

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE NORMAL TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NORMAL CITY HALL, FOURTH FLOOR UPTOWN STATION, 11 UPTOWN CIRCLE, NORMAL, MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS – MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2020.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McCarthy called the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council to Order at 7:01p.m., Monday, August 17, 2020.

2. ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the roll with the following persons

PRESENT: The Meeting was conducted virtually. There were no persons physically present in Council Chambers.

REMOTE: Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McCarthy, Chamberly Cummings, Stan Nord, Karyn Smith, Kathleen Lorenz, and Scott Preston, also present were City Manager Pamela Reece, Assistant City Manager Eric Hanson, Corporation Counsel Brian Day, and Town Clerk Angie Huonker.

ABSENT: Mayor Chris Koos.

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McCarthy made the following statement:

Due to recent changes in the Open Meetings Act, I feel compelled to make the following statement that the Governor has issued a disaster declaration related to the public health concerns caused by the statewide COVID-19 pandemic.

As Mayor Pro Tem, I have determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of the risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus stemming from an indoor gathering, and that the remote meeting is in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the council, staff, and general public.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Pro Tem McCarthy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Given the circumstances necessitated by the COVID-19 crisis, and in accordance with a mandate of social distancing, public comment was made available virtually through the use of Zoom Meeting.

Joe and Carrie Company, of Wellness Data Solutions in Bloomington-Normal, requests that the Employee Wellness Services Resolution be delayed so competitive bids can be evaluated.

Jackie Beyer, Bloomington Resident, supports the police department and the collective bargaining agreement. Ms. Beyer also supports the School Resource Officer program. Ms. Beyer invited the community to the Back the Blue Rally at GE Union Park on August 30.

Becky Swan asked whether the Council would be in favor of defunding the police.

5. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McCarthy read aloud the items to be considered by the Omnibus Vote Agenda.

- A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF AUGUST 3, 2020:
- B. REPORT TO RECEIVE AND FILE TOWN OF NORMAL EXPENDITURES FOR PAYMENT AS OF AUGUST 12, 2020:
- C. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF THE EMPLOYEE GROUP HEALTH, DENTAL, LIFE/AD&D PROGRAM:
- D. RESOLUTION WAIVING BIDS AND AUTHORIZING STAFF TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH HClactive AND eHEALTH FOR EMPLOYEE WELLNESS SERVICES:
- E. RESOLUTION APPROVING A WATER SERVICE CONTRACT WITH MICHAEL MASCHING FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4252 EAST RAAB ROAD: Resolution No. 5797:
- F. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE POLICE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION (PBPA) UNIT 22:

MOTION:

Councilmember Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Preston, the Council Approval of the Omnibus Vote Agenda.

AYES: Cummings, Nord, Smith, Lorenz, Preston, McCarthy.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

Items A and E were approved by the Omnibus Vote.

Item B, C, D and F were removed from Omnibus Vote.

6. ITEMS REMOVED FROM OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

REPORT TO RECEIVE AND FILE TOWN OF NORMAL EXPENDITURES FOR PAYMENT AS OF AUGUST 12, 2020:

MOTION:

Councilmember Nord moved, seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Council Accept the Report to Receive and File Town of Normal Expenditures for Payment as of August 12, 2020:

AYES: Nord, Smith, Lorenz, Preston, Cummings, McCarthy.
NAYS: None.
Motion declared carried.

Councilmember Stan Nord posed a question regarding the bulk permit for Parks and Recreation. City Manager Pam Reece responded.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF THE EMPLOYEE GROUP HEALTH, DENTAL, LIFE/AD&D PROGRAM: Resolution No. 5798:

MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION:

Councilmember Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Preston, the Council Approval to Call the Question on a Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of the Employee Group Health, Dental, Life/AD&D Program:

AYES: Smith, Lorenz, Preston, Cummings, McCarthy.
NAYS: Nord.
Motion declared carried.

MOTION:

Councilmember Nord moved, seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Council Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of the Employee Group Health, Dental, Life/AD&D Program:

AYES: Lorenz, Preston, Cummings, Smith, McCarthy.
NAYS: Nord.
Motion declared carried.

Councilmember Stan Nord requested information regarding who is responsible to pay for the employee insurance, the Town or the individual employee and whether the Town pays for the insurance for the 3 CIRBN employees. City Manager Pam Reece responded.

RESOLUTION WAIVING BIDS AND AUTHORIZING STAFF TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH HClactive AND eHEALTH FOR EMPLOYEE WELLNESS SERVICES: Resolution No. 5799:

MOTION TO POSTPONE TO A DATE CERTAIN:

Councilmember Nord moved, seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Council Approval A Motion to Postpone to a Date Certain a Resolution Waiving Bids and Authorizing Staff to Execute an Agreement with HClactive and eHealth for Employee Wellness Services:

AYES: Nord.
NAYS: Preston, Cumming, Smith, Lorenz, McCarthy.
Motion declared failed.

City Manager Pam Reece posed a question regarding the request of this Motion to Postpone since the Town would not actually bid out this agreement. The Town has contracted with Horton Group as a broker who has already completed this process. Councilmember Kathleen Lorenz responded.

MOTION:

Councilmember Nord moved, seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Council Approval of a Resolution Waiving Bids and Authorizing Staff to Execute an Agreement with HClactive and eHealth for Employee Wellness Services:

AYES: Cummings, Smith, Lorenz, Preston, McCarthy.

NAYS: Nord.

Motion declared carried.

Councilmember Stan Nord posed the question regarding local businesses being included in the search. City Manager Pam Reece responded. Human Resources Director Jenny Keigher also responded and introduced Laura Czekanski from the Horton Group which is the Town's insurance broker. Ms. Czekanski stated that HClactive was suggested partly due to their disease management component and will also be able to easily connect with Blue Cross/Blue Shield, the Town's insurance provider.

Councilmember Karyn Smith posed questions to the Horton Group regarding the role of a broker and the selection process of vendors. Mr. Mike Wojcik from the Horton Group responded.

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McCarthy noted that he appreciates the role of the Horton Group as a broker and a consultant to the Town of Normal.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE POLICE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION (PBPA) UNIT 22: Resolution No. 5800:

MOTION:

Councilmember Cummings moved, seconded by Councilmember Preston, the Council Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Police Benevolent and Protective Association (PBPA) Unit 22:

AYES: Cummings, Nord, Smith, Lorenz, Preston, McCarthy.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

Councilmember Chamberly Cummings commented that this Resolution has nothing to do with the politics of defunding the police. This is an agreement regarding salary increases and employment information.

Councilmember Scott Preston commended the staff, leadership and administration for the culture of working together so well during this process. Mr. Preston also spoke regarding

the process of Public Comment and that it is a time for the Council to listen to the residents and not speak themselves.

Councilmember Stan Nord noted that he applauds the police department. Mr. Nord stated that he would like the police department to let the Council know if they have any other needs such as training or tools to help restore confidence in the department. City Manager Pam Reece and Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McCarthy responded.

Councilmember Karyn Smith spoke regarding the respect she has noted between the Administration and the Police Department.

Police Chief Rick Bleichner commented on the incident of looting at Target. Chief Bleichner noted that the decision was made to defend the life and safety of the staff and the public rather than the property during this incident.

Councilmember Scott Preston thanked Police Chief Bleichner and the rest of the Police Department for what they do to serve the community.

GENERAL ORDERS:

ORDINANCE REZONING PROPERTY IN THE TOWN OF NORMAL (101 E. VERNON, 605 S. LINDEN, 607 S. LINDEN): Ordinance No. 5837:

MOTION:

Councilmember Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Preston, the Council Approval of an Ordinance Rezoning Property in the Town of Normal (101 E. Vernon, 605 S. Linden, 607 S. Linden):

AYES: Smith, Lorenz, Preston, Cummings, McCarthy.

NAYS: Nord.

Motion declared carried.

City Manager Pam Reece stated that Items 7 and 8 are related so the discussion can be about both at this time, but the actions would be made separately.

Councilmember Kathleen Lorenz stated whole-hearted support for this unique property and the Illinois Art Station.

Councilmember Karyn Smith asked for clarification on a letter of opposition received by a resident regarding the zoning change. Town Planner Mercy Davison stated that this zoning classification is the most conservative opportunity for public input.

Councilmember Smith also posed questions regarding the circle drive and the location near the Constitution Trail. Ms. Davison responded.

Dr. Laura Berk from the Illinois Art Station spoke regarding the ADA access in the parking lot and the circle drive. Dr. Berk also spoke regarding those who would patronize the Illinois Art Station, the access to the parking lot and the walkway into the building.

Councilmember Scott Preston believes this project will be an outstanding and unique addition and adds quality of life to the community. Dr. Laura Berk responded.

Councilmember Stan Nord questioned whether this is a taxpayer investment. City Manager Pam Reece responded.

RESOLUTION APPROVING A SITE PLAN FOR THE ILLINOIS ART STATION (101 E. VERNON, 605 S. LINDEN, 607 S. LINDEN): Resolution No. 5801:

MOTION:

Councilmember Preston moved, seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Council Approval of a Resolution Approving a Site Plan for the Illinois Art Station (101 E. Vernon, 605 S. Linden, 607 S. Linden):

AYES: Smith, Lorenz, Preston, Cummings, Nord, McCarthy.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

ORDINANCE VACATING AN EASEMENT ON LOT 7 OF THE RESUBDIVISION OF LOT 2 IN THE FIRST ADDITION TO EAGLE'S LANDING COMMERCIAL SUBDIVISION (1290 HEALING STONE): Ordinance No. 5838:

MOTION:

Councilmember Preston moved, seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Council Approval of an Ordinance Vacating an Easement on Lot 7 of the Resubdivision of Lot 2 in the First Addition to Eagle's Landing Commercial Subdivision (1290 Healing Stone):

AYES: Lorenz, Preston, Cummings, Nord, Smith, McCarthy.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING AN AMENDED FINAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SHOPPES AT COLLEGE HILLS PUD (CRUNCH FITNESS, 301 VETERANS PARKWAY): Resolution No. 5802:

MOTION TO AMEND:

Councilmember Preston moved, seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Council Approval to Amend Section 2 of the Resolution Conditionally Approving an Amended Final Development Plan for the Shoppes at College Hills PUD (Crunch Fitness, 301 Veterans Parkway) with a Modified Sign Package requested by the Developer:

AYES: Preston, Cummings, Nord, Smith, Lorenz, McCarthy.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

MOTION:

Councilmember Lorenz moved, seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Council Approval of the Amended Resolution Conditionally Approving an Amended Final Development Plan for the Shoppes at College Hills PUD (Crunch Fitness, 301 Veterans Parkway):

AYES: Cummings, Nord, Smith, Lorenz, Preston, McCarthy.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

Councilmember Karyn Smith asked for clarification regarding the status of the Planning Commission recommendations. City Manager Pam Reece responded. Town Planner Mercy Davison responded regarding the sign package recommendation which is to limit the size of the sign but keep the color.

Mr. Kyle Cowan, development partner of Crunch Fitness, spoke regarding the sign package including the logo. Mr. Cowan stated he reached out to the owner of Destihl and received his approval of the sign suggestions. Mr. Cowan introduced Brian Hibbard the owner of Crunch Fitness.

Councilmember Scott Preston posed questions regarding the signage compared to the new Target sign. Mr. Preston appreciates the work of the Planning Commission and supports their recommendation.

Councilmember Kathleen Lorenz stated she supports the compromised requirement and stated she appreciates the staff wanting to maintain the integrity of the PUD. Mrs. Lorenz spoke regarding the evolution of independent malls.

Councilmember Kevin McCarthy posed questions regarding the ambiguity of the sign package. Inspections Director Greg Troemel responded.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

There was no New Business.

8. CONCERNS:

Councilmember Karyn Smith informed residents of the NAACP event for a Strategic Action Plan at Mount Pisgah Baptist Church on Sunday, August 23 from 5-6pm. They will be handing out face masks and hand sanitizer.

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McCarthy welcomed the college students back to our community.

Councilmember Stan Nord informed residents of the Back the Blue event on August 30 at 2:00pm at GE Park.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Pro Tem McCarthy called for a Motion to Adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council.

MOTION:

Councilmember Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Lorenz, the Council Accept a Motion to Adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council.

AYES: Nord, Smith, Lorenz, Preston, Cummings, McCarthy.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

Mayor Pro Tem McCarthy adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council at 9:15p.m., Monday, August 17, 2020.