

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL****December 12, 2022****7:00 P. M.**

The regular meeting of the Lexington City Council was called to order at 7:00 P. M. by Mayor Spencer Johansen in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

Mayor Johansen led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Mayor Johansen, Alderman Mattingly, Alderman Franklin, Alderman Richard, Alderman Stover and Alderwoman Wilson with Alderman Little absent. Members of the staff and public present were: Tom Kinsella.

It was moved by Alderman Mattingly and seconded by Alderman Franklin to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2022 regular session City Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously with Alderwoman Wilson abstaining.

It was moved by Alderman Stover and seconded by Alderman Franklin to approve the Treasurer's Report and paying of the bills in the amount of \$155,613.53. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Input:** None

**Old Business:****Discussion/Vote Ordinance 2022-10: Imposing an Additional One-half of One Percent Sales Tax**

This is a formality to be done since the referendum passed in November's election. This does not have to be done till May of 2023.

Motion was made by Alderman Franklin and seconded by Alderman Stover to approve Ordinance 2022-10: Imposing an Addition One-half of One Percent Sales Tax. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/Vote to Publish Request for Proposals on Water/Sewer Treatment Plant Solar Power Projects**

There was a sample of the proposal minus the dates in the packet. The discussion centered around when the council wanted to publish the proposal and when the deadline for responses should be. Mayor Johansen was going to be gone at the end of December and Alderman Franklin was going to be gone in January, but it was felt that it should be posted as soon as possible with the response date around January 20, 2023. Just because the responses were back did not mean the council needed to vote on them.

Mayor Johansen felt we only needed to publish it once and would get it published before he left for vacation. It was felt it should be published in The Pantagraph.

Motion was made by Alderman Franklin and seconded by Alderman Stover to Publish Requests for Proposals on Water/Sewer Treatment Plants Solar Power Projects due January 20, 2023.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Update on Landlord Property Registration**

Alderwoman Wilson reported that they had received 35 more forms back since the last report and only needed 12 more. She questioned what we should do next to obtain compliance? She was sure some of the 12 did not understand the ordinance.

It was decided to break the 12 out by ward and give to the councilmen to call on the owners. If after being contacted and they still did not comply by the 15th of December they will be subject to Ordinance violations.

#### **New Business:**

##### **Discussion/Vote Ordinance 2022-11: Levy**

Alderman Stover led this discussion by saying that property tax would fund our current expenses, (without dedicated revenue, 22%). He thinks it would be in our best interest to have this closer to 33% by 2032. Growth in EAV and/or expenses will change the calculation, but the target rate would currently be .0075%, which would currently raise property tax \$133 on a \$200,000 home.

In recognition of the potentially skewed assessment, and the sales tax approval, while also acknowledging our current and future funding needs, he recommends we levy \$189,500. This is an increase of \$4,000 and would see our rate drop to .005229%. This continues us on the path towards where he thinks we need to be post-TIF, but slows the pace in light of the additional sales tax funds, and doesn't get us too far out if the multiplier changes significantly in the following years.

Motion was made by Alderman Stover and seconded by Alderwoman Wilson to approve Ordinance 2022-11: Levy. Motion carried unanimously.

##### **Discussion/Vote Ordinance 2022-12: Abatement**

This ordinance states that we are not going to levy for the bonds. We need to do this if we are not going to levy.

Motion was made by Alderman Stover and seconded by Alderman Richard to approve Ordinance 2022-12: Abatement. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Discussion/Vote Resolution 2022-6: Closed Session Minute Review**

Alderman Richard and Alderman Franklin conducted a closed session minute review on November 16, 2022. The following minutes were released: March 28, April 25 and July 11, 2022. All others are to remain closed.

Motion was made by Alderman Richard and seconded by Alderman Franklin to approve Resolution 2022-6: Closed Session Minute Review. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Discussion/Vote 2023 Calendar**

The only change made to the 2023 calendar was to add an additional closed day. Columbus Day was added as an official closed day. Other government offices are closed and banks are closed on that day. It was noted there was one day that the council meetings were moved to Tuesday.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Wilson and seconded by Alderman Richard to approve the 2023 calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Johansen reported on the following items:

Christmas on the Prairie was a huge success and all vendors had good sales. He got a lot of compliments on the way the City looked and he wanted to thank the City staff for getting the decorations up. He thought that next year they would start earlier to put them up. Star did another amazing job. And thanks to Tabitha Hughes and Maggie and Liz Johansen for all their help.

He has talked with Carey Davis and he is still waiting on information from Farnsworth. He would like to have something before the holidays.

The Finance Committee is meeting December 14th with the School.

He will be gone for the December 26th meeting. He will leave it up to the council whether they want to have a meeting.

He has been appointed to serve on the Public Works and Transportation Policy Committee and the Public Health and Safety Committee of the Illinois Municipal League. It is nice to know the smaller communities are being recognized.

They passed an application out for Mike Beard's position. He suggests that the Water, Sewer and Sanitation Committee get together to decide what they are looking for and not wait too long. If Mike decides to leave early they could be a man short.

He has had a meeting with the fiber optic companies about the repairs around town. He wanted Main Street cleaned up by Christmas on the Prairie. He let them know he was not pleased with their work. There are still some holes over by DaT Bar. He is not pleased with

either company but Frontier seems to be a little better. He still has had no complaints from residents.

Jan Proeber has complained about some equipment being over the property line behind the Blacksmith Shop. She was asking that it be moved. We may need to put in the budget for a fence to be put up there next year.

Thank you to Jim Mattingly for helping with Christmas on the Prairie.

**Police:** Alderman Richard reported Officer Kolat has had his first day of ride alongs and field training and he has been thrown into a crime investigation. He is learning a lot in his first week on the job.

He has had multiple people ask him if the apartments in the subdivision will have elevators. It was felt that the cost of an elevator was very high.

**Building/Insurance** Alderman Franklin reported that the cost of insurance is a little higher this year but that is due to inflation. He felt that they come in lower one year and then raise it the next.

**Finance /TIF** None

**Water/Sewer/Sanitation** None

**Street/Alley:** None

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Mattingly to adjourn at 7:36 P.M. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Pati Pease

City Clerk

Approved: January 9, 2023