

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE ANNA CITY COUNCIL
January 4, 2022**

The Anna City Council met in regular session at Anna City Hall at 5:01 p.m. on January 4th, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Steve Hartline. The roll call went as follows: Present were Commissioner Michael Bigler, Commissioner Kathy Bryan, Commissioner Bryan Miller, Commissioner Martha Ann Webb and Mayor Steve Hartline. None were absent.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Bryan that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 21st, 2021 ANNA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES AS THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF SAID MEETING.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Bryan, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Nay – none. Commissioner Miller abstained. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

City Administrator Dori Bigler updated the council on the following projects: (1) At the next meeting there will be a public hearing held at 5:00 during regular session for the bond issuance; (2) We submitted a grant application for the Rebuild Downtown & Main Street grant program. The grant is for just over \$900,000 and will be to transform the city's lot on West Davie (previously Rion Feed) into a municipal parking lot with decorative trees and lighting and to purchase a vacant lot on East Davie and construct a multi-use pavilion; (3) We had until January 2nd to opt in to the Illinois Attorney Generals mass tort for the opioid case and we submitted everything to opt in.

Discussion was held regarding Liquor Control. Administrator Bigler handed out information regarding current liquor licenses and availability. The council discussed the number of licenses in each category and decided to take this information and think on it for a future discussion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Bigler that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE A DONATION OF \$1,500.00 TO WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Bryan, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner

Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Nay – none. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Commissioner Webb thanked everyone for their support. She reported that 2.4 million wreaths were laid across the country this year. If we give a donation before January 14, 2022, our donation will be matched. Commissioner Webb also added that Wreaths Across America support is growing in Union County, with other cemeteries coming on board with location coordinators. She said their goal is now to cover every veteran's grave in Union County.

Discussion was held regarding the proposed Ordinance 2022-01 on regulating video gaming in the City of Anna. Administrator Bigler reported that at the previous meeting, everyone showed interest in passing some regulations, including a fee per terminal for the city. There are currently 66 gaming machines in town, without including the additional 6 coming from the new Moon Mullins establishment.

Commissioner Bryan stated that once you obtain a liquor license, gaming companies begin to reach out. Commissioner Bigler stated that he is interested in the types of establishments and promoting restaurants and taverns; but having gaming in gas stations should be maxed out. Mayor Hartline asked Administrator Bigler to explain how the process works currently in the City of Anna. Administrator Bigler explained that currently, you must obtain a pour liquor license with the City of Anna and there are no other requirements for gaming. If we pass this ordinance, we would then require a licensing process to issue a gaming license as well. Commissioner Bigler asked if we can add a fee for gaming licenses. Administrator Bigler said that she was not sure.

Commissioner Bigler said that he thinks this should be added; businesses must inform us of the idea to put in gaming machines. Mayor Hartline stated that currently we inquire when they are obtaining a liquor license. Administrator Bigler commented that they could add machines later and the city would not be notified. Commissioner Bryan added yes, anyone with any type of license other than a package license could get machines. Mayor Hartline opened up the floor and asked what the other commissioners thought. Commissioner Miller said he doesn't want any more, he feels this town will turn into gaming machines and liquor stores. Commissioner Webb stated that she doesn't want any more gaming machines.

Commissioner Bigler asked if we could make a liquor license category that includes gaming. Administrator Bigler explained that 2022 licenses have already been issued, so this would need to be a future change, if so. Mayor Hartline asked if regulating gaming would be for this year or next year. Administrator Bigler stated it was up to the council.

Discussion was held regarding including a cap on the number of gaming establishments in the city. Commissioner Bryan inquired what number the council wants to put for the cap. Commissioner Miller said no more. Commissioner Bryan stated she hates to take away motivation for a possible restaurant by doing that. Commissioner Bigler agreed and stated that is why he isn't in favor of putting a number.

Mayor Hartline stated that this isn't about liquor licenses, this is about regulating and charging gaming machines. He stated he would like to table the ordinance and look at the numbers. Commissioner Bryan stated that we don't have to have a limit. Commissioner Bigler stated he would prefer it come to the council for a vote, rather than have a limit, as he would hate to limit the possibilities of a new restaurant even though he doesn't really want more gaming. Commissioner Miller stated that if there aren't any more liquor licenses, the only ones that would take advantage of gaming would be those with a current license. Mayor Hartline says that we could just remove that section in the ordinance and, like Commissioner Bigler stated, vote on each application. Commissioner Bigler asked if the gaming licensee had to reapply each year. Administrator Bigler stated yes, it is an annual license.

Mayor Hartline asked the council when they would like this to go into effect. Commissioner Bryan asked when this went into law. Administrator Bigler explained that gaming regulations and a terminal fee of \$25 has been allowed for some time, but the increase to \$250 went into effect a few weeks ago. Commissioner Bigler asked if we could inform them that it is due in July and prorate it for this year, then inform them that next year it will be the full \$250. Administrator Bigler said that they can table it and next meeting it will be on the agenda with updates. Mayor Hartline asked that the letter sent to the business should include the law of our authority. Administrator Bigler recapped that next meeting the ordinance will have the following updates: remove the section regarding limits, update the effective date, and include that year 1 will be prorated 50%. Mayor Hartline asked if the fee

amounts will be included in the letter. Administrator Bigler stated yes, the letter will be very specific.

Ordinance 2022-01; Regulating Video Gaming in the City of Anna was tabled.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bigler and seconded by Commissioner Bryan that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE SIGN APPLICATION FOR 847 E. VIENNA FOR DON SOL.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Bryan, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Nay – none. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryan and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED THAT THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE ANNA CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 4, 2022 BE ADJOURNED AT 5:55 PM.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Bryan, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Nay – none. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.