CITY OF SALEM REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING Sept 7, 2021 – 6:00 PM

DUE TO THE RECENT UPSURGE IN POSITIVE COVID CASES THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD REMOTELY. PLEASE SEE THE ZOOM INFORMATION BELOW TO JOIN IN.

- 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) Approval of Minutes Council meeting of Aug. 16, 2021.
 - 2. Discussion on request for action to reduce deer population within City limits.
 - 3. Action on ratification of City Health Insurance renewal
 - 4. Discussion on question of reinstituting employee residency requirement.
 - 5. Summary review of City financial audit by Fick, Eggemeyer & Williamson CPA Firm.
 - 6. Review and acceptance of bids for road construction for Little Egypt Golf Cars Grant.
 - 7. Receipt of Bryan Bennett Library request for tax referendum request.
- VI. City Manager and department head reports
- VII. City Attorney Report
- **VIII.** City Council Members Report
- IX. Motion to Adjourn

Rex A. Barbee City Manager

RAB

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82998074203

Meeting ID: 829 9807 4203

One tap mobile

- +13126266799,,82998074203# US (Chicago)
- +19292056099,,82998074203# US (New York)

Quote of the day;

Become a possibilitarian. No matter how dark things seem to be or actually are, raise your sights and see possibilities — always see them, tor they're always there.

Norman Vincent Peale

CITY OF SALEM REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING 6:00 pm August 2, 2021 Page 2

- 1. Request to approve the minutes of the prior City Council meeting of August 16, 2021.
- 2. In the prior Council meeting, Council members were presented with an information packet including a petition to take action to reduce the deer population within the city limits. A number of possible actions were discussed, including allowing a limited harvesting of does within the City Limits by bow hunters. There are some communities in the area that have allowed bow hunting within the City Limits. Bow hunters apply for permits through city hall with the City Manager or their designee approving the applications. A similar program could be devised for Salem. An ordinance to allow bow hunting within the city limits has been drafted and is available if Council wants to move forward with the project.
- 3. The City has been presented with a renewal package on the City's Health Insurance Coverage Plan through Mutual Medical. The proposed plan provides coverage similar to the previous year with little change in the cost to the City. Total claim costs continue to be less than prior years and our cost for the program has gone down. The renewal of the coverage took place in April of 2021 and Council members are being asked to ratify the agreement.
- 4. Councilman Morton has been questioned from some in the community about the City's current policy on not requiring City employees to reside within the City limits or within a certain range of the City. The City Council previously removed any residency requirement for municipal employees in 2004 and modified the ordinance again in 2008 to remove language regarding the assessing of any fee for employees to live outside the city limits. The current ordinance contains language that prohibits the employee living outside of the corporate limits from driving any City owned vehicle home at the end of the work day. This agenda item is intended to provide for discussion on the pros and cons of the matter.
- 5. The financial accounts audit of the City has been completed and the accounting firm of Fick, Eggemeyer and Williamson have prepared their summary audit form. A representative of the audit firm will be in attendance to discuss the audit report and their findings.
- 6. We have been provided with the bid results for the construction of the road for Little Egypt Lane as part of the IDOT grant. The grant is a matching funds grant with Little Egypt Golf Cars, LTD. The total project is estimated to cost \$1,065,000.00 and the grant portion is \$520,000.00. Little Egypt Golf Cars, Ltd. Is providing evidence of a letter of credit through their lender and is providing funds to cover their 50% match as expenses are invoiced.
- 7. The board of the Bryan Bennett Library has presented it's request for their tax portion for the upcoming tax referendum scheduled for November. This will be included in the November tax levy request of the City of Salem to the County Treasurer.