

7:00 pm

May 11, 2022

**713th MEETING OF THE
HORSESHOE BEND CITY COUNCIL**

Mayor Goff called the meeting to order with Councilpersons Chartier, White and Burgess present. Also present City Attorney Tony Pantera, by Zoom meeting, and Clerk Gina Elmer.

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilwoman Burgess made a **motion** to approve the agenda. Councilman Chartier **seconded**. All ayes. **Motion carried**.

Councilman White made a **motion** to approve the minutes for the April 13, 2022 and May 4, 2022 meetings of the City Council. Councilwoman Burgess **seconded**. All ayes. **Motion carried**.

Councilman White made a **motion** to pay the City's bills as presented. Councilwoman Burgess **seconded**. All ayes. **Motion carried**.

New Business:

- Susan Keeth: building permit- Ms. Keeth says that she has lived here for six years and feels there are some hardworking and compassionate people who help out their neighbors when they can. She then told a story that her father told her about comparing campers and some people thinking they are better than others. She feels people are starting to do that here with housing even though the housing market is bad. She has put in building permits that were not approved and a request for fair and reasonable accommodations. She would like to know what the process for fair housing is. She has been working on this for a year and would like to get an answer to her fair and reasonable accommodations request. She has space available and has to have a building permit in place to get financing. She states she just wants to be able to put another house on her property. She would like to have an answer tonight. Tony says that the City Clerk informed Ms. Keeth that per the City's ordinances a lot split would have to be done to allow for a second residence. He adds that the fair housing process is a work in progress to be handled on an administrative level. He will provide a written response by the end of the week. He says that there is not a nexus that he can see between the disability and the request for accommodation. Jon Dufresne interrupts from the audience and is asked to stop talking. Ms Keeth asks if there is an appeal process and is told that there is not. She wants to know what the City is doing to make affordable housing as it is stated in the Comprehensive Plan. Tony says that the information included with the application does not require accommodation. Tony will call tomorrow and discuss this process. Jon Dufresne interrupts a couple of more times and is escorted out of the meeting by the officer present.
- Theresa Martin: water/sewer hook ups –Ms. Martin states that she bought the lot at 126 Canyon St and it had second utility hook ups in place. She is upset because when she went to request the second meter turned on the city clerk informed her that the hookup fees would have to be paid since a previous owner had asked for the meter be removed to

avoid the monthly bill. Mayor Goff asks Amy to address this issue. Amy explains the reasoning behind buying into the water and sewer systems and the hook up fees. Since, the prior owner decided to have the meter pulled and taken out of the system then the current owner has to pay hook up fees to get back in the system. Ms. Martin feels that since the fees were already paid at one time she should not have to pay them now. She is willing to pay for a new meter to be put in.

- Consider gravel placement at Veteran’s memorial park –Mayor Goff says that the Chamber of Commerce is working to raise money for a gravel based parking lot. He says that the parking lot would be engineered to the required ITD specifications. Many people are willing to donate for instance: Dobson Gravel will donate the gravel, David Bailey is donating engineering, Premier Gravel will donate gravel, Dirtworks donated \$5,000.00 towards manpower and Kenny Beckman is willing to provide manpower. This may cost the City \$2,500.00 if anything. Councilman White asks Tony if he saw any problem with this. Tony responded no. Councilman White made a **motion** to allow the placement of the donated gravel at the Wood’s Veterans Memorial Park. Councilman Chartier **seconded**. All ayes. **Motion carried**.

Department Updates:

- EMS: Councilman Burgess said that two new drivers had finished the course.
- Public Works: Michele said that they had been doing some work to clean the levy. The bathrooms at the city park have been opened for the summer. They also had the final inspection of the sewer line on the new bridge. The first small run off of the year came down and the new ozone generators worked well.
- Grant Writer: Cheryl Pleak – She has been working on the Comprehensive Plan update and we will need to hold a public hearing. The Mayor said that the Council should be given copies of the update next meeting and then hold the public hearing at July’s meeting. She said to please call if there are any questions concerning this update.
- City Engineer: Amy said that they have been busy supporting the sidewalk project and finalizing the new bridge sewer line funding.
- Attorney: Tony that he did not have much to add at this juncture.
- Mayor: Mayor Goff added that he loves that people come to the meetings but that everyone needs to be respectful.

Executive Session:

Councilman White made a **motion** to go into Executive session at 7:39 pm. pursuant to IC 74-206(1)(f). **Councilwoman Burgess seconded. Roll call: Councilman White-aye, Councilwoman Burgess-aye, Councilman Chartier-aye. Motion carried.**

During the executive session Tony advised the Council on the legal ramifications and the legal options for pending litigation. Council came out of the executive session at 7:45pm. No action is required.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46pm.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Mayor