

CITY OF SALEM
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 21, 2020 – 6:00 pm (via ZOOM)

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Presentation of Petitions/Public Comments**
- IV. Mayor’s Report and Presentations**

- V. City Council Action**
 - 1. Consent Agenda
 - a. City Council Minutes – request approval of 12/21/2020 minutes
 - 2. First reading on revision of code pertaining to Food Trucks
 - 3. Review of vendor proposal for inclusive playground in Bryan Park
 - 4. Second reading of a Social Media Policy
 - 5. Review of accounts payable for the period of November 11th through Dec. 16th, 2020

- VI. City Manager Report with Department Head Updates**
- VII. City Attorney Report**
- VIII. City Council Report**

- IX. Motion to Adjourn**

Rex A. Barbee
City Manager

Quote of the Day – Pessimism never won any battles, whether in peace or in war. – Dwight D. Eisenhower

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MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING (via Zoom)
Monday, December 21, 2020

- I. Call to Order**

The regular December 21, 2020 meeting of the Salem City Council was convened at 6:00 pm via Zoom meeting software and called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Nicolas Farley.

Council members present (via Zoom):
Councilman Jim Koehler
Councilman Nicolas Farley
Councilman Craig Morton
Councilman Jacob Hockett

Council members absent: Mayor Sue Morgan *(due to illness)*

Others present (via Zoom):

City Manager Rex Barbee	City Attorney Mike Jones
City Clerk Bev Quinn	Public Works Director John Pruden
Chief of Police Sean Reynolds	Code Enforcement Officer Dave Lusch
Finance Director Keli Barrow	Economic Development Director Tabitha Meador
Members of the Public and Media	

II. **PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Opening prayer was offered by Councilman Koehler, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. **PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Brock Waggoner expressed his concerns regarding the use of the city-owned 23-acre property on the west side of Salem as a soccer complex. Waggoner's concerns included: cost/value of land; no rezoning done at this time; safety concerns with placing a soccer complex on a state highway; no layout design in place; soccer being played in a location different than baseball/softball; declining population of children; and that he does not feel this is the best use of former farm land and tax dollars. Mr. Waggoner asked that City Council revisit this issue.

IV. **MAYOR'S REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Pro Tem Farley announced that COVID-19 numbers are not going down in Marion County, and we all need to wear our masks and observe social distancing.

IV. **CITY COUNCIL ACTION**

1. **Consent Agenda – request approval of December 7, 2020 minutes**

Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilman Hockett to approve the minutes as presented. Roll call vote: AYES Councilman Morton, Councilman Hockett, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Pro Tem Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

2. **First reading on revision of code pertaining to Food Trucks**

City Manager Barbee indicated a group including two councilmen, department heads, Planning Commission Chairman and Marion County Health Department convened to review the section of code pertaining to Food Trucks (*mobile food vendors*). Based on that meeting, Zoning Administrator Bev Quinn has prepared revisions to the code as provided. Mayor Pro Tem Farley indicated he was involved in that meeting, and he appreciates the efforts of all involved. Councilman Morton asked if we are collecting taxes from the food trucks. Finance Dir. Barrow responded that their taxes are paid to the State, and based on the number of sales they make, they may or may not be required to pay local taxes. Additionally, they often don't show up on the IDOR reports until three months later. Mayor Pro Tem Farley indicated this is being presented for First Reading, and he is not expecting action at this time.

3. **Review of vendor proposal for inclusive playground in Bryan Park**

City Manager Barbee indicated the Inclusive Playground Committee requested proposals from 25 vendors and received 11 proposals from six vendors. The top three vendors were invited to present to the Committee on December 16th, after which the committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the proposal from Hutchinson Recreation and Design. The Committee felt that the Hutchinson Group and the Miracle equipment that they offer was the best selection, utilizing Option B with the possibility of pulling some features from Option C.

Mayor Pro Tem Farley indicated he was part of the review committee, and he appreciates the guidance of John Pruden, Annette Brushwitz, Tabitha Meador, Keli Barrow, Rex Barbee and the Lions Club members who were part of the committee.

Councilman Koehler indicated he, too, sat in on the meeting via Zoom, and he just wants to make sure there is plenty of shade and benches, and that the sidewalks are wide enough for two wheelchairs to pass each other. City Manager Barbee responded that there will be room on the sidewalks for the chairs to pass each other and additional shade can be added, if necessary.

Councilman Morton indicated he is concerned about losing the 30 trees in the location selected for the park, and asked if we are stuck with that area. City Manager Barbee indicated the City is not required to build in that area, but it was selected as the best location. Councilman Morton suggested replacing the swings in the other play area with the inclusive playground. Barbee responded that it is better to keep the two areas separate, and if we want to have the inclusive playground in place this summer, we need to give the vendor the green light to order the equipment. Barbee added that it will take 4-6 weeks to get the equipment ready and 2-4 weeks for installation. Finance Director Barrow added that once a vendor is selected, the plan must be sent to the Department of Natural Resources for approval.

Public Works Director Pruden indicated the site ready, and it was the best location due to the view, site drainage, and the visibility of the play area. Pruden added that this is by far the best location, and they will be limiting the loss of trees as much as possible. Pruden added that he thinks the actual number of trees to be removed is 13.

Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilman Hockett to award the bid for development of the Inclusive Playground to Hutchinson Recreation and Design, Option B, in the

amount of \$330,000 (with the understanding that the price may increase if additional items are added). Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilman Morton, Councilman Hockett, Mayor Pro Tem Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Farley thanked all involved, and added that having an Inclusive Playground in Salem is a “big deal”. City Manager Barbee added his appreciation to Bruce Kropp, who brought the suggestion of an inclusive playground to the Lions Club.

4. Second Reading of a Social Media Policy

Mayor Pro Tem Farley indicated he has reviewed the proposed policy, and would like it revised to indicated there will be at least two administrators on any social media page and that any new social media site must be approved by the City Manager or his designee. **Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilman Hockett to approve Ordinance 2020-11 Adopting a Social Media Policy with the suggested amendments. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilman Hockett, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Pro Tem Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

5. Review of Accounts Payable for the period of November 11 through December 16, 2020

Following review, **motion was made by Councilman Morton and seconded by Councilman Hockett to approve accounts payable, as presented. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Hockett, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Morton, Mayor Pro Tem Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

VI. CITY MANAGER REPORT WITH DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

City Manager Barbee indicated the following:

- Booher Tin Shop and their sub-contractors have been working diligently on installation of the new HVAC system at City Hall, and they are getting close to completion.
- Barbee expressed his appreciation to the Public Works Department for the leaf vac service this fall, and for the repair of several gas and water leaks.
- Barbee offered kudos to John, Annette, Tabitha, Keli, the Lions Club members, and Bruce Kropp for their work on the Inclusive Playground. Barbee added that we are all looking forward to the final product.
- Barbee commended the FOP for their “Shop with a Cop” program. Chief Reynolds added that the FOP took care of all the scheduling to allow for social distancing. Reynolds added that he wanted to express his appreciation to all of the children who participated in their “Homemade Ornament” contest for the tree at the PD, and indicated they announced the winners today.
- Mr. Barbee wished all a Merry Christmas and advised us all to “wear your masks”.

VII. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT – None.

VIII. CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Councilman Koehler wished all a “Merry Christmas and Happy New Year”, and added that he “hopes 2021 will be better than 2020”.

Councilman Hockett wished all a “Merry Christmas”, and urged all to “get out and see the Christmas Star”.

Councilman Morton wished all a “Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year”.

Mayor Pro Tem Farley indicated , “2020 has been a challenging year, and I am very proud of how well the City has responded. I appreciate the hard work. Please keep Mayor Morgan and her family in your prayers”.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, **motion was made by Councilman Hockett and seconded by Councilman Morton to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilman Hockett, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Pro Tem Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

Bev Quinn, CMC
City Clerk

Approved: _____