

**CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING - MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2020
BANQUET ROOM C, FIVE POINTS WASHINGTON
360 N. WILMOR ROAD – 6:30 P.M.**

Call to Order Mayor Manier called the regular meeting of Monday, March 16, 2020 to order at 6:30 p.m. in Banquet Room C at Five Points Washington.

Roll Call Present and answering roll call were Aldermen, Adams, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, and Yoder. Aldermen Black and Dingledine were absent.

Also present was City Administrator Ray Forsythe, Finance Director Joanie Baxter, P & D Director Jon Oliphant, Public Works Director Kevin Schone, Chief of Police Mike McCoy, Deputy Chief of Police Jeff Stevens, City Treasurer Ellen Dingledine, City Clerk Pat Brown, and the Press.

Pledge of Allegiance All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed prior to the Pledge to reflect on what our nation is facing with the COVID-19 virus.

Agenda Review The Agenda was reviewed and stood as presented.

Approve Consent Agenda Alderman Butler moved and Alderman Brownfield seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Items included on the Consent Agenda were minutes of the March 2, 2020 regular City Council meeting; bills & payroll; purchase authorization: pool vehicle replacement, Police Department; and payment authorization: progress payment #1, equipment & storage building, Wastewater Treatment Plant #2, FBi Buildings, Inc. On roll call on the motion to approve the vote was:
Ayes: 6 Adams, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder
Nays: 0
Motion declared carried.

Announcements None.

Audience Comments None.

Finance & Personnel Committee Alderman Daniel Cobb, Finance & Personnel Committee, reported two items for consideration (1st Reading Ordinance C, Amending Electric Franchise Agreement with Ameren, request to waive 2nd reading and 1st Reading Ordinance D, Authorizing Gas Franchise Extension Agreement with Ameren), noting that Committee is recommending approval of both items.

Public Safety Committee – purchase authorization: new squad car equipment Alderman Brian Butler, Public Safety Committee, reported that Committee brought forward for consideration Item C on the Consent Agenda, purchase authorization for pool vehicle replacement. He brought forward for Council an authorization to purchase new squad car equipment from Ragan Communications in an amount not-to-exceed \$27,517. He asked Deputy Police Chief Stevens to provide a brief summary, noting that Committee is in favor of the request. Following comment, Alderman Brownfield moved and Alderman Adams seconded to authorize the purchase as presented. On roll call the vote was:
Ayes: 6 Adams, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder
Nays: 0
Motion declared carried.

Police Chief McCoy shared they are receiving COVID-19 updates daily and are doing their best to keep everyone abreast of the information that is coming in.

Fire Chief Traver shared they are temporarily updating their staff the best they can and requesting PPE supplies through the health department who have pledged their support.

Police Chief McCoy shared they established a department cleaning process today that will be in place for facility cleaning and squad car cleanings on a regular schedule. Alderman Stevens asked if the Fire Department and Police Department Facebook pages will have updates posted and Deputy Chief Stevens replied from a Police Department perspective, they will only be posting local things of importance as they do not want to become a primary source for COVID-19 information, which is better left to the Centers for Disease Control and IL Department of Public Health. Fire Chief Traver indicated that is where they are getting their updates as well.

Public Works Committee – contract authorization: WWTP #1 digester cleaning Alderman Mike Brownfield, Public Works Committee, brought forward for Council authorization a Contract with Stewart Spreading in an amount not-to-exceed \$24,750 for the sludge removal. He asked Public Works Director Schone to provide a brief summary, noting that Committee is in favor of the request. Public Works Director Schone shared this came about through conversations with IEPA and their expectance of the Phase 2B Trunkline being bid out the fall of 2019, which did not occur. He indicated that the digester cleaning will keep us moving forward in the decommissioning of plant #1 and should prevent us from having to renew the permit at a cost of \$10K. Alderman Adams moved and Alderman Cobb seconded to authorize the contract as presented. On roll call the vote was:
Ayes: 6 Adams, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder
Nays: 0
Motion declared carried.

Public Works Director Schone shared Public Works crews are also cleaning trucks the best they can and Interim City Engineer John Anderson has put on hold the Stratford Drive Bridge Project until we know a little more about the COVID-19 virus.

Mayor Manier asked City Administrator Forsythe to provide an update on recent decisions regarding City Hall operations. City Administrator Forsythe provided the following: 1) Governor did sign legislation suspending provisions of the Open Meetings Act relating to in-person attendance that allows for remote participation in meetings of the public body; 2) City Hall office is closed to visitors; 3) utility bills can be paid online and at drive-up payment box, envelopes are being provided just outside the main City Hall entrance for residents to place payments in and drop in payment box; 4) our IT provider is setting us up to remotely to work from home; 5) our first City Council meeting in April will be a virtual meeting; 6) staff is able to be responsive to residents, some are reporting to work in the office and some will be working remotely; 7) complying as much as possible with no group activities greater than 10; and 8) the April 1st bid opening for N. Lawndale Avenue will have virtual access.

Mayor's Comments

City Administrator Forsythe indicated that detail sheets were sent out as a supplement to the budget and asked if there were any questions. Alderman Stevens shared that it is hard to ask when you don't know what to ask. Finance Director Baxter shared that this is not the final document and a narrative will be included for each fund. City Administrator Forsythe indicated that when each division had narrative as it came forward for review and will be incorporated into the final budget document. Alderman Stevens shared she needs to see it on paper and has no questions now.

Final Budget Review

City Administrator Forsythe provided second reading of the following ordinance, by title and brief synopsis: an ordinance adopting the City of Washington Official Map of Zoning Districts for 2020. Adoption of this ordinance would approve the City of Washington Official Zoning Map for 2020 as required by state statute. Alderman Cobb moved and Alderman Butler seconded to adopt the ordinance as read. On roll call the vote was:

Adopt ord, adopting 2020 zoning map

Ayes: 6 Adams, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion declared carried.

City Administrator Forsythe provided second reading of the following ordinance, by title and brief synopsis: an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk of the City of Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois, to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Washington and County of Tazewell to provide building inspections and reviews. Adoption of this ordinance would provide for an intergovernmental agreement with Tazewell County to provide for use of its building inspectors to satisfy the City's needs for inspections and plan reviews. Alderman Cobb moved and Alderman Adams seconded to adopt the ordinance as read. On roll call the vote was:

Adopt ord, authrz IGA w/Tazewell County for building inspections & reviews

Ayes: 6 Adams, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion declared carried.

City Administrator Forsythe provided first reading of the following ordinance, by title and brief synopsis: an ordinance amending the terms of an Electric Franchise Agreement with Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a Ameren Illinois. Adoption of this ordinance would add a section to allow the compensation terms of the agreement to be changed in accordance with the 3% growth clause. A payment of \$20,352.50 will be made in recognition of the growth clause from August of 2018 through April of 2020 with the annual payments amended to be \$117,300 through 2033. Alderman Butler moved and Alderman Adams seconded to waive second reading and proceed with adoption of the ordinance as read. On roll call the vote was:

Waive 2nd reading ord, amending Electric Franchise Agreement

Ayes: 6 Adams, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion declared carried.

Alderman Brownfield moved and Alderman Butler seconded to adopt the ordinance amending the terms of an Electric Franchise Agreement with Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a Ameren Illinois. Alderman Stevens indicated the 2nd reading is being waived in order to expedite the payment which is a benefit to us. There was no further discussion and on roll call the vote was:

Adopt ord, amending Electric Franchise Agreement

Ayes: 6 Adams, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion declared carried.

City Administrator Forsythe provided first reading of the following ordinances, by title and brief synopsis: an ordinance extending the authorization to Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a Ameren Illinois its successors and assigns to construct, operate and maintain a gas utility system in the City of Washington, County of Tazewell, and State of Illinois. Adoption of this ordinance would change the franchise payment from being based on a compensation formula to a flat dollar amount of \$47,110 per year. A 3% growth clause will also be added and the agreement will also be extended an additional 10 years with a final termination date of 2050; an ordinance approving the transfer of Volume Cap in connection with Private Activity Bond Issues, and related matters. Adoption of this ordinance would approve participation in the First Time Homebuyers Program; and an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Washington, Illinois by amending Chapter 154.092 entitled "C-2 Districts." Adoption of this ordinance would allow for motor vehicle sales businesses to be located as a permitted use in the C-2 zoning district provided the total lot size does not exceed one acre. These ordinances will be listed on the next meeting agenda for action.

1st reading ords, extending authrz Ameren Illinois, gas franchise; approve 1st time homebuyers program; and amend Chapter 154.092, C-2 Districts

Alderman Stevens shared that the Mayor and City Council has received an email from a former City Administrator bringing up certain points of the solid waste contract and made a motion to add an agenda item to the next City Council meeting to discuss the possible price reduction to \$14.25 which was on the original contract for the duration of the time we don't have the carts. She shared City Administrator Forsythe has been working on an option for those who don't use a year landscape option and would like to make a motion to add this as an agenda item at next

Alderman's Comments

Alderman's Comments, month's meeting. Alderman Adams indicated that he was gone last week and would like more
Cont.) clarification and seconded the motion. On roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 5 Adams, Butler, Cobb, Stevens, Yoder

Nays: 1 Brownfield

Motion declared carried.

Alderman Stevens also asked to see where we are on the intergovernmental agreement with the City, Township, and Park District at the next meeting and City Administrator Forsythe replied that hopefully it will be on the agenda.

Adjournment

At 6:56 p.m. Alderman Cobb moved and Alderman Brownfield seconded to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Patricia S. Brown, City Clerk