

Minutes of the special council meeting held April 25, 2023 at 6:00pm. Present council members Joe Buffington, Brandon Berg, Austin Miller, Ted Teel and Mary Moore. Mayor Sally Rodriguez (excused), Public Works Director Josh Ferkel, Police Chief TJ Behning, Fire Chief Doug Anderson, and City Clerk Tanna Leonard were present as well.

Meeting called to order at 6:03p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Teel.

Those participating via phone were unmuted causing feedback to the meeting. The clerk attempted to mute those folks and somehow prevented all phone callers from hearing. The clerk attempted several times to reset the online meeting but was unable to get the sound to work for the online participants. My apologies for the technical difficulties, I am working on preventing this from happening again.

Roll Call

RAGBRAI

Tim Guizar explained that they recommended charging no fees for churches and non-profits, \$50 for Buffalo Businesses and Residents, and \$300 for vendors not licensed within Buffalo. Guizar requested permission to order the porta johns for the event.

Motion by Teel and seconded by Miller to approve the expenditures of \$3,581.50 for porta johns and hand washing stations. Motion carried unanimously.

Sandra provided logo options for the event and that the committee is working on location ideas.

Motion by Teel and seconded by Moore to approve that the RAGBRAI Committee is authorized to consult with other communities who have hosted past RAGBRAI events and set fees for sponsorships, vendors, and other sources of revenue in amounts which are customary for hosting the event. The RAGBRAI Committee is authorized to enter into invoices and agreements to provide for customary expenditures associated with the RAGBRAI events. All receipts, invoices and payments are to be provided and deposited with the City Clerk.

Code Complaint – Blasphemous/ Obscene Language

Clerk provided the code section that was identified in the complaint.

2.1-1.0202 BLASPHEMOUS OR OBSCENE LANGUAGE.

It shall be unlawful for a person to use blasphemous or obscene language publicly, to the disturbance of the public peace and quiet.

The complaint was regarding obscene language displayed on flags in town on private property. The city attorney provided an email in response. Chief Behning explained that he reached out to the County Attorney, and they said it could violate freedom of speech.

Motion by Teel and seconded by Berg to take no action. Motion carried unanimously.

Hiring Public Works Full Time Employee

Motion by Moore and seconded by Buffington to remove hiring full time employees from the table for discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

The council discussed the hiring process and the issues with following the closed session requests for those that requested. Miller said that he wasn't in favor of only the personnel committee interviewing the full-time employee candidates. He explained that in the past full-time employees have been interviewed by the Committee of the Whole. He said he wouldn't vote on the hiring of any applicants because he wasn't able to interview them. The committee

discussed the applicants and qualifications and determined that from the three recommendations from the Personnel Committee there was one applicant that they would be willing to make an offer to. The committee discussed the applicants' qualifications and current employee wages.

Motion by Teel to offer applicant number 2 the position for \$20.00 per hour.

Motion by Teel to rescind his motion.

Motion by Berg and seconded by Moore to offer applicant number 2 the position for \$25.00 per hour. Teel requested the motion have a roll call vote: Teel – Yes, Berg – Yes, Moore – Yes, Miller – Abstain, and Buffington – Abstain.

Resolution 2023 –19 Budget Hearing

Motion by Buffington and seconded by Berg to set the budget hearing date for May 18th at 6:00pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2023 – 20 Budget Amendment Hearing

Motion by Buffington and seconded by Moore to approve the budget amendment hearing date for May 18th at 6:00pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2023 – 21 Emergency Spending

Motion by Moore and seconded by Miller to approve a resolution authorizing the mayor to have permission to authorize emergency expenses related to flooding of 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Street Closure

Chief Behning discussed the potential of streets to be blocked off by sandbags. Motion by Teel and seconded by Miller to permit residents to block the alley between Front St and 2nd St for flood protection if needed from the 200-900 block. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Moore Seconded by Buffington to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm



Mayor Pro-Tem, Theodore Teel



City Clerk, Tanna Leonard