REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEBER CITY, VIRGINIA

The Town Council of the Town of Weber City met in a Regular Meeting Session at <u>7:00</u> <u>p.m. on Tuesday, June 18, 2024</u>. The meeting was held in the assembly room of the Weber City Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by <u>Mayor Justin Addington</u>, and opened with Prayer by <u>Eileen Deckard, Council Member</u>. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by: <u>Mike Carrico, Town Attorney</u>, and joined by all in attendance.

PRESENT:

Mayor: Justin M. Addington
Town Attorney: Michael Carrico
Council Member: Eileen Deckard
Council Member: Jeff Flanary

Council Member: Zackary Salyer (out of town – joined by Mike's iphone)

Council Member: Teresa Tilson
Council Member: Wendell Tipton

Council Member: Vacant

Others: Penney Capps - Clerk, Donald Harding, III - Police Chief, Frank Tittle - Public Works

ABSENT:

Treasurer Rhonda Neeley (medical leave)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES and FINANCIAL REPORT:

Motion to accept the **May 14, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes** was made by <u>Teresa Tilson</u>; seconded by <u>Wendell Tipton</u>.

Motion passed with <u>5</u> voting AYE, <u>0</u> voting NAY, <u>0</u> ABSENT, <u>1</u> Vacant, <u>0</u> Abstentions

Motion to accept the **May 2024 Financial Report**, was made by **Zackary Salyer**, seconded by **Jeff Flanary**.

Motion passed with <u>5</u> voting AYE, <u>0</u> voting NAY, <u>0</u> ABSENT, <u>1</u> Vacant, <u>0</u> Abstentions

CLOSED SESSION

A motion to enter INTO Closed Session to discuss legal and personnel issues was made by **Teresa Tilson**, Council member. Seconded by **Zackary Salyer**, Council member.

Motion passed with <u>5</u> voting AYE, <u>0</u> voting NAY, <u>0</u> ABSENT, <u>1</u> Vacant, <u>0</u> Abstentions

A motion to go OUT of Closed Session and back into Regular Session was made by **Teresa Tilson**, and seconded by **Zackary Salyer**.

Motion passed with 5 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 1 Vacant, 0 Abstentions

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED SESSION

The Mayor, Council Members, and the Town's Attorney entered into Closed Session. A motion to 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, was made by **Wendell Tipton**, Council member, seconded by **Teresa Tilson**, Council member, and roll call vote made with these **5** members voting "AYE" were:

Jeff Flanary, Wendell Tipton, Teresa Tilson, Eileen Deckard, Zackary Salyer Voting "NAY" were: **0**, **0** Absent, **1** Vacant, and **0** Abstentions

ACTION FROM THE CLOSED SESSION:

- Motion was made by <u>Jeff Flanary</u>, seconded by <u>Teresa Tilson</u>, that Employee #1067 be terminated, effective immediately, based on the recommendation of the Police Academy and WC Police Chief Donald Harding, III.
 Motion passed with <u>5</u> voting AYE, <u>0</u> voting NAY, <u>0</u> ABSENT, <u>1</u> Vacant, <u>0</u> Abstentions
- 2. Motion was made by <u>Jeff Flanary</u>, seconded by <u>Eileen Deckard</u>, to revisit the Verizon GPS and camera system contract cancellation in the town meeting later tonight. Motion passed with <u>5</u> voting AYE, <u>0</u> voting NAY, <u>0</u> ABSENT, <u>1</u> Vacant, <u>0</u> Abstentions
- Motion was made by <u>Teresa Tilson</u>, seconded by <u>Wendell Tipton</u>, to promote Officer Jesse Jones to Lieutenant with a pay rate of \$24.60/hour effective July 1, 2024.
 Motion passed with <u>5</u> voting AYE, <u>0</u> voting NAY, <u>0</u> ABSENT, <u>1</u> Vacant, <u>0</u> Abstentions

Mayor Report and Comments:

Mayor Addington had no report to share other than a request to purchase new tires for the Public Works Department truck. The current ones have dry-rotted and need replacing. The Council must vote, since the estimated prices exceeds the \$500 Mayor's approval amount.

Old Business:

Jeff Flanary reminded the Council that they made the motion to revisit the Verizon GPS/Camera contract, that would fall under "old business". Town Attorney, Mike Carrico said that the contract would be reviewed and be part of next month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tires for the Public Works Truck

A motion was made by <u>Teresa Tilson</u>, seconded by <u>Zackary Salyer</u> to purchase new tires for the Public Works 2014 Ford F150 truck due to dry rot damage to the current ones. There was some discussion about purchasing the tires from a local Weber City business who has supplied 2 quotes ranging from \$970.00 to \$1,017.00. Motion passed with <u>5</u> voting AYE, <u>0</u> voting NAY, <u>1</u> ABSENT, <u>0</u> Abstentions

Town Decals for the Public Works Truck

A motion was made by <u>Teresa Tilson</u>, seconded by <u>Jeff Flanary</u> to approve the purchase and installation of decals for the doors and tailgate of the Public Works 2014

Ford F150 Truck. The purchase amount is approved up to **\$190.00**, and 3 bids are not required due to the dollar amount.

Motion passed with 5 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 1 Vacant, 0 Abstentions

<u>Uniform Purchase for Public Works Employee</u>

A motion was made by <u>Teresa Tilson</u>, seconded by <u>Zackary Salyer</u> to purchase one pair of steel-toed work boots, and multiple high visibility T-shirts with the Town logo, up to, the dollar amount \$400.00.

Motion passed with <u>5</u> voting AYE, <u>0</u> voting NAY, <u>0</u> ABSENT, <u>1</u> Vacant, <u>0</u> Abstentions

Purchase Dump Trailer for Public Works Department

A motion was made by Teresa Tilson, to purchase a 6'x10' 5 Ton Drop Down Curb Side Tarp Dump Trailer in the amount of \$6,795.00 from O'Quinn Trailer Co. Three bids were received ranging in cost from \$6,795.00 to \$9,999.00. The dump trailer would be used by Public Works for many things and possibly trash pick up in the future by the town. Frank Tittle commented that it may require a larger trailer, possibly 16' or 18' to successfully haul the trash. (there are no quotes on that size, just the 10' version for smaller jobs. There was also discussion by several council members whether the F150 Truck the town currently owns is capable of towing the trailer full of contents. Due to these additional questions that remain unanswered, Jeff Flanary asked if the item needs to be tabled until next month. Teresa Tilson remarked that she did not think it could be tabled since it would be using funs from the FY23-24 budget and not the new budget. Mike Carrico stated that if the money was not spent by the end of the budget, they could vote to move the money. No second was received, and the motion dies.

Purchase Materials for IT Server Closet

A motion was made by <u>Teresa Tilson</u>, seconded by <u>Jeff Flanary</u> to purchase one 36" x 80" louvered closet door to create proper ventilation for the IT Equipment Closet. The estimates received range from \$236.00 - \$510.00

Motion passed with <u>5</u> voting AYE, <u>0</u> voting NAY, <u>0</u> ABSENT, <u>1</u> Vacant, <u>0</u> Abstentions

Approval of ECO/TDO Hourly Rate for the WCPD

A motion was made by <u>Jeff Flanary</u>, seconded by <u>Eileen Deckard</u> to set the amount paid to an officer for ECO/TDO duty is calculated at that officer's overtime rate per hour. And that the additional reimbursement funds are to benefit the Town's expenses incurred by the transport.

Motion passed with 4 voting AYE, 1 voting NAY, 0 Absent, 1 Vacant, 0 Abstentions

<u>Legal Affairs – by Attorney Mike Carrico</u>

Town Attorney, Mike Carrico, had no new information to share with the Council.

Committee Reports:

ARPA Committee Report: Teresa Tilson and Zackary Salver

No new discussion items. They understand that the Police Department renovations are to begin sometime in July. Chief Harding stated that he is waiting to hear from the contractor on an official start date. Eileen Deckard stated that the Council needs to see

the plan. She and Zackary Salyer are on the Planning committee and have yet to see any plans for the renovations. Mike Carrico said that he has seen the plans, and everything looks good.

Finance Committee Report: Teresa Tilson and Wendell Tipton
Already discussed the FY24-25 Budget during the Public Hearing. No other items to present.

Maintenance Committee Report: Jeff Flanary

Jeff referred his time to Frank Tittle, Public Works, to discuss some needs he is aware of. Frank listed several streets that are in need of repair, mainly drainage repair since improper drainage is flooding and eroding the streets. Those roads are: Blanton, Boone, and Ridge Rd. He has been able to have 2 companies (Mark Hall and Chris Gamble) to look at the problem, and will provide estimates. However, Regan McMurray whom the town usually uses is declining to bid due to recovering from recent surgery. No motions were made today, but it was decided to use ARPA funds for the most needed repairs that so far total around \$17,000. A third quote is needed, then given to the Council when received, to vote on in a future meeting. The decline to bid, cannot be used as a bid.

The guttering is damaged and falling off the Fire Hall building on Roland Street. Frank has collected three bids: Davis Brothers Roofing, Inc. – commercial grade guttering with snow guard installation \$9,198.00, Holtzclaw Guttering, Inc. – residential grade guttering with snow guard installation \$4,800.00, Price Siding & Guttering, Inc. – reuse existing guttering or a combination of both old and new for approximately \$2,000-\$2,500. Matt Ison of the Fire Department stated that the water leak in the building appears to be from the original roof leak that was fixed last fall, but they do not see any new leaks due to the guttering problem.

Frank then asked which tires the Town prefers he purchase from Weber City Discount Tire for the truck. They stated that it is always best to get the higher quality tire.

Personnel Committee Report: Eileen Deckard

No new items at this time.

Planning Committee Report: Eileen Deckard and Zackary Salyer

No new items at this time. Mentioned again that the Planning Committee would like to be brought up-to-date with the Police Department renovations.

Street Committee Report: Jeff Flanary and Wendell Tipton

That report was thoroughly covered by Frank in the Maintenance Committee report.

Police Department Report:

Chief Harding gave the report. Announced that the Weber City PD will be participating in the National Night Out – a nationwide block party – on Tuesday, August 6, 2024. More details will follow later. VDOT has approved the block that will be used, and it will be announced at a later date. The event will also be a back-to-school bash with handouts for the kids, and prizes to win. He has contacted area merchants for donations of bicycles and other items. He encouraged Council members to get involved by contacting friends and businesses as well.

Council member Jeff Flanary asked Chief Harding to give more details on the item they need to vote on tonight. ECO/TDO transport is "Emergency Custody Order transport" addressing the growing crisis of Mental Health disorders. These transports are difficult, mentally taxing, and time consuming. The DCJS has offered a reimbursement program to cover the costs incurred for such transports. They will reimburse up to \$52 per hour for ECO/TDO transports. Jeff Flanary stated that the Town has costs that it must cover too: fuel, traveling expense, wear on Town vehicles, taxes, and other payroll expenses. He recommends that the officer receive the overtime pay rate for each hour of ECO/TDO, and the Town receive the rest of the reimbursement for its costs. Chief Harding stated that other area agencies are offering the entire \$52.00 amount to the officer, and fears that he will be unable to get officers to volunteer for the job, and he will have to do it for any Weber City resident that requires transport. Historically it has not happened much for our Town PD, but the fear is that the rising mental health crisis will cause those numbers to rise. And the transport cannot be refused by the department. Council members Jeff Flanary and Eileen Deckard stated that their decision is to pay the officer the overtime rate for each hour worked, and the remaining dollar amount go to the Town General Fund for town expenses. Chief Harding's recommendation is to pay a flat rate of \$52.00/hour in order to match other area agencies.

Fire Department Report:

Announced the Independence Day celebration that is scheduled for Friday, July 5, 2024 5 – 10 pm. Commended Chief Donald Harding and Officer Jesse Jones for their assistance with a house fire in town recently. He also requested if the Town is still considering the Fire Department for funding in the new budget.

<u>Public Comment:</u> Opened 8:00 pm and Closed 8:02 pm Connie Tipton, 156 Locust Street, asked for clarification on the vote regarding ECO transport for the Police Department. Town Attorney, Mike Carrico, said that the Police Chief would be able to answer that after the meeting, but that Public Comment was only for comments, not questions and answers from the council.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by <u>Teresa Tilson</u>, seconded by <u>Jeff Flanary.</u>
Motion passed with <u>5</u> voting AYE, <u>0</u> voting NAY <u>0</u> ABSENT, <u>1</u> Vacant, <u>0</u> Abstentions

Mayor: Justin Addington Town Clerk: Penney C. Capps