

MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
January 18, 2022

The regular meeting of the Monona City Council, via Zoom, was called to order by Mayor O'Connor at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Mary K. O'Connor, Alderpersons Jennifer Kuhr, Kathy Thomas, Kristie Goforth, Molly Grupe, and Nancy Moore

Excused: Alderperson Doug Wood

Also Present: City Administrator Bryan Gadow, Parks & Recreation Director Jake Anderson, Police Chief Brian Chaney Austin, Director of Administrative Services Leah Kimmell, Finance Director Marc Houtakker, City Planner Doug Plowman, City Attorney Bill Cole, Jeff Belongia from Huntington Securities, Inc., and City Clerk Alene Houser

ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Alder Grupe, seconded by Alder Goforth, to approve the Minutes of the January 3, 2022 City Council meeting. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES

Mayor O'Connor read the names of the following individuals who registered their opinion via email:

Support of Resolution 22-1-2529 Repudiating Racist Covenants in Local Property Record

Jessi Claringbole, Monona
Christina Jones, Monona
Beth Esser, Monona
Katy Kaufman, Monona
Sue Carr, Monona
Patricia Ethridge, Monona

Support of Resolution 22-1-2534 Extending Ad-Hoc Workgroup on Diversity and Equity Issues

Katy Kaufman, Monona

PUBLIC HEARING and CONSENT AGENDA

There was no Public Hearing or Consent Agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

G.1.a Consideration of Ordinance 1-22-746 Amending Section 335-8 of the Code of Ordinances Prohibiting Noise Disturbing the Peace

Motion by Alder Kuhr, seconded by Alder Thomas, to continue to next meeting. Motion carried.

G.1.b Consideration of Resolution 22-1-2529 Repudiating Racist Covenants in Local Property Records

Alder Kuhr explained this resolution was brought to the Ad-Hoc Committee who raised concerns over some of the language. The current resolution addresses these concerns. The Dane County Register of Deeds is working on a free searchable database but it is not yet available. Discussion followed with ideas on how to notify the community and thanking everyone who worked on this resolution.

Motion by Alder Grupe, seconded by Alder Moore, to approve Resolution 22-1-2529 Repudiating Racist Covenants in Local Property Records. Motion carried.

G.1.c Consideration of Resolution 22-1-2530 Amending the 2022 Capital Budget Amendment for the Purchase of a Mower in the Parks Department

Administrator Gadow explained that based on the discussion at the last meeting the resolution was modified to add pushing the \$15,000 Fireman's Park project to 2023. The money will be applied to this project and Resolution 22-1-2531.

Motion by Alder Kuhr, seconded by Alder Grupe, to approve Resolution 22-1-2530 Amending the 2022 Capital Budget Amendment for the Purchase of a Mower in the Parks Department. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

G.1.d Consideration of Resolution 22-1-2531 Amending the 2022 Capital Budget for Parks Tree Removals and Replacements

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Kuhr, to approve Resolution 22-1-2531 Amending the 2022 Capital Budget for Parks Tree Removals and Replacements. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

G.1.e Consideration of Resolution 22-1-2532 Allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for Police and Fire Departments Policy Updates

Administrator Gadow provided the cost difference between the two and five-year maintenance plan. Discussion followed regarding the benefits of the five-year plan and the ability to pay for these updates now with ARPA funds.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Grupe, to amend Resolution 22-1-2532 Allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for Police and Fire Departments Policy Updates to include 5 years of maintenance for a total cost of \$144,622.03. Motion carried.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Moore, to approve Resolution 22-1-2532 Allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for Police and Fire Departments Policy Updates as amended. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

G.2.a. Consideration of Resolution 22-1-2534 Extending Ad-Hoc Workgroup on Diversity and Equity Issues

Administrator Gadow explained that this Ad-Hoc Committee was created last spring and has been meeting since July. The Committee is asking for three more months to finish working on their final report

of recommendations for Council. Discussion followed regarding topics that are being discussed in the Committee and inviting Mr. Chung to give an update.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Moore, to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 22-1-2534 Extending Ad-Hoc Workgroup on Diversity and Equity Issues. Motion carried.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Grupe, to approve Resolution 22-1-2534 Extending Ad-Hoc Workgroup on Diversity an Equity Issues. Motion carried.

G.2.b. Consideration of Resolution 22-1-2535 Approval of Participation in a Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation Safety Grant – 2022 Capitol Area OWI Task Force

Chief Chaney Austin explained this grant will support additional OWI enforcement. The City has participated in similar grants in the past. Staff has been working to combat drunk driving. Recently, there have been some pretty egregious cases of drunk driving along with high and deadly speeds up to 105 miles per hour. Everyone should be able to travel throughout the city safely.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Moore, to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 22-1-2535 Approval of Participation in a Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation Safety Grant – 2022 Capitol Area OWI Task Force. Motion carried

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Moore, to approve Resolution 22-1-2535 Approval of Participation in a Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation Safety Grant – 2022 Capitol Area OWI Task Force. Motion carried

G.2.c. Consideration of Resolution 22-1-2536 Approval of Participation in a Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation Safety Grant – 2022 Dane Suburban Seat Belt Task Force

Chief Chaney Austin explained that although the focus of this grant is seat belt enforcement, the primary reason for stops will be hazardous driving behaviors. Seat belt noncompliance will be addressed secondary. State law allows the Police Department to initiate a stop for seat belt violations but the focus should be based on driving behavior that could create death or great harm.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Moore, to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 22-1-2536 Approval of Participation in a Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation Safety Grant – 2022 Dane Suburban Seat Belt Task Force. Motion carried.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Moore, to approve Resolution 22-1-2536 Approval of Participation in a Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation Safety Grant – 2022 Dane Suburban Seat Belt Task Force. Motion carried.

G.2.d. Consideration of Resolution 22-1-2537 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$11,180,000 Taxable Tax Increment Revenue Bonds (TID No. 9), Series 2022A

Finance Director Houtakker provided information about the difference between General Obligation and TIF Increment Revenue Bonds. General Obligation notes are subject to the state limit of 5% the equalized value and are backed by taxes. Revenue Bonds are solely paid for by revenues from the TIF 9 district, which are 50% greater than what is needed to pay the debt. Surpluses in the TIF increments can be used to call in the last ten years of the debt, starting with year twenty since it's most expensive. Interest rate over the course of the bond is 4.95%.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Moore, to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 22-1-2537 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$11,180,000 Taxable Tax Increment Revenue Bonds (TID No. 9), Series 2022A. Motion carried.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Moore, to approve Resolution 22-1-2537 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$11,180,000 Taxable Tax Increment Revenue Bonds (TID No. 9), Series 2022A. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

G.2.e. Consideration of Ordinance 1-22-747 Updating the Fees, Fines and Penalties Schedule

Director Kimmell reported this is an annual update. Planning & Zoning and Parks & Recreation both have fee updates. The Parks & Recreation fees are accounted for in the 2022 budget and were approved by the Parks & Recreation Board. Previously approved fees will continue until a new schedule is approved. Discussion followed about resident and non-resident pricing.

Motion by Alder Moore, seconded by Alder Thomas, to suspend the rules and take action on Ordinance 1-22-747 Updating the Fees, Fines and Penalties Schedule. Motion carried.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Moore, to approve Ordinance 1-22-747 Updating the Fees, Fines and Penalties Schedule. Motion carried.

REPORTS

1. Updates/Discussion on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Efforts

Administrator Gadow reported that slots are finalized for Council members participating in the Nehemiah's Justified Anger course.

Alder Grupe reported she's looking for input, suggestions and feedback in curriculum planning with regards to inclusivity to be able to report back to the WEAC Region 6 equity group she has been working with.

2. Update/Discussion on Sustainability Efforts.

There were no updates.

3. Committee Reports.

Alder Moore reported the Plan Commission meeting scheduled for January 24 will review the development plans for the project on the corner of Monona Drive and Dean, retail car establishment on Femrite Drive, and the change of zoning at 112-208 Owen Road.

Alder Grupe reported the rescheduled Parks & Recreation Board meeting will meet on January 25th to finalize the parks and open space planning. Survey results and a draft plan are available on the parks website.

Alder Thomas reported that four free COVID-19 tests are available by going to the United State Postal Service website.

Clerk Houser reported there is not a February 15th Spring Primary, and the next election will be April 5th.

Chief Chaney Austin introduced the newest dispatcher, Emma Dabbs, who is currently training with an experienced dispatcher. He and Chief McMullen are very excited for the implementation of Lexipol. Traffic has been backing up on Monona Drive and Winnequah Road because of people waiting in line to get COVID-19 testing done at The Medicine Shoppe. He will work with the owner of the Medicine Shoppe on traffic issues.

Director Kimmell announced the new Court Clerk starts February 7th and will be trained by Toya. The city is very lucky Toya has continued to work part time in this position.

Administrator Gadow provided information about the COVID-19 policy approved by Finance & Personnel Committee. Approved policy has been extended to December 31, 2022 and allows for 5 days of paid leave for COVID-related reasons.

Mayor O'Connor announced the parking under Current 2 is open and very well lit at night.

APPOINTMENTS

Alder Grupe explained that Mr. Boyer has a lot of experience and he appreciates the City's commitment to diversity. He is willing to step down to allow someone else to fill this position if the need arises.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Grupe to approve the Appointment of Dave Boyer to the Public Works Committee, effective immediately - April 2023. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Alder Grupe, seconded by Alder Goforth, to adjourn. Motion carried (8:11 p.m.).

Alene Houser
City Clerk