Council Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2017

The regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council of Audubon Park was held on Monday, March 15, 2017 at 3340 Robin Road, with the following present: Mayor Dorn Crawford and Councilors Darrell Shelton, Brittney Gorter, Amanda Thompson, Mike Gardner and Andrew Klump. Also present were Chief of Police Doug Sweeney, bookkeeper Susan Gordinier, and City Clerk Janette Mercer. City Engineer Brad Derrick arrived late.

Call to Order

Mayor Crawford called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. He opened the floor for public comments; hearing none, he moved on to Attorney's remarks.

Attorney's Remarks

Ms. Reisz asked to go into closed session, provided by KRS 61.810 (1) (c), for discussion of proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the City. Mayor Crawford asked for a motion to go into closed session. Darrell Shelton made a motion to go into closed session. Brittney Gorter seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of the executive session the Mayor called the meeting back to order at 7:15 PM.

Financial Report

The Mayor noted the written report and opened the floor for comments and questions. Darrell Shelton asked about the cash flow report's carry-over revenue from 2015 and 2016. The Mayor explained that we wait until the end of year audit, and the money can then be appropriated. Mr. Shelton asked about the overage on the Property Taxes line on the Budget to Actual report. It was explained that there was property tax collected on an individual from a previous year owed. Brittney Gorter asked if the Light-Up Audubon event's revenue has been reconciled. Susan answered yes. Darrell Shelton made a motion to accept the financial report. Brittney Gorter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Safety

The Mayor noted the written report and opened the floor for comments and questions. Chief Sweeney spoke about the national Peace Officer Memorial Day. He noted that it was started in 1961 by President John F Kennedy.

Engineer's Report

Mayor Crawford noted the written report and opened the floor for comments and questions. There were comments about meetings with Flynn Brothers about road work on Cardinal and the manhole at the end of Cardinal.

Forest Board Report

The Mayor noted the written report and opened the floor for questions and comments. Brittney Gorter and Darrell Shelton thanked the Forest Board for all of their work. Mike Gardner asked about the tags on the trees. Ann Bobigian explained that an inventory has been completed on the trees. The tags help the City Forester and the Forest Board locate trees that require work.

Parks and Recreation Report

Mayor Crawford noted the written report and opened the floor for comments and questions. Daniel Stephen presented a poster of the proposed sign for Robin Park. There were questions about the cost and what needs to be approved to place the sign in the park. The Council all approved the sign as a test case. Mr. Stephen also mentioned the next event will be the Independence Day parade. Chief Sweeney noted he has made a request to the special event coordinators at Metro for this event. Brittney Gorter asked if the sign for Robin Park would be completed by then. Daniel Stephen said it was possible.

Unfinished Business

The Mayor noted the meeting minutes for the April 17, 2017, and opened the floor for comments or corrections. Hearing none, Mayor Crawford asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Amanda Thompson made a motion to approve. Andrew Klump seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor noted that the action on Mr. Denham's variance request has been placed on hold until Mr. Denham co-ordinates with neighbors on their approval.

Mayor Crawford asked for a second reading and action on Fiscal Year 2018 Ad Valorem Tax and the Waste Management ordinances. The City Clerk completed the second reading of the 2018 Ad Valorem Tax ordinance. The Mayor asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance. Darrell Shelton made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Amanda Thompson seconded. Darrell Shelton suggested that the property tax be raised to 4% this year and then next year the City can lower the insurance tax to compensate for the difference since there are such negative feelings about the insurance tax. There was lengthy discussion about the two taxes, but no formal motion to change the tax rate. The ordinance was adopted unanimously.

The City Clerk completed the second reading of the Waste Management ordinance. The Mayor asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance. Darrell Shelton made the motion to adopt. Andrew Klump seconded. The Mayor opened the floor for discussion. Mike Gardner asked how much is the increase over last year's bill. The Mayor explained that there isn't an increase because this is part of a fixed multiyear contract. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

The Mayor presented the Fiscal Year 2018 budget proposal and message. Darrell Shelton asked if the numbers displayed under previous fiscal years represent the actual or budgeted numbers. The Mayor replied those are the budgeted figures. Mr. Shelton feels the actual number would be more helpful in setting this year's numbers. There were several comments about the actual versus budgeted. The Mayor asked for a first reading of Ordinance adopting the City Budget for the Fiscal Year 2018. The City Clerk completed the reading. Brittney Gorter asked if the police contract for Audubon Hospital and Parkway Village was going to be increased this year. The Chief explained that both contracts were increased last year and the contracts are for 2 years.

Brad Derrick, the City Engineer, arrived late. Mike Gardner asked Mr. Derrick if he was aware that a couple years ago Cardinal Drive was paved and if there were problems that need to be addressed since the problem has reoccurred. Mr. Derrick replied that Flynn Brothers will be evaluating the issues on Cardinal Drive. There were several further comments on the manhole at the bottom of Cardinal Drive.

Darrell Shelton noted that he has an ordinance to introduce to establish the "Parks and Recreation Program Fund" in order to ensure fund availability for future park improvements and community events. Mr. Shelton conducted a first reading of the ordinance. Mr. Shelton also offered supporting remarks for this ordinance. There were lengthy remarks about the proposed ordinance. Mayor Crawford noted that the ordinance has both legal and functional problems, and is not a more practical solution than what is currently in place. He expressed that he thought the City had reached a solution 3 months ago, which this proposal would reopen.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor mentioned the upcoming newsletter and asked for submissions.

Closing Public Comments

Laura Kelty, 3242 Cross Bill Road – Ms. Kelty asked Mr. Klump about his statement on funds being unassigned being at risk. Mr. Klump answered that was his understanding. Amanda Thompson stated that she is not sure that any funds are protected against legal judgement. Ms. Kelty also noted that every day at 2:50 a school bus "flies" through the city.

Anne Bobigian, 1230 Valley – Ms. Bobigian strongly favors the Parks and Recreation ordinance. She wanted to recognize the level of energy that the Parks and Recreation Board works at the City events. Ms. Bobigian feels that allowing the Parks and Recreation Board the event funds would help with long term plans for the parks.

Tony Williams, 3220 Eagle Pass – Mr. Williams wanted to thank the Mayor for the town hall meeting. He noted that next Tuesday, May 23rd the City will find out if we will receive the Energy Grant. He mentioned that he has noticed that younger folks are moving into the City. These folks are volunteering and the City needs to be mindful of this and should try and keeping this movement going.

Laura Jones, 3118 Eagle Pass - Ms. Jones wanted to express that she feels that the Parks and Recreation Board has been fiscally responsible from the onset and feels that allowing the Board the fund would better support their efforts.

Elizabeth Hurley, 900 Audubon Parkway – Ms. Hurley noted that she is new to the City, and she was drawn to the City because of its safety and the events. She wanted to express she is in support of the proposed ordinance.

Jeff Prewitt, 927 Audubon Parkway – Mr. Prewitt wanted to express that he has fun at all the events and wants it to continue. He noted that everyone should treat each other with respect.

Daniel Stephen, 3106 Meadowlark – Mr. Stephen wanted to thank everyone for the comments. He feels that the Parks and Recreation Board has done its job and is totally transparent.

Darrell Shelton made a motion to adjourn. Andrew Klump seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

The next scheduled meeting is June 19, 2017 at 7:00 PM.

Sancia Merces Attested

Approved