**July 11, 2022**

The Independence City Council met in regular session on Monday, July 11, 2022 at 6:15 pm in the Council Room of the City Hall.

Mayor Robert Baecker presided. Roll call was taken as follows Cleo Skroch, Connie Marsolek, Rich Theisen, Deb Marsolek, Riley Foltz and Jason Ekern. Also present was Attorney Michalak, Paul Franzwa and Kari Pedersen, Independence School District, Dave Pientok, Tri City Sanitation, and Julie Dick from the Trempealeau County Times.

Public Notice was given.

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Foltz and seconded by Theisen to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**Minutes:**

Motion by Ekern and seconded by Foltz to approve the minutes from the June 7, 2022 with the correction of motion and seconded corrected on the liquor license for Bushy’s Meat Market. Motion carried.

**Public Comments**

* Rich Theisen stated that people that post on social media about how the city looks and why no one does anything about id should run for a seat on the City Council.
* He also stated that he has received phone calls on council representatives confronting residents about what they can and can’t do with their properties.
* Jason Ekern said that during the summer rec tournaments he receives a lot of complements on the park and the rec program.

**Old Business:**

**Lake Dredge Update**

Someone needs to contact Russ and get a meeting set up. Also, Brad Rebarchek should be contacted to see if he would like to stay on the Lake Dredge committee.

**Parsons Energy Group Update**

Parsons Energy Group will be asked to be at the August meeting for updates. Any questions from residents can be addressed to council members before the August meeting.

**New Business:**

**Dave Pientok – Tri-City Sanitation**

Dave Pientok came before the council in reference to changing the garbage service to carts rather than bags. Tri-City will furnish the carts and the city will be billed $10.00 per month for the 64-gallon carts and $6.00 per month for the 35-gallon carts. The city will bill residents a monthly fee on their monthly utility bills.

**Independence Public School - Referendum**

Paul Franzwa and Kari Pedersen from the Independence Public School came before the council explain the purpose of the referendum that will be on the August 9th election ballot.

**Recycling Update**

Nothing at this time.

**Adoption of ATV Ordinance**

Motion by D. Marsolek and seconded by Theisen to send this back to the committee for more clarification and bring it back to the August meeting for action. Motion carried.

**Review of the Markham Addition Covenants**

According to the Covenants these properties can be rented for up to 2 years and the rental can be extended with council approval.

**American Rescue Plan Funding Possibilities**

* With the cost of the playground equipment for the Island Park ($20,000.00) and the cost of remodeling the bathrooms at the 4-Seasons Park ($64,000.00) there will be approximately $44,000.00 left in funds.

**Block 1 Original Plat Alley and Parking**

Nothing new on this project.

**Park Shelter Deposits**

This was sent to the Ordinance Committee and will be brought back next month.

**City Hall Furnace/Air Conditioning**

Eli is getting bids for repair/replacement of the furnace and air conditioning in the City Hall, Library and Police Department for the August meeting.

**Licenses & Permits:**

***Bartender Licenses:***

The following Bartender License renewals were presented to the council for approval.

***East End Bar*** – Caitlyn Jiskra, Jenassa Ames and Mikayla Olson, ***The Zoo Bar*** – David Galewski and ***Indee Mini Mart*** – Rebecca Bautch.

Motion by Theisen and seconded by Foltz to approve the above applications and grant the licenses.

***New Bartender Applications –*** Katrina Keller, Ariel Koxlein and Mathew Slaby. Motion by Ekern and seconded by Foltz to approve the above applications and grant the licenses. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports**

* Law Enforcement Personnel – Back to square one on police applications. Applications have been extended to August 1st and the application for a 3rd officer has been revised.
* Summer Rec – The program is going smoothly. We are hosting tournaments 3 weekends during the month of June.

**Closed session pursuant to section 19.85 (1) (e) Wi stats for the purpose of deliberating and/or negotiating the purchase/sale of public property where competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.**

Motion by Ekern and seconded by Foltz to move to closed session pursuant to section 19.85 (1) (e) Wis stats for the purpose of deliberating and/or negotiating the purchase of public property where competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Motion carried with Connie Marsolek, Rich Theisen, Deb Marsolek, Riley Foltz, Jason Ekern and Cleo Skroch voting aye.

**Return to Open Session**

Motion by D. Marsolek and seconded by Skroch to return to open session. Motion carried.

**Approval of Invoices and Payroll**

Motion by Foltz and seconded by Ekern to approve the bills as presented along with the bill for the new street sweeper in the amount of $88,500.00. Motion carried with Rich Theisen, Deb Marsolek, Riley Foltz, Jason Ekern, Cleo Skroch and Connie Marsolek voting aye.

**Correspondence**

Nothing this month.

**Items for Next Agenda**

Lake Update

Parsons Energy

ATV Ordinance/Route

ARPA Funding

Block 1 Alley

2017 Loan Refinance

Park Shelter Deposits

City Hall Furnace/Air Conditioning

Dates for Employee Reviews and Budget meetings.

**Dates for Future Meeting**

Law Enforcement Personnel – Thursday, July 21st @ 5:00

City Council Meeting – Monday, August 1st @ 6:15

Possible meeting with Ray Davy – July 28th or August 18th (both are Thursday’s)

**Adjournment**

Motion by Theisen and seconded by Skroch to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Lenice Pronschinske

City Clerk