

CITY OF WARRENVILLE
CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Special Board Meeting
Held on Monday, March 23, 2020
Via electronic communications and not at City Hall
28W701 Stafford Place

I. OPENING CEREMONIES

A. Call to Order

Ald. Barry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Ald. Stu Aschauer, Clare Barry, Fred Bevier, Kathy Davolos, Leah Goodman, Jeff Krischel, Bill Weidner and Robert Wilson

Absent: Mayor David Brummel

Also Present: City Administrator John Coakley, Assistant City Administrator Cristina White, Finance Director Kevin Dahlstrand, Community and Economic Development Director Ron Mentzer, Deputy Public Works Director Phil Kuchler, Police Chief Ray Turano, Treasurer Larry Brenner, Attorney Brooke Lenneman, and City Clerk Emily Larson

Also Absent: None

C. Temporary Chairman Appointment

ALD. GOODMAN MOVED, second by Ald. Davolos, to appoint Ald. Barry as temporary Chairman for tonight's meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ald. Aschauer, Barry, Bevier, Davolos, Goodman, Krischel, Weidner, and Wilson

Nay: None

MOTION ADOPTED

D. Pledge of Allegiance

II. CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

III. OFFICIALS AND STAFF COMMENTS

A. Mayor

No report

B. Clerk

None

C. Treasurer

None

D. Aldermen

Thank You

Ald. Davolos thanked staff for continuing to provide services to the community.

Thank You

Ald. Goodman thanked all the first responders.

Thank you

Ald. Weidner thanked staff and wished Mayor Brummel a speedy recovery from recent surgery.

Census 2020

Ald. Barry urged residents to complete the Census 2020 survey.

E. Administrator

Thank You

City Administrator Coakley thanked the aldermen for their patience and cooperation as staff learns a new way to hold Council meetings during the current state of emergency. He thanked staff for working to continue to provide critical city services to the community, and noted that some are working remotely while others, who are essential service providers, must be on site to provide those necessary services.

Local Businesses

City Administrator Coakley reported on Friday, Mayor Brummel issued riders to existing liquor licenses so that local restaurants may temporarily sell beer and wine along with food for carry-out and curbside service only. This is NOT available for delivery.

FY 2021 Budget

City Administrator Coakley reported he will be working with senior staff to identify projects and expenditures that may be delayed as staff assesses the City's fiscal situation given the national and regional economic problems related to COVID-19. He added, it is too early at this point to make reasonable recommendations for changes to the proposed budget.

F. Attorney

Council's Remote Participation

City Attorney Lenneman reported that, pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order #2020-07, the requirements for the Open Meetings Act have been suspended to allow remote participation by aldermen and staff.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ALD. GOODMAN MOVED, second by Ald. Davolos, to approve the items on the agenda for the March 23, 2020, City Council special meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ald. Barry, Goodman, Weidner, Krischel, Bevier, Davolos, Aschauer, and Wilson

Nay: None

MOTION ADOPTED

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Emergency Management Coordinator

ALD. GOODMAN MOVED, second by Ald. Davolos, to accept staff recommendation and approve the creation of a part-time Emergency Management Coordinator position, and authorize staff to recruit and fill the position immediately.

Discussion: Chief Turano reported that, due to the resignation of the officer who held the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Coordinator position, there has been a vacancy for that position since August 2019. He said currently, there is no one qualified and experienced in the requisite state and federal protocols to ensure that the City Emergency Operation Plan, the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and training requirements for senior staff and elected officials are being met. He said the original request was for a 20-hour per week position, but due to the current situation with the COVID-19 pandemic and its local impacts, staff is requesting the position be created and filled as soon as possible.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ald. Barry, Goodman, Weidner, Krischel, Bevier, Davolos, Aschauer, and Wilson

Nay: None

MOTION ADOPTED

B. Personnel Provisions

ALD. GOODMAN MOVED, second by Ald. Weidner, to accept staff recommendation and authorize the City Administrator to enact certain personnel policy provisions due to the COVID-19 pandemic as follows: 1) allow full-time employees to use their paid time off benefits to supplement their pay; 2) negotiate similar applicable benefits for full-time employees covered under a collective bargaining agreement; and 3) authorize up to sixty (60) hours of paid sick time for part-time employees, which will remain in effect until December 31, 2020.

Discussion: City Administrator Coakley noted this recommendation would go into effect on April 1, 2020, and staff is recommending this motion.

Ald. Goodman questioned if the situation does not change, how would this deadline be expanded. City administrator Coakley said any changes would be brought back to the Council for approval.

ROLL CALL VOTE;

Aye: Ald. Davolos, Aschauer, Krischel, Wiedner, Wilson, Barry, Goodman, and Bevier

Nay: None

MOTION ADOPTED

C. Declaration of Emergency

ALD. GOODMAN MOVED, second by Ald. Davolos to accept Mayor Brummel's recommendation and extend the duration of the March 16, 2020, Declaration of Emergency until the adjournment of the next regular, special, or emergency meeting of the City Council.

Discussion: City Administrator Coakley said any extension of the declaration would be on the agenda for the April 6, 2020, regular Council meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE;

Aye: Ald. Barry, Weidner, Krischel, Wilson, Aschauer, Goodman, Bevier, and Davolos

Nay: None

MOTION ADOPTED

D. FY 2021 Proposed Budget

ALD. WILSON MOVED, second by Ald. Krischel, to approve the FY 2021 proposed budget.

Discussion: Finance Director Dahlstrand said the proposed budget is complete and aldermen are encouraged to contact him or the City Administrator if they have any concerns or questions.

Ald. Goodman noted that future discussions are going to be difficult to do over the phone. She said there should be more urgency to approve the position of a communications coordinator rather than pursuing the purchase of the Citco gas station. She noted that this item is not time sensitive, whereas keeping the public informed and promoting local businesses is very important to the community.

ALD. GOODMAN MOVED, second by Ald. Aschauer, to remove the purchase of the Citco gas station from the FY 2021 proposed budget.

Discussion: Ald. Weidner said there will be many more opportunities to discuss the purchase of the gas station. He will be following the recommendations of staff.

Ald. Goodman said her motion is to remove the cost of purchasing the gas station from the propose FY 2021 Budget.

City Attorney Lenneman recommended not making the motion as the item is not on the agenda.

City Administrator Coakley asked Ald. Goodman to clarify if her motion is to remove the gas station from the FY 2021 Proposed Budget. Ald. Goodman replied, yes.

Ald. Davolos said she would prefer to wait and give staff more time to provide their input.

Ald. Wilson said this decision can be done at a later time and would like to see staff input.

Ald. Krischel said he would also like to see current numbers before making any decision.

Ald. Barry noted the purchase of the gas station can be removed from the budget at a later time.

Ald. Bevier said he does not approve of the purchase of the gas station and will be voting no on the motion to approve the budget.

Community Development Director Mentzer said he would provide more details regarding the funding sources to be used to purchase the gas station. He noted that even if the funds are available, the Council will be asked for their final approval and formal directions to staff.

City Administrator Coakley said this discussion will be added to the April 6, 2020, regular meeting agenda along with a discussion on funding a communications coordinator position.

ALD. WILSON MOVED, second by Ald. Krischel, to table this discussion to the April 6, 2020, regular Council meeting.

Discussion: City Administrator Coakley noted there is little new information regarding the purchase of the gas station since Community Development Director Mentzer's last report.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ald. Krischel, Wilson, Barry, Goodman, Davolos, and Weidner

Nay: Ald. Bevier and Aschauer

MOTION ADOPTED

E. FY 2021 Citywide Work Plan

City Administrator Coakley reminded the aldermen there will be one more Council meeting before approval of the budget should any alderman have questions or the Council wish to make any changes before it is adopted.

VII. ADJOURN

ALD. KRISCHEL MOVED, second by Ald. Wilson, to adjourn.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ald. Barry, Weidner, Krischel, Wilson, Aschauer, Goodman, Bevier, and Davolos

Nay: None

MOTION ADOPTED

The special Council meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Approved: April 6, 2020


Emily J. Larson, City Clerk