

City of Litchfield
120 E. Ryder, Litchfield, Illinois
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2022

The meeting was offered remotely due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Budget Hearing

Mayor Dougherty opened the meeting at 6:15 p.m. The Public Hearing for the approval of the proposed Annual Budget for the fiscal year May, 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023 was held. Jeremy Zook, of Kerber, Eck & Braeckel, was present to answer questions. No questions were asked and Mayor Dougherty closed the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Regular Meeting Minutes

Mayor Steven Dougherty called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Present on roll call were Alderpersons Dwayne Gerl, Marilyn Sisson, Dave Hollo, Mark Brown, Kassidy Paine, Tim Wright, Woodrow Street and Ray Kellenberger. The Mayor declared that a quorum was present.

Appointment:

Following a brief introduction by Fire Chief Joe Holomy, Jeremy Heigert, was sworn in as a Volunteer Firefighter by Fire Chief Joe Holomy.

Recognition:

Volunteer Firefighter Bob Beechler was recognized by Mayor Dougherty for his years of dedicated service to the City.

Other Business:

Aldersperson Brown made a motion, seconded by Aldersperson Wright, to accept the minutes from the March 17, 2022 meeting.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Aldersperson Gerl made a motion, seconded by Aldersperson Sisson, to direct the City Clerk to transfer funds from the city sales tax to the City's general fund to issue checks and authorize to pay the bills and process payroll.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Lake:

Alderson Hollo made a motion, seconded by Alderson Street, to approve the proposed Watershed Plan with rehabilitation alternative #5 RBC Service Spillway, Upstream Basin and Lake Dredging

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Finance:

Alderson Gerl made a motion, seconded by Alderson Wright, to approve an ordinance adopting the annual budget for the City of Litchfield for the fiscal year May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2022.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Wastewater Treatment:

Alderson Gerl made a motion, seconded by Alderson Street, to adopt an ordinance establishing a 2-year plan to increase sewer rates 12% each year for fiscal years 2022-2023 and 8% for 2023-2024 to cover maintenance and operational costs.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Alderson Street made a motion, seconded by Alderson Sisson, to approve the renewal of health insurance for City employees effective May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023, with Blue Cross Blue Shield through Dimond Bros. Insurance. Shannon Hall presented the renewal rates.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Alderson Street made a motion, seconded by Alderson Wright, to approve a contract with Foster & Foster Actuaries to prepare actuarial reports for the Police and Firefighter Pension Funds that are in compliance with GASB 67 and 68 reporting for an amount not to exceed \$3,475 per plan and authorize the Mayor to sign the engagement letter.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Alderson Street made a motion, seconded by Alderson Brown, to approve an Ordinance for the renewal with the accounting firm Kerber, Eck and Braeckel – Jereme Zook, as the Budget Officer for the 2022/23 fiscal year as outlined in the original ordinance 2509 “Adoption of a Budget Officer” and authorize the Mayor to sign the engagement letter.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Economic Development:

Alderson Kellenberger made a motion, seconded by Alderson Street, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) and the Litchfield Community School District #12 and a Resolution of Support for the LLCC Truck Driver Training Expansion Project for the USDA RISE grant application.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Lake:

Alderson Hollo made a motion, seconded by Alderson Gerl, to approve Sloan Implement to do the repairs for the John Deere 5200 tractor at the Litchfield Lake Department. The estimated amount is not to exceed \$4000 and to authorize the City Clerk to issue a check upon satisfactory completion.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Aldersperson Hollo made a motion, seconded by Aldersperson Wright, to approve pay request #4 from Haier Plumbing, Inc., for \$428,643.59 for work completed on the Lake Sewer Project and authorize the City Clerk to issue the check.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Water:

Aldersperson Hollo made a motion, seconded by Aldersperson Street, to reject all chemical bids and re-advertise for bids of water treatment chemicals for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Streets:

Aldersperson Paine made a motion, seconded by Aldersperson Hollo, to approve pay request #3 from Rooter's Asphalt, Inc., for \$28,267.16 for work performed on State Street and authorize the City Clerk to issue a check.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Aldersperson Paine made a motion, seconded by Aldersperson Street, to approve a bid from Rooter's Asphalt, Inc., for \$378,874.60 with contingency to upgrade the pavement on Old Route 66 from Union Avenue to Historic Route 66 and authorize the mayor to sign the agreements.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Aldersperson Paine made a motion, seconded by Aldersperson Wright, to approve the solicitation for pressure washing and sealing of decorative cement for the downtown streetscape.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Wastewater Treatment:

Aldersperson Gerl made a motion, seconded by Aldersperson Sisson, to approve the proposal submitted by Korte Luitjohan for the replacement of the lagoon liner at the Wastewater Treatment Facility in an amount not to exceed \$364,823.80 and authorize the Mayor to sign documents relating to its execution.

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Administration:

Discussion was held regarding animal control within the City. There is currently no ordinance in place. Mayor Dougherty presented material supporting the requirements currently in place.

Discussion was also held regarding the status of ordinance violations within the city. Ward 2 was asked to have theirs completed by the next meeting on April 21, 2022.

Executive Session

Aldersperson Kellenberger made a motion, seconded by Aldersperson Wright, to Enter into Executive Session, as allowed under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, as found in Chapter 5 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, Section 120, to address these certain and restricted items:

1. "The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body..." (5ILCS 120/2(2)(C)(1).
2. "Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees." (5ILCS 120/2(C)(2))

The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Executive Session was entered into at 7:22 p.m.

Aldersperson Brown made a motion, seconded by Aldersperson Wright to return to open session at 7:44 p.m. The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Alderson Street made a motion, seconded by Alderson Hollo to make a resolution to reinstate an ordinance to change the maximum age for firefighters to 60 for retirement. The Mayor directed a roll call vote.

Aye: Gerl, Sisson, Hollo, Brown, Paine, Wright, Street, Kellenberger.

Nay: None.

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Alderson Mark Brown announce his resignation from the council effective 4/21/22 citing conflicting work issues.

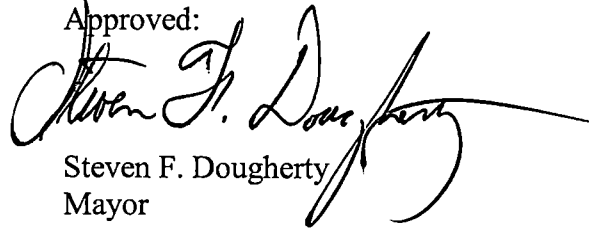
Having no further business, Alderson Kellenberger made a motion, seconded by Alderson Wright to adjourn the regular meeting of the Litchfield City Council. The Mayor called for a voice vote, motion carried, and the regular meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Attest:



Carol E. Burke
City Clerk

Approved:



Steven F. Dougherty
Mayor