

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 – TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2020.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McCarthy called the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 21, 2020.

2. ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the roll with the following persons physically

PRESENT: Councilmembers, Kevin McCarthy, 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, Councilmember Chamberly Cummings.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Emily Petri, Staff Attorney with Prairie State Legal Services, spoke in support of the CDBG plan and the importance of combatting housing discrimination.

Radiance Campbell, member of the Climate Action Campaign and Normal Resident, spoke about the importance of extreme weather planning in the community.

Joe Kennedy, member of the Climate Action Campaign and ISU Student, spoke about the importance of extreme weather planning in the community.

Cecelia Long, Lead Organizer of the Climate Action Campaign and Normal Resident, spoke about the importance of extreme weather planning in the community.

Jim Walters, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of McLean County, spoke in support of the CDBG Plan and the importance of their partnership with the program.

Dawn Dannenbring, Illinois People's Action, spoke in support of the Climate Action Campaign and the importance of extreme weather planning in the community.

Anakin Fox, Heartland Community College Student, spoke in support of the Climate Action Campaign and the importance of extreme weather planning in the community.

5. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

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

- A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 6, 2020:
- B. REPORT TO RECEIVE AND FILE TOWN OF NORMAL EXPENDITURES FOR PAYMENT AS OF JANUARY 15, 2020:
- C. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING SERVICES FOR THE 2020 CONSTRUCTION SEASON WITH RAMSEY GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING LLC (RGE):
- D. RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE \$1,550,000 OF MOTOR FUEL TAX (MFT) FUNDS FOR THE RESURFACING OF VARIOUS STREETS FOR THE 2020 MFT STREET RESURFACING PROJECT:
- E. AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING PERMANENT EASEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE GLENN AVENUE BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT:

Items C, D, and E were removed from the Omnibus Vote.

MOTION:

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

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

Items A and B were approved by the Omnibus Vote.

6. ITEMS REMOVED FROM OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING SERVICES FOR THE 2020 CONSTRUCTION SEASON WITH RAMSEY GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING LLC (RGE): Resolution No. 5736:

MOTION:

Councilmember Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Preston, the Council Approval of a Resolution Authorizing an Agreement for Construction Materials Testing Services for the 2020 Construction Season with Ramsey Geotechnical Engineering LLC (RGE).

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

Councilmember Karyn Smith asked for clarification on having no bids for this agreement and the value of this project.

Town Engineer, Ryan Otto responded the Town has worked with RGE since 2014 and Since 2002 under its previous name Testing Service Corporation. Mr. Otto indicated the company provides materials testing and other unique skills on a variety of projects. Mr. Otto noted the cost for FY20-21 has been budgeted for \$18,000.

City Manager, Pamela Reece noted historical spending with this vendor has been less than \$10,000 per year.

RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE \$1,550,000 OF MOTOR FUEL TAX (MFT) FUNDS FOR THE RESURFACING OF VARIOUS STREETS FOR THE 2020 MFT STREET RESURFACING PROJECT: Resolution No. 5737:

MOTION:

Councilmember Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Preston, the Council Approve a Resolution to Appropriate \$1,550,000 of Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Funds for the Resurfacing of Various Streets for the 2020 MFT Street Resurfacing Project.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Cummings, Koos.

Motion declared carried.

Councilmember Karyn Smith asked for clarification on the process and structure of the proposed item, specifically on MFT street projects being given different priority than residential street projects. Ms. Smith also asked how citizens could provide input about street repairs.

Town Engineer, Ryan Otto responded that MFT projects have a different set of requirements, are usually larger projects, and are typically packaged by similar work types. Mr. Otto also indicated they receive citizen input routinely on street repair issues and briefly reviewed the rating system used to prioritize street repairs.

City Manager, Pamela Reece indicated typical MFT projects consist of bridge work, traffic signals and major corridors.

Councilmember Kathleen Lorenz noted a recent discussion at a Homeowner's Association meeting in Ironwood where roadway repairs were discussed. Mrs. Lorenz also indicated that residents can also contact Councilmembers regarding street repair issues.

Councilmember Kevin McCarthy noted there is a reporting tool available on the Town website to report street conditions.

Councilmember Stan Nord asked the Town publish street rating reports to make residents aware of the priority schedule. Town Engineer, Ryan Otto indicated they are working on a tool that would allow that type of reporting.

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING PERMANENT EASEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE GLENN AVENUE BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT: Ordinance No. 5813:

MOTION:

Councilmember Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Lorenz, the Council Adopt an Ordinance Accepting Permanent Easements in Connection with the Glenn Avenue Bridge Reconstruction Project.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Cummings, Koos.

Motion declared carried.

Councilmember Karyn Smith asked if there were any costs associated with the proposed transaction. City Manager, Pamela Reece indicated there were not.

7. GENERAL ORDERS:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF THE TOWN'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) 2020-2024 CONSOLIDATED PLAN & ACTION PLAN FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2020-2021: Resolution No. 5738:

MOTION:

Councilmember Preston moved, seconded by Councilmember Lorenz, the Council Approve a Resolution Authorizing the Filing of the Town's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan & Action Plan for Program Year 2020-2021.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Cummings, Koos.

Motion declared carried.

Associate Town Planner, Taylor Long provided a summary for final, formal approval of the CDBG Plan. Mr. Long reviewed the annual approval process, public comment periods, and whether the plan could be amended.

Councilmembers thanked staff for their communications process during the approval process of the CDBG Plan.

Councilmember Nord asked why trailer parks are not included in the boundary map.

City Manager, Pamela Reece explained the census tract determines where mobile home parks fall on the boundary maps. Ms. Reece indicated that individual persons may be eligible for CDBG funds even though a specific neighborhood might not be. Ms. Reece then thanked Mr. Long for his expert level efforts in completing the CDBG plan. Ms. Reece also noted the Town's appreciation of the McLean County Regional Planning Commission for their assistance on the plan and indicated this is an example of a strong Community partnership.

Assistant City Manager, Eric Hanson then reviewed the preparation underway for the upcoming census and how the counting works.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

PRESENTATION FROM THE CLIMATE ACTION CAMPAIGN ON COMMUNITY ISSUES:

Climate Action Campaign President, Bill Rau and members, gave a presentation on the importance of protecting our community during extreme weather events. The presentation included background on the organization and their mission. The group discussed problems people and communities face during extreme cold/heat events. A review of climate science, including polar vortex and heat wave assessments.

The group proposed the Town support the creation and implementation of an Extreme Weather Response Plan that includes cooling/warming centers, free public transit, weather command center, appropriately-trained first responders and neighborhood infrastructure.

Discussion continued on the decline of tree canopies, the need for a tree canopy analysis, and the need for diverse tree plantings.

9. CONCERNS:

Councilmember Stan Nord stated the Citizen Summit report has been completed and is now available. Mr. Nord noted the Connect Transit working group is scheduled to hold a meeting tomorrow.

10. 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: Smith, Lorenz, Preston, Nord, McCarthy.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Cummings, Koos.

Motion declared carried.

Mayor Pro Tem McCarthy adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council at 8:17 p.m., Tuesday, January 21, 2020.