

Minutes of the City Commission's February 22, 2024 Meeting

I. REGULAR SESSION

Commissioners Present: Mayor Tim Emert , Vice-Mayor Scott Smith and Commissioner Dean Hayse

City Staff Present: Kelly Passauer, City Manager; David Cowan, Assistant City Manager; Jeff Chubb, City Attorney; David Schwenker, City Clerk/City Treasurer; Shawn Wallis, Fire/EMS Chief; Scott Patton, Park and Zoo Director and Lacey Lies, Director of Finance

Visitors Present: Larry McHugh and Brea Sanford

A. Call to Order

Mayor Emert called the meeting to order.

B. Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America

C. Adoption of Agenda

Motion:

On the motion of Dean Hayse, seconded by Scott Smith, the Commission adopted the agenda.

Aye: Tim Emert, Dean Hayse, Scott Smith

Nay: None

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion:

On the motion of Dean Hayse, seconded by Scott Smith, the Commission adopted the consent agenda.

Aye: Tim Emert, Dean Hayse, Scott Smith

Nay: None

A. Consider approving Change Order 3 for Chestnut Mill and Overlay Project to Bettis Asphalt and Construction, Inc.

This Change Order is to finalize the cost of the project based on the units actually used. This quantity adds a net \$5,411.00 to the final contract, or an increase of 2.1% of the initial amount.

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Suggested Motion:

I move to approve Change Order number 3 in the amount of \$5,411.00 for the Chestnut Mill and Overlay Project to Bettis Asphalt and Construction, Inc.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Public Hearing to consider condemnation of 919 E. Birch Street as dangerous and unsafe.

The City Building and Code Enforcement Office received complaints from the neighbors regarding the condition of two houses on East Birch Street, and the City notified the owner in November that we were starting condemnation proceedings on the structure. The structure has had no utilities since March 2019. The City staff notified the owner, and the last communication we received was about attempting to sell the property. The City Staff recommends condemnation as dangerous and unsafe.

Motion:

On the motion of Scott Smith, seconded by Dean Hayse, the Commission adopted a resolution condemning 919 E. Birch as dangerous and unsafe.

Aye: Tim Emert, Dean Hayse, Scott Smith

Nay: None

- B. Public Hearing to consider condemnation of 1005 E. Birch Street as dangerous and unsafe.

The neighbors contacted the City of Independence Building and Code Department regarding the condition and illegal activity occurring at 1005 E. Birch Street. The City staff met with the neighbors and inspected the property. We found that transient people were occupying the property, which was in disrepair. The City has sent notifications to the property owner but has not had any response regarding the property. The property last had utility service in March 2020. The City Staff recommendation is condemnation as dangerous and unsafe.

Motion:

On the motion of Dean Hayse, seconded by Scott Smith, the Commission adopted a resolution condemning 1005 E. Birch St. as dangerous and unsafe.

Aye: Tim Emert, Dean Hayse, Scott Smith

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Nay: None

IV. ITEMS FOR COMMISSION ACTION

- A. Consider authorizing contracting for cemetery software as budgeted.

Over the years, cemetery records have been maintained using several different methods. A combination of written records, cross-referenced with records kept using Microsoft Excel in addition to legacy software that is no longer supported has created a situation that is very time-consuming and difficult for staff to follow. It was determined that new cemetery management software is required to manage records and serve the public efficiently. CemSites is a cemetery management software system that will allow staff to keep records in a single centralized database accessible everywhere rather than in multiple formats and only accessible in the Cemetery Office. This will modernize and streamline the record-keeping process. With this purchase, another service is integrating all existing cemetery records into the new database.

Motion:

On the motion of Scott Smith, seconded by Dean Hayse, the Commission authorized a contract pending City Attorney approval with Site Industries for purchase and implementation of the CemSites cemetery management software.

Aye: Tim Emert, Dean Hayse, Scott Smith

Nay: None

V. REPORTS

- A. City Board Minutes
- B. 2023 Year End Report

City Manager Passauer reviewed the report.

- C. Monthly Project Report

Assistant City Manager Cowan and Finance Director Lies reviewed the report.

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VI. CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

City Manager Passauer reviewed the upcoming holiday and meeting schedules.

VII. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

None.

VIII. PUBLIC CONCERNS

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

On the motion of Dean Hayse, seconded by Scott Smith, the Commission adjourned the meeting.

Aye: Tim Emert, Dean Hayse, Scott Smith

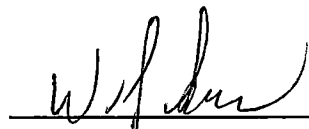
Nay: None



Tim Emert, Mayor

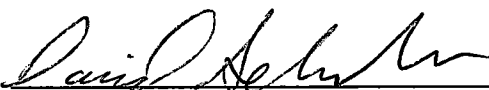


Dean A. Hayse, Commissioner



Scott Smith, Commissioner

Attest:



City Clerk/Treasurer