

## CITY OF ISLE COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting Minutes February 9th, 2021

At 6:00 pm the regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by roll call. **Council members present:** Mayor Ernie Frie, Ginger Houle, and Naomi Creech. David Keding and Monica Keding were present via audio video means located in a publicly accessible location of: Rockport American Legion #363, 1701 S Church St. Rockport, TX 78382 ph#361-729-1953.

Other staff present were: Jamie Hubbell, Tim Ramerth, Don Graber, Mark Reichel, Jason Minenko and Damien Toven.

COVID 19 Social distancing protocols followed.

A **Motion** to approve the February Amended Agenda by Houle; second by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** to approve the January Regular meeting minutes by Houle and seconded by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** to approve the January final claims totaling \$99,284.09 by M Keding with second by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** by Houle to approve February claims to date totaling \$155,934.71 with Creech making the second. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**Open Forum:** None.

### **Presentations, Announcements, Complaints and Requests:**

- a. Renewal of McQuoids Consumption and Display Liquor License was reviewed. **Motion** to approve by Houle with second by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- b. Tim Hollerbach, 1030 Malone Park Rd., sent a written request for council consideration of credit on his February water billing statement due to an abnormal high usage reading. It was unclear of the exact cause of the excessive water use, but determined that the 106300 gallons of water did go through the sewer. Frie made the **motion** to not allow a credit with a second by Houle. Four in favor, with Creech opposed. Motion carried.
- c. **Resolution 2021-02A** Internal transfer approval from 2020 county tax settlement reports. Transfer \$179,993.82 from recorded 225 fund to the general 100 fund applied to public safety expense. **Motion** to approve by Houle and second by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- d. Council review of the current Peddler/Solicitor permit fees ended with a motion to amend the fee schedule to \$20 per day, \$150 per six months and \$300 per year. Houle with the **motion** to approve with Creech making the second. All in favor, none opposed.

### **Public Hearings:**

The Public hearing portion of the meeting was reopened at 6:16PM by **Motion** made by Houle and second by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

- a. Property easement eminent domain process conclusion. Christopher DeCoursey was present and had no comment to discuss at that time.

The public hearing portion of the meeting was closed at 6:17PM by **Motion** from Houle and second by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

### **Department Reports:**

**Public Works** – Supervisor Minenko provided his department activities report for January. He reported that they completed their extensive city wide flushing schedule. Completed bi-annual ISO review for fire department water regulations and took down both Isle’s and Wahkon’s

Christmas decorations. Work order report reviewed and \$43,475.67 total receipts for January water and sewer bills received.

**Police Department-** Chief Reichel presented his January report of 282 calls for service. See packet for summary report. On call part time Officer Dennis Closson turned in his letter of retirement.

**Liquor Store Operations-** Report presented by Manager Graber. January revenues were up \$6948.88 from 2020 with \$64,254.79 in total sales revenue; expenses were down by \$44,149.98 with \$23,302.05 in total expenses. Total profit for January was \$40,952.74 with a year to date net effect of profit at \$40,952.74. Off sale sales are up and with the on sale department closed, the overhead expenses are staying as profit. Started a new promotion with a chance to win an electric power washer. No purchase necessary for customers to enter. Growing inventory for spring and summer. Motion by Houle to not make the monthly budget transfer at this time. Will review each month. Creech seconded the motion. Four in favor, D Keding opposed. Motion carried.

**Fire Department-** Chief Miller was not present but provided information on the DNR grant opportunities that he is working on. He will review in detail next month. The tabled discussion of the Fire Relief Pension increase was reopened. The request to increase the annual service year pension payment to \$1650 effective January 1, 2021, was approved by DKeding by **motion** with the second by Creech.. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**Planning Commission** – No report

**Airport Committee** – Don Dahlen reported there was no meeting, but commented that all of the tree obstructions have been removed. Final clean up will occur in the Spring.

**City Engineer** –Tim Ramerth presented his January report. He will have the completed plan in the next two weeks and should go to bid by March. The state park has contacted him and they are interested in hooking up in 2021, but they are trying to get the funding together. Industrial Park EDA board discussion and grant opportunities will be discussed during the New Business portion of the meeting later.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- a. Reopened the tabled discussion regarding the purchase offer for the Merit lot(s) from Juliana O’Neil. O’Neil was present and illustrated that their plans were to create a “train station” appearance and be a trail stop and storage for ATVs; providing rest rooms and amenities to the trail users. A **motion** from Houle to not post the property for sale at this time was followed by a second by Creech. Frie stated that he would like the decision tabled and M Keding opposed the original motion, with D Keding agreeing with the opposition. Motion stalled, not carried.
- b. A Right of Way Vacation petition prepared by Toven for two portions of ROW at the Isle Airport in Eastside Township presented to council for approval by **motion** from Houle and second by Creech, accepted. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

#### **New Business:**

- a. **Resolution 2021-02B Accepting donations** approved by **Motion** by Houle, second by Creech; for \$50.00. \$50 from the Isle Muni Fireball promo the Police Department. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- b. Industrial Park/EDA grant proposal work session with Gail Levenson from Widseth presentation via audio/video connection. Levenson presented the council with their options of what to apply for. Ramerth quoted an estimated \$50,000 in preliminary engineering (not eligible for grant reimbursement) and council determined to apply for Phase I four (4) lots development costs. Motion to apply to EDA Federal 80/20% and MN DEED 50/50% grants by DKeding and second by Houle. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**Clerk’s Report:**

- a. Hubbell shared the Minnesota Department of Commerce opportunity for energy assistance program and qualifications.
- b. Reported the award of the East Central Energy grant for an electric vehicle charging station that will be installed at the city park.

**Financials:**

- a. January General bank balance: \$1,160,573.33 Liquor Fund bank balance: \$50,407.87
- b. (see bank balance statement sheet for Savings and Investments)

**Closed Session:**

The closed portion of the meeting to discuss protected legal counsel discussion pertaining to non-public negotiations for eminent domain, was closed at 7:16PM by **Motion** made by Houle and second by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

The closed session concluded and the public meeting was re-opened by motion by Houle and seconded by Creech at 7:51PM. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion by Frie to approve 1225 E Superior St; Riley Magnuson’s counter offer; for utility easement agreement compensation and allow 730 days delayed hook up after completion of the Superior phase. Second by Houle, all in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

No agreement terms acceptable by Christopher DeCoursey at 430 East Isle Street, therefore **motion** by Houle to approve **Resolution 2021-02C** to use Eminent Domain to acquire easement required for the utility project; Second by Creech, all in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**Adjourn Regular Meeting** to sign claims at 7:54PM: **Motion** to adjourn Houle, seconded by Creech. Next regular meeting, March 9th, 2021. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Dated on this 9<sup>th</sup>, day of February, 2021

APPROVED on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ginger Houle – Mayor Pro tem

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jamie Hubbell, MCMC Clerk-Treasurer

CERTIFIED BY VOTE:		
Motion	_____	
Second	_____	
AYE		NAY
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAOMI CREECH	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	ERNIE FRIE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	GINGER HOULE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	DAVID KEDING	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	MONICA KEDING	<input type="checkbox"/>

