

REGULAR MEETING

The Town Council of the Town of Weber City met in a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 20, 2021. The meeting was held in the assembly room of the Weber City Town Hall. Pledge of Allegiance by all in attendance. Eileen Deckard led the council in prayer.

PRESENT: Mayor: Vacant
 Interim Mayor: Greg Smith
 Town Attorney: Michael Carrico
 Council Members: Eileen Deckard, Casey Kinkead, Teresa Tilson, Larry Wagner

ABSENT: Justin Addington, Steve Smith

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to accept the June 15, 2021 regular monthly meeting minutes, was made by Teresa Tilson, the motion was seconded by Casey Kinkead; the motion passed with 4 voting AYES: none voting NAY: 2 Absent.

Motion to accept the June 15, 2021 special called meeting minutes was made by Casey Kinkead, the motion was seconded by Eileen Deckard; the motion passed with 4 voting AYES: none voting NAY: 2 Absent: 2.

Motion to accept the June 29, 2021 special called meeting minutes was made by Teresa Tilson; the motion was seconded by Larry Wagner; the motion passed with 4 voting AYES: none voting NAY: 2 Absent.

Motion to accept the June 2021 Financial Reports was made by Larry Wagner; the motion was seconded by Eileen Deckard; the motion passed with 4 voting AYES: none voting NAY: 2 Absent.

Public Presentations: Marti Whitt addressed the board to get a follow up on her request at the April 20, 2021 meeting for crosswalk or speedbumps at the intersection of Clonce and Church Streets. Larry Wagner stated he has spoken with John at Terry Kilgore's office and they stated not enough volume to get anything completed at this time. Interim Mayor Greg Smith stated that VDOT has advised they are looking into this with no projected date for a resolution. Marti Whitt advised she has a real concern for the children walking across the street from the Church. The Church has advised they are limiting the trips across the road. Marti Whitt also advised that even the school bus stops at this location and she feels this is very dangerous.

Marti Whitt also questioned the council as to what is the status from State Police regarding the previous Town Clerk. She stated that Jason Jenkins had taken the report and had not heard anything more and she would like an update. Mike Carrico stated he was here when the report was taken and that he had not been given updates either. Interim Mayor Greg Smith stated following up with State Police would need to be done.

Boundary Adjustment /Ordinance Committee: None

Finance Committee: No report

Fire Department: No Report

Legal Affairs. Mike Carrico stated that the liquor by the drink petitions are ready after the signature of the Interim Mayor. The petitions need signatures by registered voters within the town limits. The deadline is August 13, 2021 for the signatures the town would need approximately 100 signatures.

Maintenance Committee: Casey Kinkead advised that the workers from the Scott Service Program have not been on site in almost two weeks. The primer coat is almost complete, however further scraping

would need to be completed prior to painting. Quotes on renovations at the front entry are not yet complete.

Mayors Report: Interim Mayor Greg Smith advised at this time he has yet to hear of the decisions regarding the inspection fees or street signs from the county. He plans to call the County administrator in the next week for an update.

Interim Mayor Greg Smith spoke with a rep of VACO that will now look into possible funding using grants or ARPA Funds for the potential street lighting project.

Personnel Committee: Interim Mayor Greg Smith advised the council of the new Federal Holiday. Mike Carrico stated he felt the town would just want to go ahead and adopt the holiday.

A motion to add the Federal Holiday *Juneteenth* as a paid town holiday was made by Teresa Tilson; the motion was seconded by Casey Kinkead; the motion passed with 4 voting AYES: none voting NAY: 2 Absent.

Eileen Deckard advised the council would need to discuss personnel issues in closed session.

Police Department: Chief of Police Matt Bishop stated he had ordered some free literature regarding internet scams and he had guides available to pass out and requested that the town clerk put this on the towns Facebook page. Fraud is a big issue for seniors citizens he stated.

Chief Matt Bishop brought up a new service offered by VDOT that will allow the traffic lights to be changed if needed, however he personally feels with the size of Weber City the cost of \$1,500.00 per vehicle this would not be needed in his opinion.

Chief Matt Bishop handed out to the council a report based on the previous 90-day period. Stating that based on the statistics from the report most activities are between the hours of 9am to 9pm. Zero calls have come in between the hours of 3am-7am. He wanted to let the council know that based on that information he is trying to utilize officer availabilities based on peak calls and activities.

Chief Matt Bishop wanted to discuss the considerations of Hazardous Duty benefits with the council stating that the current retirement benefit would be the same of that of a clerical worker or public works employee, stating in his opinion the Police Officers jobs have never been so dangerous. Requesting to the council that although this plan does cost a higher monthly rate of \$665.91 per officer he sees that the benefit is needed to retain good officers. Chief Bishop requested that council show the officers they care and not to have a knee jerk reaction in making this decision by reducing other benefits. Chief Bishop reminded the council that the recent agreement with the Commonwealth attorney's office would increase payments due to the town. Chief Bishop stated the police department is almost fully staffed at this time and he feels the hazardous duty benefit would now be an affordable option.

Teresa Tilson questioned the distance that the officers may have to transfer mental health patients. Chief Bishop advised the longest distance is Petersburg and roughly a 5-hour trip.

Street Committee: Teresa Tilson wanted to let the council know VDOT has yet to repair the hole near her home on Tulip Poplar. Eileen Deckard wanted to get an update from VDOT regarding the property along US Hwy 23 where Boones Heating and Cooling is located. The clerk would be asked to follow up with VDOT. Interim Mayor Greg Smith stated several of the town streets are in need of repair before winter. Mike Carrico stated the town would need three quotes regarding the repairs.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion to enter a closed session to discuss legal and personnel issues was made by Casey Kinkead; the motion was seconded by Larry Wagner; the motion passed with 3 voting AYES: none voting NAY 2 ABSENT.

A motion to go out of closed session and back into regular session was made by Teresa Tilson; the motion was seconded by Larry Wagner; the motion passed with 4 voting AYES: none voting NAY: 2 Absent.

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED SESSION

The Mayor, Council members and the Town's Attorney entered closed session.

After returning from closed session, the mayor and council members hereby certify that only lawfully exempt matters, for which the closed meeting was convened, were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting by the mayor, and Council members. Voting "AYE" were Eileen Deckard, Teresa Tilson, Casey Kincaid, Larry Wagner and none voting "NAY".

Action from closed session: A motion to implement pay raises as budgeted to be effective on July 11, 2021 was made by Teresa Tilson; the motion was seconded by Eileen Deckard; the motion passed with 3 voting AYES: none voting NAY 2 ABSENT.

A motion that police vehicles can only be used for police activities and official town business was made by Casey Kincaid; the motion was seconded by Teresa Tilson; the motion passed with 3 voting AYES: none voting NAY 2 ABSENT.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Larry Wagner; the motion was seconded by Teresa Tilson; the motion passed with 3 voting AYES: none voting NAY 2 ABSENT.

Interim Mayor Greg Smith

Town Secretary