

MINUTES OF THE PROCTOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Meeting was streamed live on the Trac 7 YouTube channel.

Mayor Ward called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENT: Mayor Chad Ward, Councilor Troy DeWall, Councilor Jake Benson, Councilor Jim Rohweder, Councilor Rory Johnson

Mayor Ward delivers a public statement regarding the incident that took place at Proctor Public Schools on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrator Rich, Attorney John Bray, Administrative Assistant Megan Jordan, Chief Gaidis, Jon Thornton

M/S/P: Rohweder/Johnson to approve the City Council minutes from Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

M/S/P: Benson/Ward to approve the special City Council minutes from Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

M/S/P: Ward/Rohweder to approve the special City Council minutes from Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

M/S/P: Ward/Johnson to approve the agenda for Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT:

NONE

M/S/P: Ward/Johnson to approve the consent agenda for Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**4. Clerk Advises Council**

A Pickleball Courts – Proposals for Professional Services

Proposals from LHB and SEH will be evaluated by the Parks & Rec committee for a recommendation to council. Administrator Rich states council members are welcome to review these proposals prior to the meeting by request.

B. City Attorney RFP Update

The City Council has directed Administrator Rich to continue the RFP proposal process for attorney services. Rich states she has delivered a draft of the proposal, asking council to adjust and define the timeline for submittals. Mayor Ward suggests adjusting the deadline for proposals to be submitted by April 12<sup>th</sup>, adjusting it one week back from the previously suggested deadline of April 5<sup>th</sup>.

M/S/P: Ward/DeWall to change the submittal deadline for RFP proposals to Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 4:00 pm.

C. Playground for Everybody Final Phase

With the approval of the fence addition, the final phase of the DNR grant has been reached.

Fencing will be installed over the weekend, followed by parking pavement and ADA striping. After these completions, the DNR grant will be closed out.

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. City of Proctor Blight Policy

B. Legislative Agenda – Officer Recruitment and Training Reimbursement

C. St. Lukes Arena – Parking Improvements/Accommodations

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Property Agreement Amendment**

A written request was submitted by the property owner to amend the original recorded agreement. The property owner is selling the land and has requested to amend the agreement to allow for the installation of a well as an additional option for a water source.

M/S/P: Ward/Johnson to approve the amendment agreement, allowing for a well on the property noting the property owner to be responsible for attorney and recording fees.

### **B. Resolution 14-24: Prosecutions Services Agreement**

M/S/P: Rohweder/Ward to approve as submitted, noting the agreement date expiration of December 31, 2025.

### **C. Resolution 15-24: Jet Loan Renewal**

M/S/P: Benson/DeWall to approve as submitted.

### **D. SRO Resolution: St. Louis County Board**

Councilor Benson states the governor has signed an SRO agreement. Benson states SRO officers will be reinstated back into schools statewide. Benson proposes passing a resolution to the St. Louis County Board for reimbursement to Proctor for the expenses of an SRO officer as Proctor pays for their own SRO officer.

M/S/P: Benson/Ward to direct city staff to draft a resolution for approval at the next City Council meeting regarding SRO officer reimbursement.

### **E. Proposed Language to Amend §71.08 Winter Parking Ordinance**

Councilor Benson has drafted language to amend the above referenced city code, allowing Chief of Police to suspend winter parking regulations and restrictions.

Mayor Ward states if there are no additions or modifications to the language, this will constitute the first reading of this ordinance. Police Chief Gaidis is in agreement with the amendment to this section of city code.

### **F. November Sales Tax Campaign**

Councilor Benson suggests a public campaign for the addition of a sales tax to the ballot for voters in November.

M/S/P: Benson/Johnson to direct city staff to begin a public campaign regarding the addition of a proposed sales tax increase to the ballot in November.

## **MEMBER CONCERNS**

Rohweder: Parking improvements at St. Lukes arena – Councilor DeWall adds the Public Safety Committee has met with the superintendent of Proctor Public Schools. The city will await the plan proposal for review. Public Safety and Proctor Police Department to follow-up on officer recruitment and retention. Administrator Rich provides an update to council noting she has been working with the Police Civil Service Commission and has discussed a wage study, budgetary considerations, recruitment, and retention. Administrator Rich states the Police Civil Service Commission is working on a proposal to present to the council.

Johnson: None

Benson: LMC physical ability test program available for police departments to participate in. In response to the incident at Proctor High School, Benson acknowledges officer response, reflection

of a well-trained department, and extends gratitude for city department participation. Benson notes there may be changes reflected to the Midway first responder agreement. Acknowledging Attorney Bray's last meeting with the City Council, Councilor Benson extends gratitude to Attorney Bray for his years of service working with the City of Proctor. Councilor Benson commends Attorney Bray for his work within property boundary and annexation.

DeWall: St. Lukes Parking improvements discussed at the Public Safety Committee, notes an improvement plan will be coming from administration staff.

Attorney Bray: Extends gratitude to the council and the City of Proctor for working with him over the last 30 years.

Administrator Rich: None

Mayor Ward: Extends gratitude to Councilor DeWall for attending and speaking at the State of the City address in his absence.

Chief Gaidis: Provides an update on the de-briefing review after the incident at Proctor Public Schools last week.

Administrator Rich: None

M/S/P: Rohweder/DeWall to approve the bills as submitted.

General: \$64,017.03

Liquor: \$32,198.40

**TOTAL BILLS FOR APPROVAL: \$96,215.43**

M/S/P: DeWall/Ward to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 pm.