

CITY OF TOULON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 11, 2023
TOULON FIREHOUSE

PRESENT: Mayor Hollis, City Clerk Barbara J Cantwell, Attorney Kate Carter absent

Donna Lefler, Art Nutzhorn	1 st Ward Alderman
Michael Schott, Connie Jacobson	2 nd Ward Alderman
Ryan Kelly, Brandon Simpson	3 rd Ward Alderman

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Hollis called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES TO THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 MEETING: Page 4 under AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING SERVICES fourth line added The cost to put the minutes on the website would be \$1.00 per page. Page 5 under TIF's first paragraph added Donna Lefler voted no and Mayor Hollis voted yes for the motion to pay Jacob & Klein and Ec. Dev. Group bills. Donna Lefler made a motion to accept the minutes for the September 11, 2023, meeting as amended. Ryan Kelly 2nd, motion passed.

MINUTES TO THE SPECIAL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2023: Donna Lefler made a motion to accept the minutes to the Special Meeting for September 25, 2023. Art Nutzhorn 2nd, motion passed.

CASH RECEIPT REPORT: Total Cash Receipt for September 2023 is \$79,183.65. Michael Schott made a motion to accept the Cash Receipt Report for September 2023. Brandon Simpson 2nd, motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT: The Treasurer Report for September 2023 is \$1,206,127.17. Donna Lefler made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report for September 2023. Michael Schott 2nd, motion passed.

REPORT FROM CITY EMPLOYEES/COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN: Jake Streitmatter reported the culvert on Jefferson Street is completed. Matt Forstrom reported the spray patching out at Arrowhead by Potters has been done and the bad spots covered. Brandt has also swept the excess rock off the roads in town and stockpiled the rock behind City Hall. Barbara Cantwell reported that there was \$3,000.00 deposited into the City's savings account and do not know where or who it came from at this time.

APPROVAL OF SUBMITTED CLAIMS: Brandon Simpson made a motion to approve the submitted claims. Michael Schott 2nd, motion passed.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Kate Carter, our attorney, was not present.

TURNER STREET SEWER: Justin Reise was present and reported, that the contractor had everything done by JULIE, and when our engineer designed it, it was done by JULIE also, and at that time it appeared that there would be room to go between the gas line and the road. There is no room, so there are only 2 options to do. We can put the sewer line down the middle of the road or go on the north side of the road. They started the project and noticed the gas line goes too far over on the north side and it's not entirely straight, so it does cause a conflict with the sewer line being put in. Jake and Justin met with Ameren, and they are going to put together a schedule to move the gas line to the south side of the road at no cost to us. The other option would be to go down the middle of the road and the road is not in good shape, there is not a lot of base in the road. This would be a significant cost in rock. By the next meeting, Justin should have a recommendation on where to put the sewer line. Could be up to 5 to 6 weeks before the line could be put in because of waiting on Ameren.

UNSEWERED COMMUNITY PLANNING REPORT GRANT: Justin Reise reported they are waiting for responses from the Office of Water Resources and others as well.

ENGINEERING PLANS FOR WATER MAINS: Donna Lefler would possibly like to have a public meeting or two to explain what the city wants to do with the mains and the water tower, and how expensive it will cost. The council plans to have a special council meeting in November for the community.

FIRE HYDRANTS: Jake Streitmatter reported he is still waiting on quotes from Baileys and Laverdiere for the instavalves for shutting off the water.

AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING SERVICES: Brandon Simpson reported that he had no updates.

TOTAL HOME SERVICE CORNER REPAIR: Mayor Hollis spoke with Kate, our attorney, and said that the statute of limitations has run out on this but since the city has admitted they were responsible the city should attempt to make it right. Michael Schott said he would follow up with Tom Pearson and see if he has gotten a quote to repair the building and we can work something out with him, maybe meet him halfway with the cost.

HOMETOWN CONSULTING: Brandon Simpson reported that Hometown has partnered with another site to help with things that can be done to help the communities. Hometown has picked up a few communities and there are now limited spots open. Brandon Simpson made a motion to approve the first quarter funding of \$7,500.00 to Hometown Consulting. Michael Schott 2nd, Art Nutzhorn, and Connie Jacobson voted no, and Brandon, Ryan, Michael, and Donna voted yes.

LANDSCAPING CITY HALL: Received a quote from Mannon Landscaping for \$8,389.00. The council decided to hold off until February and decide on what type of plants they want and what the city guys can or can't do towards the project then rebid the landscaping job again.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: Art Nutzhorn reported that the road on the east end of Jefferson needs to be repaired. Michael Baumann at the library would like the agenda and minutes of each meeting to be posted on the library's website. Ryan Kelly reported that West Jersey Express had done a nice job fixing up the Kraft plant.

POLICE WAGES: Gary Bent is asking for an increase in the wages for the police department. Michael Schott made a motion to raise chief Gary Bent to \$27.00 an hour and part-time police to \$25.00. Connie Jacobson 2nd, motion passed.

HALLOWEEN HOURS: Mayor Hollis set the hours to 5 – 7 on October 31st and there will be a Trunk or Treat in front of the courthouse along with the businesses that will be open that night.

Tif: Ryan Kelly made a motion to pay FY2024-6A to repay Gen 19,610.32, Saw n Logs \$450.00, Evoqua \$1,792.64 for a total of \$21,852.96. Art Nutzhorn 2nd, Michael Schott, and Brandon Simpson abstained, motion passed.

Connie Jacobson made a motion to pay FY2024-6B Roto-Rooter \$12,025.00, repay Gen \$4,562.77, Hawkins \$1,127.14, Nagase materials \$1,956.24, Kirby Built \$2,338.07, Metal Culverts \$1,309.49, Roto-Rooter \$40,000.00, Riverstone Group \$4,683.33 for a total of \$68,002.04. Donna Lefler 2nd, Michael Schott, and Brandon Simpson abstained, motion passed.

Teresa Macy commented that the \$10.00 surcharge will be off the water bills for December, which will be printed in January 2024.

7:24

Ryan Kelly asked to go to an Executive Session in according to section 2C1 of the Open Meetings Act to consider issues of employment and or performance of employees. Donna Lefler 2nd, motion passed.

8:32

Art Nutzhorn made a motion to go back into regular session. Ryan Kelly 2nd, motion passed.

No action was taken.

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8:32

Ryan Kelly made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Michael Schott 2nd, motion passed.

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