

July 11, 2022

CITY OF ERIE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 11, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.
Erie City Hall

Present: Darrell Bauer	Cindy Schoenhofer, Treasurer
Cindy Friedrich	Tyler Seibel, Police Chief
Tereasa DeMeritt	Melissa Stephens, City Clerk
Trenton Moore(left 6:41pm)	Jake Tromsness, Superintendent
Steve Maher	Seth Jones, City Attorney
Kyle Buntin (6:04pm)	Cindy Garland, Store Manager(absent)

Guests: Eddie Hibbs, Mike McGuire, Randy Dick, Hailey Marple, Kelly Daniels

Mayor Darrell Bauer called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

DeMeritt moved and Friedrich seconded to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Upon motion by DeMeritt and a second by Maher, the agenda was unanimously closed.

Mike McGuire and Randy Dick will attend the council meeting as quickly as they can. Mike thought the meeting started at 7:00 P.M.

No public comment.

In Economic Development, Trent Moore said Threads & Moore have installed their patio. They were reimbursed up to \$3000.00 for the upgrade through Erie's Façade Improvement and Interest Rate Write Down Program.

Store Manager Cindy Garland presented her June revenue report. Treasurer Cindy Schoenhofer asked Store Manager Garland if she had checked on purchasing a check reader due to an increase in worthless checks. Store Manager Garland said they were looking into it. Garland said there would be a monthly fee and a one-time setup fee for the check reader. Treasurer Schoenhofer also asked what the policy was regarding giving cash back. Store Manager Garland said there was not a set policy, but the store has always allowed a customer to write their check for no more than \$30.00 over the total purchase cost.

Councilmember Kyle Buntin added he would like to have a work session to brainstorm ideas on how to correct the financial needs of the store.

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Police Chief Tyler Seibel presented his June reports. Chief Seibel reported he has two part-time employees starting Friday July 15, 2022. He also said one current part-time employee will be leaving due to moving out of town.

Chief Seibel also asked if he could purchase cooler material shirts for the police department. The price would be \$550.00 to purchase shirts. Maher moved and DeMeritt seconded to allow Chief Seibel to purchase the cooler material shirts for the police department. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Seibel also reported the red police truck is having wiring harness issues. Also, the radio in the red truck is having a volume issue. It is very low, and you can not hear it. Seibel will get quotes on a new radio to present to the council.

Code Enforcement Officer Kelly Daniels reported 6 violations have been filed and more were being served.

City Superintendent Jake Tromsness reported the EEC is still down one engine. Every had the city run the EEC on July 7th from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Superintendent Tromsness reported he had received a stack of tall grass violation mow orders from the police department and the entire city crew has worked on them.

Tromsness reported the high-pressure, high-volume water pump on the vac truck has a cracked casing. The price for a new casing is \$3,311.00. The new casing installation will require at the very least new seal kits for the pump and a few days to take it off, disassemble, rebuild and install. The cost for a new pump is around \$8,500.00. Moore moved and Buntin seconded to purchase a new pump for \$8,500.00 for the vac truck. Motion carried unanimously.

Tromsness reported with the EEC constantly being ran or needing work, the city crew has been getting behind in the electric department. Almost everything the department does, from trimming trees to linesmen operations, requires two people, especially for safety reasons. Tromsness said he can usually help out but is still short workers as Kent has been busy at the EEC center either being a mechanic or running it. Tromsness would like to hire someone for the electric department. Buntin moved and Maher seconded to run a help wanted ad in the Erie Record to hire someone in the electric department. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike McGuire along with Randy Dick and Hailey Marple with Kaw Valley Insurance presented an insurance quote using Option 2 AMFirst Insurance for a monthly total of \$9,876.27. Councilmember Tereasa DeMerritt thanked them for their quote and said they would be making a decision soon. They still had Blue Cross/Blue Shield coming to the next council meeting to present their insurance quote. The current insurance with the city does not renew until September 1, 2022 so the council still have time to make a decision.

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City Clerk Melissa Stephens presented a request from Samantha Bohrer with the Fire Department who said they are required each year to collect 15% outside of the fire department for their 24 hours life insurance premium. In the past the city has covered this expense. She asked if the city would cover the expense this year in the amount of \$327.60. Buntin moved and DeMeritt seconded to cover the \$327.60 expense for the fire department's life insurance premium. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Stephens presented the annual Non-GAAP waiver for 2022, Resolution 2022-608. DeMeritt moved and Maher seconded to approve the Non-GAAP waiver Resolution 2022-608. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Stephens presented the Notice to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate. This has to be approved and sent over the County Clerks office no later than July 20,2022. This is to let the county know if we plan to levy more taxes or not compared to the previous year. The auditor said the city could raise the mills by 5 but that is not a guarantee it will be enough to cover cost if valuation goes up. After discussions the city council decided to raise the mills by 10. Maher moved and DeMeritt seconded to raise the mills by 10 and give Notice to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate to the county clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Stephens had the Blue Cross/Blue Shield current insurance quote from Nick Elder. It was asked that Nick come to the next meeting to present the insurance quote. Clerk Stephens will contact Mr. Elder to have him attend the next council meeting.

Maher moved and DeMeritt seconded to hold a 35-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried unanimously.

The regular meeting recessed at 7:25 P.M.

The executive session convened at 7:25 P.M. with council and city attorney remaining.


The executive session adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

The regular session re-convened at 7:40 P.M. with no action taken.

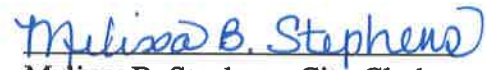
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Upon motion from Maher and a second by DeMeritt the meeting was
unanimously adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

APPROVED July 25, 2022:


Governing Body Member


RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:


Melissa B. Stephens, City Clerk