

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL**May 9, 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 Richard, Alderman Stover, Alderwoman Wilson, Alderman Little, Alderman Mattingly and Alderman Franklin. Members of the staff and public present were: Chief Belvery and Ken Sours.

It was moved by Alderwoman Wilson and seconded by Alderman Franklin to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2022 regular and closed sessions of the city council meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

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 \$30,306.52. Motion carried unanimously.

A question was asked as to why we didn't split the flower bill between True Value and Devore. Mayor Johansen will need to check on this as we get our trees from Devore and our flowers from True Value.

Public Input: None

Old Business:

Discussion/Vote Budget Salary Increases

Alderman Stover does not have the entire budget ready for a vote as bills are still coming in but the increase in salaries needs to be approved as the new year started May 1st. The numbers are what was talked about at the last meeting. He thought we could approve the numbers that were passed out other than for the part time police officers. Their contract has a 1.25% increase built in it and there is no Animal Control officer at this time.

Motion was made by Alderman Stover and seconded by Alderman Richard to approve the budget salary increases except for the part time police officers who will go by their contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Budget Discussion Only

Alderman Stover is really close to the final numbers for the year and should have them finished by the next meeting. The City had a really good year based on budgeted revenues, sales tax was well over our expectations as was income tax revenue.

There are several large expenses that we have not paid for yet such as the dump truck that has not been spent out of last year's expenses. We are well under budget and he feels we are in very good shape.

TIF is on track, unless some unforeseen expense arises, to put a big dent in the loan payments that will be due after the TIF expires. We will be able to get both of those paid off by the end of the TIF.

The sewer at City Hall backed up today and Bill Elias wants to put an extra \$3,500 to cover the cost of repairing that. It was decided to add an additional \$4,000 to cover the cost of that repair. The budget is able to cover everyone's wish list including getting streets done and new street signs.

TIF is showing an increase in revenue, Main Street has the wind turbines, gaming revenue and we are seeing an increase in cannabis sales.

There are still some large ticket items to come: a dump truck, sewer pump and a squad car which cannot be ordered until September or October.

New Business: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Johansen reported on the following items:

The Red Carpet was a good success. We served 350 residents at the picnic. We had some extra pork. The Civil War Storyteller was very good and the Civil War Band did a good job.

He and Alderman Stover had been looking at the gaming license fees. We now charge \$25/machine and you must have a liquor license to have gaming machines. The state says we can charge up to \$250/machine. He would like to raise the fee to \$100/machine to cover the cost of paperwork associated with writing the license. There is no charge for a liquor license. The ordinance may need to be amended to show the increase in fees.

Agreements for the county ARPA money to pay for the Water Tower have been done and are in the review process.

The question was asked about the speed limit on Main Street where the Coffee Hound will be located with customers parking across the Street. It was felt that the 25 mile per hour limit should be moved west a couple of blocks to slow people down and maybe a crosswalk should

be put in. Mayor Johansen replied that that would be the county's decision as it was a county road. He will check with the county about this.

Police: Alderman Richard reported they had started to make background checks on the potential police officer candidates.

Chief Belvery related that they had had two of the new tasers go bad and had returned them. They were still under warranty.

Building/Insurance None

He was asked about an estimate for building insurance for the budget. It was decided to keep it at an increase of 5%.

The comment was made that costs for chemicals for the Water Plant could not be guaranteed after two months.

Finance /TIF None

Water/Sewer/Sanitation Nothing other than Alderwoman Wilson is still working on the landlord/rental lease agreement.

Street/Alley: None

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderwoman Wilson to adjourn at 7:19 P.M. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Pati Pease

City Clerk

Approved: May 23, 2022