

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 5, 2020
CITY HALL/ZOOM REMOTE MEETING
121 S. MERIDIAN

Via zoom remote meetings, Mayor Cicirello called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Matt Stamm, Paul Davis, Ben Anderson, Gina Gregory, Dale Kerstetter, Robert Wilson and Ronald Colbert.

Members Absent: Chris Evans

Staff Present: Lloyd Newman, Public Safety Director
Rodney Eggleston, Public Works Director
Neal Owings, Parks and Public Buildings Director
Ryan Shrack, Community Development Director
Barry Arbuckle, City Attorney
Barry Smith, Assistant City Administrator
Brent Clark, City Administrator
Josh Golka, City Engineer
Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk

Press present: The Ark Valley News

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Davis moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Colbert. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION AGENDA –

APRIL 21, 2020 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES-

Gregory moved to accept the minutes of the April 21, 2020, regular City Council meeting, seconded by Kerstetter. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS –

VALLEY CENTER PUBLIC LIBRARY 1ST QUARTER REPORT

Library Director Sharp was available for questions.

PUBLIC SERVICE WEEK PROCLAMATION

Mayor Cicirello read a Proclamation designating May 3-9th as Public Service Week. He thanked all city employees for their hard work and dedication.

LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL DAY

Mayor Cicirello read a Proclamation designating May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which it falls as Police Week.

PUBLIC FORUM –None

APPOINTMENTS –

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Mayor Cicirello re-appointed Katie Patry and Kelsey Parker to serve on the Planning and Zoning Board for another three year term expiring in April 2023. Anderson moved to accept the appointments, motion seconded by Davis. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS-

A. SIDEWALK REMOVAL REQUEST-521 N. COLBY

Nicholas Leiker submitted a request to remove existing sidewalk. The sidewalk has been damaged because of two trees growing in the easement. The sidewalk is very uneven and creates a tripping hazard. If the request is approved, grass will be planted. Parks Director Owings stated that this area is included in the 2019 Pedestrian and Sidewalk Master Plan that was approved by council last year. Further discussion was held regarding costs, removal of the trees, realistic timeline regarding the sidewalk master plan, existing neighbor sidewalks, utility lines and future requests.

Kerstetter moved to allow the removal of the sidewalk at 521 N. Coby. Motion seconded by Davis. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

B. CHANGE ORDERS FOR WWTP

Golka explained the requested change orders were for deferred maintenance on the WWTP. The overall cost of the project is approximately \$6,000.00 under budget at this time. With approval of these change orders this \$3 million project would only be over by .2%. No additional time would be added to the project, only equipment and labor. Anderson inquired about cost later vs doing it now. Golka explained that the biggest pros to approval at this time is the coverage under the bond, insurance and warranty already in place. Colbert questioned the leaking valve and if these things were a problem when the project was started. Golka said they were not.

Anderson moved to approve change orders for Clarifier #3 Option 2 Stainless Steel Supports for \$7,503.00; Blower Pipe Supports for \$1,467.00; and Remove Overflow Valve for \$2,443.00 for a total not to exceed \$11,413.00. Motion seconded by Davis. Vote: Yea: Stamm, Davis, Anderson, Gregory, Wilson and Kerstetter. Opposed: Colbert Motion carried

C. DISCUSSION OF MERIDIAN PROJECT – MAIN STREET TO 5TH

Golka reported that he received word of WAMPO approval of reconstruction of Meridian Street in the 2024 year. He recommended that this project be combined with project already approved by WAMPO and moved to the 2023 year. He acknowledged the re-construction of Meridian will create many headaches for residents, but is a priority due to road conditions as well as drainage. Kerstetter questioned City funding. Smith stated that the revised CIP will reflect both projects. Golka stated that the project would be a complete removal of streets to install storm drains. It will also replace sidewalks and install ramps at intersections. Council was in favor of proceeding with the project. No official action was needed.

D. MARQUEZ ACRES ADDITION PLAT (SD-2020-01) FINAL APPROVAL

Shrack requested approval of the Marquez acres addition plat. The planning and zoning board approved and recommended Council approve the project. It is located on the north side of Ford and will have a dedicated driveway to the four lots. It would not be a street. No structures are currently on the land.

Based on approval by the Valley Center Planning and Zoning Board, Colbert moved to approve the Marquez Acres Addition Plan (SD-2020-01). Motion seconds by Anderson. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

E. PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL DISCUSSION

Clark addressed Council regarding the swimming pool. He stated that Parks Director Owings and Rec Commission Director Peniston have had numerous discussions and attended numerous state meetings via Zoom relating to the 2020 season of opening pools. Clark stated that any decisions made are for the 2020 season only, it will not affect the 2021 summer. Owings said that the safety of children and adults coming to the pool is the #1 priority for everyone. Peniston agreed that the health recommendation included shutting the pool for hourly cleanings and the use of masks for everyone.

A lengthy discussion was held with everyone agreeing it was a very hard decision. Kerstetter and Stamm spoke of trying to return to “normal” as soon as possible. Residents in support of opening the pool included:

Jakin Lefto, who has been hired to manage the pool this summer, Tony Butcher, President of the Valley Center Swim Club, and Janet O'Donnell. Further discussion was held on other communities opening/shutting plans as well as the shortened season. Owings stated that he didn't think it was feasible for staff doing work on the pool with the uncertainty of the opening. He stated concerns about his staff trying to cover mowing and maintenance without the normal seasonal employees.

Anderson stated that the pool is vital to a small town and its quality of life, however this is not a normal year and if any of the dates in the State plan are moved back it would be worse for us. The extra training for safety procedures for pool staff was also a concern. He also felt that money spent would be wasted if the dates were push back.

Colbert moved that the public swimming pool remain closed for the 2020 summer. The motion was seconded by Anderson. Vote: yea; Davis, Anderson, Gregory, Wilson and Colbert. Opposed; Stamm and Kerstetter. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE-MAY 5, 2020

Anderson moved, seconded by Colbert approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR SHRACK

A Land Bank meeting will be held immediately following tonight's City Council meeting.

Shrack stated that the response rate for the US Census in Valley Center is 72.2%. That is an all on-line response. Verification by phone and door to door canvassing will not begin until June.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR CLARK

Reported that City operations continue. Staff continue to work remotely with payments accepted over the phone, as well as in the mail and drop box. Current operation plans have staff returning May 18, 2020. Public spaces will remain closed.

GOVERNING BODY REPORTS

COUNCILMEMBER DAVIS

Inquired whether there are any repairs that can be done to the pool this summer.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON &

COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY

Will never be in favor of closing the pool permanently, however there is so much that goes into this difficult decision this year.

COUNCILMEMBER KERSTETTER

Asked when playgrounds be opened. Stated it would be very beneficial to kids. Ownings will look at the Governor's order regarding opening.

Colbert moved to adjourn, second by Anderson. Vote Yea: Unanimous.

ADJOURN -

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk