

MINUTES
GOSHEN CITY COUNCIL
October 13, 2020 at 6:30pm
124 Church Street
Goshen City Hall and Zoom

Call to Order: Mayor Max Poye called the meeting to order at 6:40pm.

Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum: Birch Wright, John Vaillancourt, and Bill Hewat were present and a quorum was declared. Colton Martin, Paula Anderson, and Angie Driver were absent. Lora Nanak the Office Manager; Josh Bailey from Hogue Law Firm, Ken Smith and Chuck Jacobus from the Parks and Recreation Commission, and Linda Moore the Recorder/Treasurer were also in attendance.

Approval of Agenda: Bill Hewat made a motion to approve the agenda as written, 2nd by Birch Wright. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Birch Wright made a motion to accept the September 8, 2020 meeting minutes as written, 2nd by John Vaillancourt. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

John Vaillancourt made a motion to accept the September 20, 2020 special meeting minutes as written, 2nd by Bill Hewat. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Reports for 2020:

Police Department Reports: A summary of the Police Department report is in Council's packets. Due to Covid-19 the Halloween candy distribution event has been cancelled. Chief Ball projected that the Christmas event will be cancelled as well.

Street Report: Mike Bowen stated that the pad for the chat building should be done within a month. Mayor Poye stated that he interviewed 2 people for the full-time road maintenance position and Mike Bowen was chosen as the most qualified candidate. Council agreed to allow Mike Bowen to take the city truck home on nights that bad weather is predicted, this is covered by insurance.

Goshen Volunteer Fire Department Report: Reports are in Council's packets. The fire department is planning on having a special election regarding dues. We will have more information on this at the next meeting.

Planning Commission Report: There was no Planning Commission meeting this month.

Building Official's Report: JD Demotte presented; reports are in Council's packets.

Financial Report: Reports are in Council's packets. At the end of September, the General Fund had a balance of \$746,791.69. Street Fund had a balance of \$61,496.64.

The 2% sales tax went into effect and we received \$27,263.00, it has doubled from what it had been. Lora Nanak will be starting on the 2021 budget and will try to get it out to Council in the next couple of weeks for their review.

Council previously voted on the accidental death and dismemberment policy for council members but the \$812.00 did not get on the budget for this year; Council approved the payment in the amount of \$812.00. No vote was needed.

Parks and Recreation Commission Report: The City of Goshen has been invited to present its park project to the Outdoor Grants Advisory Committee on October 30th. Mayor Poye will make the presentation.

Council requested copies of the PowerPoint presentation.

Ken Smith spoke about the work the Arbor Board has done.

On September 20th City Council had a special meeting to tour two properties that responded to the RFP for potential acquisition. Mr. Chris Callahan, who is one of the property owners, was in attendance and gave a brief summary of his property. Council members gave their input.

Ken Smith informed Council that a third piece of property has been viewed. The pros and cons of this property were discussed and Council asked questions.

The Grant for the RFP property is not due until next year.

The survey for the Mashie property will be submitted soon by Blew and Associates.

City Business

Security Remodel Update: Per ROIA laws, we are required to disclose our security upgrades without listing specific details. Architectural Contractors Inc. will do the needed security upgrades to City Hall in the amount of \$19,694.00. Birch Wright made a motion to go ahead with hiring Architectural Contractors Inc. to do the City Hall upgrades in the amount of \$19,694.00, 2nd by John Vaillancourt. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Internet at the Community Building: Mayor Poye suggested installing Ozarks Go Wi-Fi at the Community Building, the cost is \$49.95 a month with no installation fee. Citizens could be able to use the Wi-Fi. Mayor Poye asked Lora Nanak to make an appointment with Ozarks Go.

Bill Hewat suggested installing better audio-visual equipment at the Community Building.

City Council Vacancy: Alderman Angie Driver has submitted her resignation letter. John Vaillancourt made a motion to accept Angie Driver's resignation from City Council, 2nd by Birch Wright. All voted in favor and the motion carried. The Ward 3 Alderman vacancy will be advertised on the city web-site. Council will vote on a candidate from Ward 3 at the next regular scheduled Council meeting.

Ad Valorem Tax: The milage for the Real and Personal property tax is due. Birch Wright made a motion to adopt ordinance 187 keeping the mils at three (3), 2nd by Bill Hewat. Roll call vote was taken: Bill Hewat, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright, and Mayor Max Poye all voted in favor. Colton Martin and Paula Anderson were absent. Birch Wright made a motion to suspend the rules and read in title only, 2nd by Bill Hewat. Roll call vote was taken: Bill Hewat, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright, and Mayor Poye all voted in favor. Colton Martina and Paula Anderson were absent. Attorney Bailey read in title only: An Ordinance levying a tax on the real and personal property within the city of Goshen, Arkansas, for the year 2020 fixing the rate thereof at three (3) mils and certifying the same to the county clerk of Washington County, Arkansas and to declare an emergency and for tother purposes. Birch Wright made a motion to enact the emergency clause, 2nd by Bill Hewat. Roll call vote was taken: Bill Hewat, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright and Mayor Poye all voted in favor. Paula Anderson and Colton Martin were absent.

Panchos Patio Service: Panchos desires to apply for a permit to serve alcohol on their porch; they need a letter of approval from Council before they can submit an application to ABC. Council asked Chief Ball his opinion; Chief Ball gave his approval. Bill Hewat made a motion to endorse Panchos request in accordance with ABC and Goshen Police regulations, 2nd by Birch Wright. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Riggins Fence Update: Alderman John Vaillancourt has submitted two letters received from the residence involved with the Riggins fence ordinance dispute; all parties involved in this dispute have come to an accepted agreement. Copies of these letters are in Council's packets.

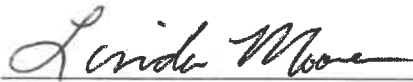
Mayor Max Poye made a motion to go into executive session, 2nd by John Vaillancourt. All voted in favor and the Council members along with the Mayor went into executive session at 8:03pm. Council and Mayor Poye returned at 8:16pm. No action was taken.

Reports/Comments by Mayor, Aldermen, City Attorney or Recorder/Treasurer: Bill Hewat expressed, on behalf of the council, gratitude to the Police Department.

Attorney Bailey said that he has not heard anything from Sharon Baggett's attorney regarding the FOIA update. John Vaillancourt asked about the annexation of Linda Moore's property; Josh Bailey gave an update. Attorney Bailey stated that the agreement with the Elkins court is with the Elkins city attorney and we are waiting to hear back from him; this agreement is for a 1/3 share of costs.

Public Input: Public input was given.

Adjournment: John Vaillancourt made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Birch Wright. All voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:33pm



Linda Moore
Recorder/Treasurer



Max Poye
Mayor