

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Nathan Luck called the May 12, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:08 PM. The Regular City Council Meeting was held in person and also via Zoom and YouTube. Those in attendance were the following:

MAYOR: NATHAN LUCK

CLERK: CYNTHIA SILHAN

COUNCIL MEMBERS: David Buddrius
Justin Slack
Stephen Hardy
Levi Schenk
Peter Davenport

VISITORS: Scott McGowan
Lynn McGowan
Cherie MacClellan
Joe Armand
Jess Silhan
Denisa Holling

APPOINTMENT OF KATHI MATTHEWS TO PDA

Kathi Matthews wrote a letter to the City Council requesting an appointment to the (PDA), Harrington Public Development Authority. Her 20 + years in nonprofit fundraising, community mobilization and volunteer engagement will be well used for the betterment of our community.

Question was raised about Kathi being a Harrington resident but there didn't seem to be anything that would disqualify her from this position.

Vote was taken 5-0.

UPDATE ON CODE ENFORCEMENT

Discussion about the legalities of how to work with the community on junk vehicles that are not running and sitting in the yard or alley. This is an ongoing search for what, as a community, we can do to solve this problem for our town. Consensus with the council seems to be how effective we can be, and yet remain understanding to trying to help these people. However if they are not in compliance and don't wish to work with the code enforcement, then discussion on how to address that will be discussed. Maybe a ticket with a fine would be something to look at, but the council still would like to have some input from the council on how this needs to be addressed. As of now the council will be meeting to address this problem.

DISCUSSION ON CURRENT ORDINANCES

This also ties in with Code Enforcement which also will be discussing what the ordinances are for the City of Harrington. There may be discussion about issuing tickets if the infraction isn't taken care of. The amount of fines will be looked at as a group and every attempt to work with the resident to get the problem addressed. This will be a discussion for another time, as the Council is still looking into all aspects of this.

DISCUSSION ON COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Buddrius, inquired as to the most efficient way for communication amongst the council. Mayor Luck felt that the I Pads that had been purchased for the council was the best way to keep up to date on what was going on. If however something came to their attention you could get together and discuss whatever needed to be addressed at that time.

MAYOR UPDATES

Clerk Position:

Mayor Luck, discussed the update on the clerks position. Currently, "we have interviewed two people". Mayor Luck has also interviewed one person for Scott's position.

West Adams Street Update

Mayor Luck is currently signing a Bid Authorization Form to TD&H to start the advertisement for bids. This is the next step in continuing to get the road paved and finished. Councilman Davenport asked about the infrastructure under the ground being solid. Scott McGowan replied "he believed everything was fine, except possibly a couple of areas that could be addressed and fixed easily before the construction began."

ADDITION TO MEETING

Councilman Hardy brought up more detail about the "snowbirds" that he would like to address. Hardy mentioned having an ad hoc committee set up to look into this. Having replied to Randy Behrens on the reason for the change to water sewer, Hardy felt a commitment to try and get something organized for this. Hardy felt what would be consistent with the sewer not being used would perhaps be looking into the restructuring the free 5000 gallons of water. Since this is actually not priced, the council could work to maybe change how that looks.

Councilman Hardy would like for a group to meet and discuss this, get some ideas, and work with what we have.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Cherie MacClellan, asked about the current ordinances, if they were going to table this, or if we were going to scrap it altogether. Mayor Luck explained that they were going to roll this together with code enforcement. Cherie also inquired if we could still get a copy of the minutes, and the bills, as she used to get them from Bunny before. Mayor Luck said she could and so she can have copies as soon as the minutes are prepared.

Jess Silhan, enquired if these documents could be on line for everyone to see. Councilman Hardy explained that they could, however it's just a matter of time constraints. Hopefully in the Future we can have all this on line, except any information deemed private. Another question about whether we knew what other city's might have in place for "snowbirds". Councilman Davenport mentioned that might be a good idea to check on that.

Conversation about our handbook came up for discussion. Mayor Luck mentioned that the handbook is almost completed. There are still legalities that are still being looked at by our attorney. Councilman Hardy explained they have done a lot of work going through everything, and getting rid of items that don't really pertain to our community. Hardy explained there has been a great deal of time and money into this, and a great deal of input and working together as a committee to get this finalized. After the final draft is complete they will present it to the council for a final look. It then will be voted on and finished.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Davenport, moved to adjourn as well as Councilman Schenk, vote passed 5-0 at 8:17PM.