

CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS

City Council Meeting

Monday, June 7, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Five Points, Washington Banquet Room

Call to Order	Mayor Manier called the regular meeting of Monday, June 7, 2021 to order at 6:30 p.m. in a banquet room at Five Points, Washington, 360 N. Wilmore Road, Washington, Illinois
Roll Call	Present and answering roll call were Aldermen Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens and Yoder.
Also Present	City Engineer Dennis Carr, Planning and Zoning Director Jon Oliphant, Public Works Director Kevin Schone, Finance Director Joanie Baxter, City Clerk Valeri Brod, and Press
Present Remotely	none
Pledge of Allegiance	All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.
Agenda Review	<p>The agenda was reviewed and stood as presented.</p> <p>Alderman Stevens asked for an update on the City Administrator Search. Mayor Manier shared that a consultant firm will visit on June 14 to begin the process.</p>
Approve Consent Agenda	<p>Mayor Manier presented the Consent Agenda for approval of the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) approval of minutes of May 17, 2021 City Council Meetingb) Lawndale Pay Request #8c) Hilldale Pay Request #1d) Lawndale Private Utility Pay Request #2 <p>Alderman Cobb moved and Alderman Butler seconded.</p> <p>Alderman Stevens shared that she provided her statement regarding Agenda Item XII-A of the May 17, 2021 meeting to be included in the minutes those minutes.</p> <p>On roll call on the motion to approve was: <u>Ayes: 7</u> Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder <u>Nays: 0</u> <u>Motion declared carried.</u></p>
Announcements and Proclamations	None
Audience Comments	Bob and Lisa Barry, owners of Tres Rojas Winery, were in attendance and stated that they will share a statement during Agenda Item XII-C, concerning the Winery.

Standing Committee- Finance & Personnel Committee	Chairman Daniel Cobb, Finance & Personnel Committee, shared that there are no agenda items for this meeting.
Standing Committee- Public Safety Committee	Chairman Brian Butler, Public Safety Committee, shared that there are no agenda items and that monthly reports were provided to everyone by Police Chief McCoy and Fire Chief Brown. Chairman Butler noted that Northern Tazewell Fire Protection District calls, that were outside of the city, are about three times the volume of calls from Central Fire Protection District and Pleasant View Fire District.
Standing Committee- Public Works Committee	Chairman Mike Brownfield, Public Works Committee, introduced City Engineer Dennis Carr who shared information about the Bid Award for Crack Sealing. Mr. Carr noted that the bid request went out in the newspaper and on the website and only received one response from Ace in the Hole. They provided a bid of \$2.65 for crack sealing on asphalt pavement and \$3.02 for concrete pavement. Mr. Carr stated that some of the cost is for traffic control. Mr. Carr noted that the city had budgeted \$80,000 and shared they may look into shifting some of the money over to concrete curb work.

Alderman Brownfield moved and Alderman Cobb seconded.

Chairman Brownfield stated kudos to staff for seeking out a lower bid.

On roll call on the motion to approve was:

Ayes: 7 Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion declared carried.

Public Works Director Kevin Schone gave an update regarding the concrete assistance bid award. He shared that C&T Concrete was awarded the bid which will save about \$22,000 compared to the next lowest bidder. He also noted that some other items were shifted to them which were not in the original bid so a new contractor will be sought for those items. Mr. Schone also shared that the backhoe bid document should go out this week as well as a quote for a new message board. He noted they budgeted \$22,00 for the message board but most bidders don't use Sourcewell for competitive bidding. Mr. Schone shared that they are testing a new mower that is nearly half the price as other models and they hope to order it next week. He also shared that they are looking for a cold planer for the Cat Skid Steer that they will possibly purchase through Altorfer or a member of Sourcewell which may be cheaper than the competitive bid process through Sourcewell.

Mr. Carr shared that they are working on the Hilddale sanitary sewer that will require an extension. He noted that our camera abilities didn't pick up a line which contains a collapsing pipe and we have \$30,000 in budget for the change order to address it. He shared that the Lawndale project is near completion and they will probably look at using seed, straw and a fall overseed. They will be running this by the residents. Mr. Carr noted that we are getting too late in the year to lay sod. He also shared that they did the final walk-thru on Bobolink and they are trying to get the seed/sod to green up again with extra watering. He went on to share that the Stratford bridge is repaved with a small puddling issue and they are going to fix it.

Mayor None

Adopt Resolution: none

2nd Reading Ordinance: Approving the Increase in Glendale Cemetery Fees

Mayor Manier provided the second reading of the following ordinance, by title and brief synopsis: an ordinance approving an increase in rates and fees at Glendale Cemetery to cover the increase of expenses and materials.

Alderman Brownfield moved and Alderman Cobb seconded.

On roll call on the motion to approve was:

Ayes: 7 Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion declared carried.

2nd Reading Ordinance: Amending the I-1 Outside Storage Zoning Code Text

Mayor Manier provided the second reading of the following ordinance, by title and brief synopsis: an ordinance amending the zoning code text allowing up to 50 percent of an I-1 lot to be utilized for outside storage when no part of the lot is adjacent to a residential district.

Alderman Brownfield moved and Alderman Stevens seconded.

On roll call on the motion to approve was:

Ayes: 7 Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion declared carried.

1st Reading Ordinance: Granting a Special Use to Allow a Winery to Operate at 1774 E. Cruger Road.

Mayor Manier provided the first reading of the following ordinance, by title and brief synopsis: an ordinance amending two of the conditions as part of the operation of a winery at 1774 E. Cruger Road pertaining to its public hours of operation and its allowance for outdoor amplified sound.

Alderman Cobb motioned to amend the ordinance to allow a closing time of 9:00pm Sundays-Thursdays and 11:00pm Fridays and Saturdays. Mr. Butler seconded.

Mayor Manier invited Bob and Lisa Barry, owners of Tres Rojas Winery, to provide a statement. Ms. Barry shared that the intent to increase the hours is to have private events inside not to create more noise outside. The events include showers, rehearsal dinners and craft nights by Art at the Bodega and local vendors. Ms. Barry shared that this will bring more tax revenue and support other local business that would like to use their venue. The Barrys sent a letter that was provided to council and is attached and made part of these minutes. Ms. Barry also shared that a recent sound recording during a "music on the patio" event recorded more bird sounds and truck noise than music. City Attorney Schreyer asked if the amendment affects both the hours of operation and the hours of amplified noise and noted that it is unusual to have a motion on first reading. This motion is to consider modifying the text which will be presented in two weeks. Alderman Butler asked if the Planning and Zoning Commission set the specific hours. Mr. Oliphant stated that the ordinance brought to the Planning and Zoning meeting was to omit the current ordinance allowing the winery to operate as any other business in the city. He shared that the Planning and

Zoning Commission opted to keep the limited hours in the special use permit but increase the hours of operation. Alderman Stevens asked how this will generate tax revenue for the city. Ms. Barry shared that longer hours means more product sold and tax revenue collected, plus other businesses using their venue will see an increase in sales and taxes generated. Alderman Stevens asked if the taxes go to the business origin or the point of sale. Mr. Oliphant confirmed that sales made within the city, generate taxes for the city. Ms. Barry shared it is also for other vendors as well. Mr. Barry noted they held a private event that allowed for sales to take place between 6-9pm allowing for additional time to collect sales tax that wouldn't have been collected otherwise. Mayor Manier gave an example of a caterer who has to pay the sales tax at the location of sale. Alderman Stevens stated it was the Winery's idea for the limited hours and the neighbors asked for the decreased hours. Ms. Barry stated that there was a misconception with the public tasting room hours being separate from private events.

Motion carried by voice vote.

1st Reading
Ordinance:
Amending the Zoning
Ordinance by
Rezoning Properties
on Catherine Street
from I-1 to R-1

Mayor Manier provided the first reading of the following ordinance, by title and brief synopsis: an ordinance rezoning the 704 and 708 Catherine Street from I-1, light industrial, to R-1, single- and two-Family Residential.

Alderman's
Comments

None were provided.

Adjournment

At 6:58 p.m. Alderman Cobb moved and Alderman Brownfield seconded to move.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Valeri Brod, City Clerk

Bob and Lisa Barry

Tres Rojas Winery
1774 E Cruger Rd
Washington IL 61571

June 7, 2021

City of Washington IL

Mayor Manler and City Council Members
301 Walnut St
Washington IL 61571

Dear Mayor Manler and Aldermen,

We would like to address the requested changes to the current Special Use for Tres Rojas Winery. For us, this amendment is not a request to hold concerts or provide music, but to be open to private parties who want to rent or host their event at our facility after our posted Public Tasting Room hours.

Back when we were first discussing our business plan, we stated our Tasting Room hours would end at 6pm during the week, 8pm Friday/Saturday and 5pm on Sunday, because that is typical for wineries across the nation. However, we perceived a difference between being open to the public vs. being open for private or ticketed events. We apologize if we were not clear in conveying that expectation. For example: Art at the Bodega posted a facebook event for an art project at the winery from 6-9pm on a Wednesday night. We didn't expect to hear anyone had issue with this, as this was a ticketed event and not open to the public to walk-in.

On June 2nd, the Zoning Committee voted in favor to amend our request, recommending to extend the hours by 2 hours; 8pm Sunday - Thursday and to 10pm Friday - Saturday. However, we respectfully request the hours to extend to 9pm Sunday-Thursday and 11pm Friday-Saturday, just to ensure we have enough time allotted to whatever may arise as a business opportunity.

We do not anticipate extending our public tasting room hours. In fact, we will revert to decreased winter hours from November - March.

Since our doors have opened, we have been overwhelmed with requests to host fundraisers, wedding rehearsal dinners, bridal and baby showers, reunions and memorial services, etc. Most of these have taken place during our public tasting room hours. However several have taken place afterwards.

The goal of annexing our property into city limits was primarily to ensure the City benefited from the tax revenue, and for Tres Rojas to benefit from the City resources and regulations. As a business of the City of Washington, it is in everyone's best interest to extend our hours for the following reasons:

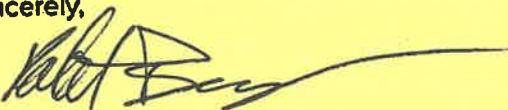
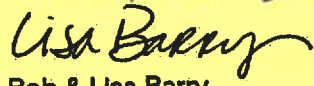
-
- Continued partnership and promotion of other community businesses (Artists, Musicians, caterers, florists) along with non-profit fundraising efforts for the local school district, St. Jude, Junior League of Peoria to date.
 - Recreational options for residents, especially after this pandemic.
 - Increased tax revenue to the City from Tres Rojas Winery as well as our Partner businesses who now have an additional option to expand their business offerings on our premises.

In regard to the one objection at the zoning meeting raised by an adjacent neighbor residing in Tazewell County:

1. For the record we have not hosted a wedding to date. We have only had music on the patio twice and have/will record the decibel levels for your review. We contend that any outdoor amplified music at the winery facility will not be "loud or unusual" at 1,600 ft from the nearest home, nor will any future event held at the facility.
2. Both the City of Washington and Tazewell County have noise limitations, and we expect to be fully compliant with all existing City and County ordinances regarding outside amplified music.
3. We should not have business hour restrictions that prevent us from providing indoor amplified music or other non-music events indoors or out.

We ask for your approval to expand our hours of operation by 3 hours as requested above, rather than accept the PZC recommendations, as our success directly and positively affects the City of Washington and local businesses.

Sincerely,



Bob & Lisa Barry