

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE ANNA CITY COUNCIL
MAY 3, 2022**

The Anna City Council met in regular session at Anna City Hall at 5:00 p.m. on May 3, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Steve Hartline. The roll call went as follows: Present were Commissioner Kathy Bryan, Commissioner Bryan Miller, Commissioner Martha Ann Webb and Mayor Steve Hartline. Commissioner Michael Bigler entered the meeting at 5:02PM. None were absent.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryan and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 19, 2022 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 Bryan, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Nay – none. Commissioner Bigler was absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 19, 2022 ANNA CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES AS THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF SAID MEETING.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bryan, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Nay – none. Commissioner Bigler was absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Commissioner Bigler entered the meeting at 5:02PM.

Mayor Hartline addressed the members present from the Union County Country Club. Bob Holderfield stated that the UCCC was looking for a building permit for a new clubhouse. Mayor Hartline stated that the application must be previously reviewed by Zoning Administrator Gary Dahmer prior to it being on the council agenda. Mr. Holderfield stated that they also wished to request a fee waiver for the building permit. Mayor Hartline stated that the fee is unknown without the application being reviewed. Administrator Dori Bigler stated that they will review the application and it will be on the next agenda.

Mike Baker at 205 Douglas addressed the council about his application for a building permit to install a carport. Mr. Baker had discussed his application previously with

PW Manager Gary Dahmer and was told that it does not meet the requirements of the zoning ordinance. Mr. Baker wanted to address the council about this and the next steps. The issue at hand is the set back from the property line. Commissioner Bigler asked if, in the photo provided, the carport in the picture belonged to the neighbors and Mr. Baker stated yes. Administrator Bigler stated that the neighboring house and structure do not meet the current zoning ordinance setbacks and would be grandfathered in. Commissioner Bryan asked what the neighbor's opinion is on the new carport. Mr. Baker stated that he talked with them and they are fine with it. Commissioner Bryan addressed Administrator Bigler to inquire what the options are. Administrator Bigler stated that in the past, this would be passed on to the Zoning Board of Appeals and the council could vote on waiving the \$500 fee. Mayor Hartline stated that that would be the best thing to do.

A motion was made by Mayor Hartline and seconded by Commissioner Bryan that it be **RESOLVED TO WAIVE THE \$500 ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS FEE.** 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. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Administrator Dori Bigler reported on the following projects: (1) On April 9, 2022 a resolution was adopted by the Illinois General Assembly naming the stretch of Route 146 between Anna and Vienna the Sergeant Brian Romines Memorial Highway. Melinda Clary, Brian's mother, is planning a dedication ceremony with Rep. Windhorst and inquired about having it at the grandstands on June 6. Administrator Bigler talked with the Fair Board and that date is good with them and the city. (2) Tom Caldwell has coordinated getting a bald cypress planted at the entrance of the business park in memory of Sergeant Romines. Mr. Caldwell was able to get all the materials donated and is planning a dedication ceremony with Zach Rendleman, with the date to be determined at this point. (3) Administrator Bigler has a meeting planned with Republic this week to discuss issues, processes and the contract. They have agreed to reimburse the city \$1500 for missed services, which will be given back to the customers and amounts to around \$0.86 per customer. (4) The Trees Forever grant work day is scheduled for 10AM on Friday, May 6th at the south entrance of the cemetery. (5) Administrator Bigler reported that she sent a flyer via email to the council regarding Southern 7's Narcan trainings. They are hosting 15-minute trainings and plan to be in Union County on May 20th. They will be at Anna City Hall

from 4-5PM. This training is for county and municipal officials, first responders and law enforcement personnel. (6) Video Gaming License Applications were mailed out this week to the current establishments. (7) There will be a disc golf tournament at this year's Annabelle Festival. (8) Administrator Bigler reported that she heard some inaccurate information about the ARPA project and wanted to make sure that the council understood the upcoming project. PW Manager Dahmer started a valve turning schedule and it was noted how many of our valves were inoperable. We worked with our engineer to put together a project which would replace inoperable valves and hydrants. The town was split into areas and the area chosen for this project will address 75% of the inoperable valves and hydrants that we have within the City. (9) Administrator Bigler reported that she will be having an intern this summer. Conner Jerolds is a student at U of I and studying Urban Studies and Planning. This will be an 8-week, 160-hour internship and his duties will be council meeting prep, including assisting with putting together the agenda, typing draft ordinances and resolutions, typing minutes, preparing council books, OMA training, etc. Other duties include assisting in event planning and community outreach and FOIA training.

Discussion was held regarding the bids for surplus property. Administrator Bigler reported that no bids were received. Mayor Hartline asked if we set a minimum bid, and PW Manager Dahmer stated that it was set at \$1,000. Commissioner Miller asked if we could donate it to Kars 4 Kids. Commissioner Bryan asked what Kars 4 Kids was and Commissioner Miller stated that he couldn't remember what exactly.

A motion was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Bryan that it be **RESOLVED TO DONATE THE SURPLUS VEHICLE TO KARS 4 KIDS.** 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. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding Resolution 2022-10. Administrator Bigler reported that Central States merged with J&M Displays but we have the same representative and the same contractor will perform the work. It was also reported that fireworks costs have increased by 26% and this agreement is for the same show as last year. Mayor Hartline asked how much was in the budget and Administrator Bigler

explained that the increase was known prior to completing the budget, so the budget is set for \$9,500, which matches Resolution 2022-10.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Bigler that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-10; AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE A FIREWORKS DISPLAY AGREEMENT WITH J&M DISPLAYS.** 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. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the hiring of two full-time laborers. Mayor Hartline asked Commissioner Bryan to start the discussion. Commissioner Bryan stated that she spoke with PW Manager Dahmer that day regarding the newly hired ft/pt employees and the fact they have been with the City for 30 days. She stated that she recommends we hire Aiden Bass and hold off on the other position until the others have been here a while. Mayor Hartline inquired if her recommendation was to hire Aiden Bass and send him to disposal. Commissioner Bigler stated that he would like to hear the recommendations of the others who were involved in the interviews as well. Mayor Hartline asked Commissioner Webb what her recommendation was. Commissioner Webb stated that in the end, the three of us said Busby and Chamness. Commissioner Webb asked PW Manager Dahmer if that was correct and Mr. Dahmer stated that is correct. PW Manager Dahmer stated that all 4 candidates were good workers. Mayor Hartline stated that he thought the plan was to send Linton and Bass to disposal for a trial and then hire one of them. Commissioner Miller stated that he thought that was to happen back in February. Administrator Bigler stated that in February it was announced that a rotation at disposal was going to take place in March, but due to the wet conditions, that had to be delayed until April. Mayor Hartline asked if there was a motion. Commissioner Bigler stated that he would make a motion based on the recommendations of 2 of the 3 interviewers, one being the supervisor, PW Manager Gary Dahmer, to hire Jordan Chamness and Keaton Busby. Commissioner Bryan stated that she thinks that needs to be made in two separate motions.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bigler and seconded by Commissioner Webb that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE EMPLOYMENT OF JORDAN CHAMNESS AS A FULL-TIME LABORER EFFECTIVE MAY 8, 2022.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler, Commissioner Bryan and

Commissioner Webb voted yea. Commissioner Miller and Mayor Hartline voted nay. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Mayor Hartline addressed Commissioner Bryan and asked her what her motion was. Commissioner Bryan stated that Commissioner Bigler had another motion to make.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bigler and seconded by Commissioner Webb that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE EMPLOYMENT OF KEATON BUSBY AS A FULL-TIME LABORER EFFECTIVE MAY 8, 2022.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bigler and Commissioner Webb voted yea. Commissioner Bryan, Commissioner Miller and Mayor Hartline voted nay. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion failed.

Mayor Hartline asked Commissioner Bryan to make her motion. Commissioner Bigler stated that based on the fact that 2 of the 3 that did the interviews, recommend another candidate, he felt there was favoritism and couldn't vote yes. Mayor Hartline addressed the council and asked if they received the nepotism policy. Commissioner Bigler stated that yes, he had, and he believes there is favoritism with this vote and therefore was voting no. Mayor Hartline then asked the council if they received City Attorney Foley's opinion on if the hiring of Aiden Bass conflicted with the nepotism policy. Commissioner Bryan stated that yes, she received the message from Attorney Foley. Commissioner Bigler again stated that he felt since 2 of the 3 interviewers made a different recommendation, he felt there was favoritism in this vote and therefore couldn't vote yes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryan and seconded by Commissioner Miller that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE EMPLOYMENT OF AIDEN BASS AS A FULL-TIME LABORER EFFECTIVE MAY 8, 2022.** A vote was taken upon the motion with the following results. Commissioner Bryan, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Webb and Mayor Hartline voted yea. Commissioner Bigler voted nay. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the Anna Blue Dolphins Park usage application. Mayor Hartline stated that the city pool is being filled and asked PW Manager Dahmer if the pool was in good shape. Dahmer stated that yes, the pool is in good shape. Administrator Bigler pointed out that the resolution was appealed which charges fees for using the park, but it did not include the pool. Last year, the council waived

the fee for the Blue Dolphins. They inquired if there would be a fee this year or if the council would waive it.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bigler and seconded by Commissioner Webb that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE A CITY USAGE REQUEST FOR THE ANNA BLUE DOLPHINS FOR JUNE 1, 2022 THROUGH JULY 30, 2022 AND WAIVE THE FEE.** 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. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb and seconded by Commissioner Bigler that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE CITY USAGE APPLICATION FOR DISTRICT 37 FOR A STREET CLOSURE ON MAY 6, 2022.** 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. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryan and seconded by Commissioner Bigler that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE PARK USAGE APPLICATION FOR DISTRICT 37 FOR MAY 16, 19, 20 & 23, 2022.** 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. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

Commissioner Bigler addressed the council regarding the City Park. Commissioner Bigler recommends that the City does not allow the Fair to adjust our fences. Commissioner Bigler stated that he doesn't see how we can keep our fencing usable when we are taking them down each year for the fair. He said maybe we wait to install the new fence and then once it is up, it won't be removed. Mayor Hartline suggested that Foley look at the agreement and we take a look at safety issues further. Chief Watkins stated that his only suggestion is to leave space for emergency vehicles. Chief Dammerman said the only issue he sees are the light poles and access. Administrator Bigler stated that maybe a meeting on site would provide helpful and then also to sit down with the Fair Board. Commissioner Bigler stated absolutely, we want to work with the Fair Board. Mayor Hartline stated that a follow up meeting with the Fair Board should be scheduled. Commissioner Bigler

stated that we have some time, as SIBSA isn't done with the fields until July. Mayor Hartline stated that games start soon and he complimented public works on how things look at the park.

Chief Watkins stated that Cody Hand graduate the PTI Academy last week and passed his certification test. Commissioner Webb asked if he could come to the next meeting so that they can officially meet him. Mayor Hartline stated that we wish him the best and hope he stays safe.

City Attorney Foley reported that they came to an agreement in court for 502 S. Main. The owner was given a 6-month period to bring the house up to the city's ordinance standards and they will be submitting monthly progress reports.

Commissioner Miller asked the status of Carol Sweet's property. Administrator Bigler stated that she has prepared the draft quitclaim deed but is waiting for the abstract and green light from Attorney Foley. Attorney Foley stated that once the abstract is returned, we can go forward with the quitclaim deed.

Mayor Hartline reported that the Ferrell Gas building is being torn down soon. He thanked Chief Watkins for his follow up on the property.

Commissioner Webb inquired if there wasn't going to be a National Day of Prayer this year. Mayor Hartline stated that he hasn't heard anything, the City only participates in the ceremony and doesn't host it.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryan and seconded by Commissioner Webb that it be **RESOLVED TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL AT 5:58PM.** 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. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryan and seconded by Commissioner Webb that it be **RESOLVED TO EXIT CLOSED SESSION AT 7:14PM.** 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. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bigler and seconded by Commissioner Webb that it be **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE PREVIOUSLY READ CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF MAY 3, 2022 AS THE OFFICIAL CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF SAID MEETING.** 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. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bigler and seconded by Commissioner Webb that it be **RESOLVED THAT THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE ANNA CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 3, 2022 BE ADJOURNED AT 7:15 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. None were absent. Mayor Hartline declared the motion carried.