concerns regarding the emissions being put off from the garbage trucks coming through the area twice per week. She also mentioned there is a recycle container located at 1127 Cardinal Drive like the one she had suggested before on wheels. She said the emissions cause problems and issues with the weather. She said she is looking at reducing pollution, but she said she never said anything about changing the garbage service provider.

Mayor Scalise said he has spoken with our representative with Waste Management regarding the recycle containers, he said it is something they have wanted to do for a couple of years now. He commented that with the cost involved and the economy, the representative told him they are looking at possibly doing it later on in the future (a year or two down the road). He also added that they only collect once every two weeks with the containers on wheels.

Rose Mangino said if we have them collect the garbage only once per week, it would save them money.

Mayor Scalise said we are under contract now, and he commented that it will be a while before it comes back up again.

Al Huber said he's had several people tell him they don't want to change the garbage.

Mayor Scalise said when it comes time to renew the contract, it will be something for the Council to deal with at that time.

New Business: There was not any "New Business" to report at this time.

Mayor's Report: There was not a "Mayor's Report" at this time with the various information previously covered earlier in the meeting.

Al Huber made motion to adjourn the meeting. Judy Schwenker seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

ATTESTED

APPROVED