

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE ANNA CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 19TH, 2021**

The Anna City Council met in regular session at Anna City Hall at 5:00 p.m. on October 19th, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Steve Hartline. The roll call went as follows: Present were Commissioner Michael Bigler, Commissioner Bryan Miller, Commissioner Martha Ann Webb and Mayor Steve Hartline. Commissioner Bryan was absent.

A brief discussion was had regarding the meeting minutes from the October 5th, 2021 meeting. It was decided an error was included within the area of the purchasing policy. This was noted and will be corrected.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 5TH, 2021 ANNA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES AS THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF SAID MEETING PER CORRECTION.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

City Administrator Bigler updated the council on the following projects; (1) The City of Anna will be applying for Tree City USA 2021. Our plan is to host annual tree plantings, including a planting on November 10th for Veteran's Day, near the band shell. (2) A meeting was held with City Administrator Bigler and Fire Chief Dammerman last week regarding the new fire truck that was ordered. Chief Dammerman reported that it is on plan to be delivered May 2022. He did inform Ms. Bigler that the new truck was ordered without scene lights and he requested the City order lights to be installed. The estimate for the cost of these lights is \$10,000.00. Mayor Hartline asked Commissioner Miller to follow up with Chief Dammerman. (3) We applied for the Tourism/Festivals grant and have checked twice to see when we will hear back but unfortunately, they are still weeding through the applications and do not know when they will make selections. If we are selected, we are still unsure if we will receive funds this fiscal year or next. The CEO kids presented their class business; they are wanting to host a Hallmark style Christmas. City Administrator Bigler and Public Works Manager Dahmer met with them and listed to their pitch. We think it would be a great idea to include their

Hallmark style Christmas with our Small Business Saturday/Gumdrop Drive/Giving Parade. We budgeted \$8,000.00 this fiscal year for festivals. Would the council be interested in helping the CEO kids by paying for a portion of the rental of an ice-skating rink? Commissioner Webb asked if the City of Anna helps sponsor the Annabelle Festival. Administrator Bigler replied that we have not, but they also have never approached the city. We have \$3,180.00 left in the festival budget. Aeriz is donating \$5,000.0 to the CEO program to help with their project. The CEO students would run the ice-skating event. Mayor Hartline asked what they wanted us to do. Administrator Bigler replied that the CEO students will be presenting their idea to the entire council at the next council meeting; she just wanted to give everyone a head's up so they can begin thinking about it. Mayor Hartline commented that the City of Anna's Colorfest event was a great success; he's heard nothing but compliments and that it was done very well. He asked what the next event is, Pumpkin Town? Administrator Bigler replied that the Rotary Club is in charge of Pumpkin Town. That our next event is Gumdrop Drive/The Giving Parade. We have businesses decorate trees and light poles. Mayor Hartline asked where the CEO students are wanting to have the ice-skating rink. Administrator Bigler replied that they would like to utilize East Davie Street. Police Chief Watkins suggested that since the CEO program consists of students from various Union County schools, maybe we should ask other towns for donations as well. Administrator Bigler agreed that the CEO students could ask other entities to donate as well. (4) At the IML conference Ms. Bigler commented that one of her favorite sessions was "5 steps to downtown revitalization". She asked Mr. Moran to run a report called a Customized Trade Area and has a phone conference set for this Friday to review. (5) Push Tax- Ms. Bigler explained that a push tax is a 1 cent tax collected on each push of a video gaming machine. Marion has passed a push tax but is currently holding off on enforcement. There is currently a lawsuit against the tax; however, some say that you can be grandfathered into it. Mayor Hartline asked what grandfathered into means. Administrator Bigler replied that if you have passed it, you can implement it, however, if you have not passed it prior to the state doing away with the tax, you cannot. Some say it is controversial. Commissioner Miller asked why it's controversial. Mayor Hartline replied probably because it's a tax. Administrator Bigler commented that the details of who handles the burden of collecting, etc. causes some issues. Administrator Bigler commented that she just wanted to get a feel from everyone on the issue. If everyone agrees, it will be on the next agenda. (6) Ms. Bigler provided a great deal of facts regarding the Cairo Port project and statistics regarding our region and port/transport information.

At 5:12 pm Fire Chief Dammerman entered the meeting. Mayor Hartline asked Chief Dammerman to inform the council of the new fire truck light issue. Chief Dammerman said he has not yet received the quote. He commented that he feels as though they need the scene lighting. Mayor Hartline stated we will follow up once the pricing is received. Chief Dammerman apologized for not being able to provide more at this time. Mayor Hartline replied that it wasn't his fault; he can't report anything without a quote. Mayor Hartline instructed Chief Dammerman to get together with Commissioner Miller and City Administrator Bigler once the pricing was received.

A motion was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Webb that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE TO PAY ALL APPROVED BILLS.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

City Administrator Bigler explained that she spoke with the City Engineer and unfortunately the pay estimate from ET Simonds was not yet ready; therefore, the item would have to be tabled. She explained that Mr. Howell is working with ET Simonds on some of the quantities and pricing and they will have it ready soon.

Administrator Bigler reminded the council that they had to advertise for an RFQ for an engineer as part of the federal grant process. Southern Five handled this process and only one RFQ was received and it was from Clarida & Ziegler Engineering.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE ACCEPTING CLARIDA & ZIEGLER REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Mayor Hartline commented on the meeting held between the AJ Water Commission and the City entities. He commented on how nice it was to show unity between the entities. Mayor Hartline then asked Commissioner Webb to report to the council on the meeting.

Commissioner Webb commented that on October 14th Mayor Hartline and herself attended the AJ Water Commission meeting to represent the City of Anna. At the meeting those present were Steve Haldeman representing Jonesboro, Ken Pitts representing Union County, the AJ Water Commission board as well as Gary Dahmer, City of Anna Public Works Manager. Discussion was held at the meeting regarding the three entities that made up the AJ Water Commission, Anna, Jonesboro and Union County all chipping in some ARPA money for the construction of a new well. Everyone was in agreement that this is important, and necessary and a shared project. Wes Wilkins, the AJ Water Commission Attorney, submitted a letter which was included in the agenda packet that outlines what is being requested. For the City of Anna, we have received just over \$517,000 and they are asking for \$34,750 from the City of Anna. Commissioner Webb proposed we agree to this and authorize an intergovernmental agreement to be signed.

Mayor Hartline commented that Commissioner Webb did a great job reporting back to the council. He also commented that the meeting showed unity and that by moving forward with this gives AJ Water Commission the ability to improve water quality.

City Administrator Bigler explained that the purchasing policy was updated with Mayor Hartline's suggestions and it is presented as discussed at the last meeting. Mayor Hartline explained that there are four brackets for purchasing; \$1,000 and under requires the department head; \$1,001 to \$2,500 requires the department head and city administrator; \$2,501 to \$10,000 requires the department head, city administrator and commissioner over the department; and anything \$10,001 and over requires the department head, city administrator, and full council approval.

A motion was made by Mayor Hartline and seconded by Commissioner Webb that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2021-20; UPDATING THE PURCHASING POLICY** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

City Administrator Bigler explained that there are currently several pots of money available through grant programs. We are applying for an Economic Development Grant which has a grant ceiling of \$5,000,000. This grant would be to do extensive dirt work to make every lot 'shovel ready', it would extend the gas, water and sewer

mains, including a lift station. We would also create a road for access to all lots, both front and back, and upsize our watermain to 8". After doing a water study, we found that we don't need to have a water tower on the east end of town, but upsizing our current 10" main would assist with providing water and fire protection to the east end of town. Mayor Hartline inquired if this would help with Lick Creek's water situation and Public Works Manager Gary Dahmer said yes. City Administrator Bigler explained that the grant requires a max of 20% match, which would be \$1,000,000. She explained that our match would come from several sources, which are outlined as follows: \$400,000 between MFT and Rebuild IL MFT; \$300,000 between reserve accounts for General, Gas and Sewer Funds; and \$300,000 written into the FY23 special projects operating budget.

Mayor Hartline asked what the turnaround time is for this grant. Administrator Bigler stated that they say it is a 'quick turnaround', but with the state you just don't know for sure. Mayor Hartline asked if this was approving the grant application. Administrator Bigler explained that this means the council is in favor of the city making an application. Southern 5 has to apply for us because this grant requires an agency to make the application. Mayor Hartline explained that if the City of Anna is to expand, the only way to go is East. Commissioner Miller asked if this would help Bev Tweedy. Administrator Bigler explained that no, our sewer main is as close as it will get to her business. She needs a grinder pump and a plumber to attach to our main. Commissioner Bigler stated that the point of this grant is to help attain new businesses. Commissioner Miller questioned if Bev was aware of this. Administrator Bigler said it has been quite some time ago, but it was discussed with our engineers, they shot the elevations and we talked about what was required to get City sewer services. Mayor Hartline asked if this was just permission to apply? Administrator Bigler said yes. Mayor Hartline said he appreciated the explanation and common sense says if we are getting \$4,000,000 for a cost of \$1,000,000 it is worth it. He would still like to sit down and have Administrator Bigler explain where the match will come from so that he can understand. Commissioner Webb asked if we don't get the grant, will the money just stay there. Mayor Hartline said yes, and if we don't get the grant, we should still be aggressive with growth to the east.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-38; U.S. DCEO EDA Grant Application.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results.

Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Administrator Bigler explained that IDOT will be resurfacing Old 51 from the 4-way stop to Makanda. The last agreement the city had with them was in 2001. This agreement would allow IDOT to resurface our street side parking spaces at the same time they are resurfacing the road. The cost to the city will be \$3,680.00. Mayor Hartline inquired on when the project will start and PW Manager Dahmer stated they are hoping next summer. Commissioner Webb asked if they were widening the street and PW Manager Dahmer stated that he did not know. Administrator Bigler added that IDOT has a future project planned to do Route 146 from the 4-way to Jonesboro and this should include curbs. Mayor Hartline asked when and PW Manager Dahmer stated in 2023 or 2024.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-39; AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF ILLINOIS/IDOT.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Administrator Bigler explained that when the FY22 budget was presented, a new service vehicle for Water and Gas was in the budget. A vehicle went down, so now it is time to make this purchase. The request is for authorization so we can begin looking for a vehicle and the request matches the budget. Mayor Hartline asked what we are looking for and PW Manager Dahmer explained we are looking for a used service truck. Mayor Hartline asked if Commissioner Bryan was aware and PW Manager Dahmer said it was discussed previously and he can talk with her again.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE AUTHORIZING THE GAS AND WATER CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASE UP TO \$50,000 FOR A USED SERVICE VEHICLE.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Mayor Hartline tabled the Special Event Liquor License for Bryan and Mary K Miller.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Mayor Hartline that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE A FENCING APPLICATION FOR 114 KOHLER AVENUE – BRYAN MILLER.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Commissioner Miller abstained. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE A FENCING APPLICATION FOR 100 TURNER – ANNA HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE A ZONING PERMIT FOR 501 MORGAN STREET – WILLIAM RHODES.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the city usage request by Anna District 37. Tracee Foley, from the audience, reported that Anna District 37 and Mr. Lannom said the kids thoroughly enjoyed using the park and they thank the city for all their work. Commissioner Webb asked if Pumpkin Town was still being worked on and questioned the accessibility if the street was closed. PW Manager Dahmer stated that only the section of road in front of the playground was closed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE CITY USAGE REQUEST FOR ANNA DISTRICT 37 – OCTOBER 18, 20 AND 22ND.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Mayor Hartline asked if there were any Department Head Reports. PW Manger Dahmer stated that hydrant flushing was scheduled for Monday. A hydrant was broken during this process and it might be expensive. Dahmer also reported that a sewer main repair on Route 146 by Jefferson Street will be in the near future, we've received two bids and are waiting on a third.

Discussion was held regarding Commissioner Miller's application for a private block party. Commissioner Miller reported that he contacted Carbondale about their block party application and he sent that on to Administrator Bigler. He requested a block party application be added to the agenda next meeting. Administrator Bigler asked for clarification on if she was to write an ordinance and incorporate the provided form. Commissioner Miller said he could get the ordinance from Carbondale and Administrator Bigler said she would reach out to them.

Mayor Hartline told Administrator Bigler to follow up. City Attorney Foley said that our application is more for selling alcohol and Commissioner Miller's application is a BYOB party. He stated we need to revisit the issue and create a simple application. Mayor Hartline asked if we could adapt a current application. City Attorney Foley stated we would need to add it to the liquor ordinance. Administrator Bigler inquired if a business wanted to do a party in the street and City Attorney Foley stated they would submit an application to the council. Commissioner Webb stated that some block parties don't close the street. Mayor Hartline told Commissioner Miller to not take this personally. Commissioner Bigler inquired why the city needs to be aware that there is alcohol. City Attorney Foley stated that drinking will be taking place on city property and that is illegal.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED THAT THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE ANNA CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF OCTOBER 19TH, 2021 BE ADJOURNED AT 6:15 P.M.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline. voted yea. Nay – none. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.