

**CITY OF REED CITY
SPECIAL COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
In Person and Virtual Meeting
April 26, 2021**

Mayor Meinert called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. in Council Chambers, 227 E. Lincoln Avenue, Reed City, Michigan in person, and also electronically for participation via computer or phone.

- Present Mayor, Roger Meinert. Council Members: Nathan Bailey arrived at 6:56 P.M., Dan Burchett, Trevor Guiles, Russell Nehmer, Brad Nixon and Nicole Woodside. City Attorney, David Porteous and City Manager, Ron Howell, also attended in person. Department Heads attending electronically were, Rich Rehkopf and Barb Westerburg. W.W.T.P. Superintendent, Curt Brackenrich, attended in person. The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag. There were citizens attending in person and via electronically.
- Public Hearing Mayor Meinert opened the Public Hearing at 5:31 P.M. to receive public comment for a Michigan Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for funding the South Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project.
- Josh Redner, Senior Water & Wastewater Engineer, of Fishbeck Engineers, presented a PowerPoint presentation of the State Revolving Fund Project Plan for the public and council to learn more about the project and provide input.
- There were no public comments received and no written comments received. The hearing was closed at 5:58 P.M.
- Disc Golf Motion by Guiles, seconded by Burchett, **CARRIED**, to approve the bid from Steve Hedstrom, in the amount of \$15,900 for the materials and installation of an 18 basket Disc Golf Course at Rambadt Park. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Burchett, Nehmer, Guiles, Woodside and Nixon. Voting no was Meinert.
- WRI Grant Motion by Woodside, seconded by Nehmer, **CARRIED**, to approve the Department of Public Works to apply for a Michigan Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Water-Related Infrastructure (WRI) program grant. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Consent Motion by Guiles, seconded by Nehmer, **CARRIED**, to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Committee Mayor Meinert reported the Social District committee had met and had designated boundaries for a proposed social district map for consideration. The committee had discussed days and hours of operation but that was still in the discussion stage.
- Social District Motion by Meinert, seconded by Nixon, **CARRIED**, that the City create a Social District based on the outline of the map created by Mayor Meinert with the boundaries established in that map. Affirmed by voice vote. Voting no was Guiles.
- Committee North parking lot – additional 24 hour parking. Ron reported he has reached out to the original engineering firm that did the original work about the additional spaces on Higbee Street and the possibility of the west end of the Mill.
- Councilperson Bailey arrived at 6:56 P.M.
- Committee The City Manager Search committee met a couple of times and recommends to submit for a search for a new City Manager and continue with a part time City Manager as funds are not there to support a full time one. It was decided for the committee to compose an advertisement for the position and have council review it for any possible additions or changes at the next council meeting.

- C.M. Search Motion by Meinert, seconded by Bailey, **CARRIED**, to pursue a part time City Manager and the committee will meet and determine the draft of an advertisement for that part time City Manager to bring back for approval by council. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Committee Brad Nixon reported the Depot Committee had met and set a price of \$25.00 per hour for the Depot and kept a full day at \$175.00. The rental rate for the outside will remain the same. Events like music at the Depot that are outdoors, free and open to the public will need to complete a form and be approved case by case by council. The City Manager will have some guidelines where he can approve events but everyone must complete a form to have on file. The committee will meet one more time to complete their review of the Depot and include all other public facilities rates.
- OPRA District Ron Howell reported the new owner of the Hardware at 114 W. Upton has met with the MEDC and prior to the application being filed the property needs to be established as an OPRA District as the clock starts upon filing the application. The new owner is looking to council for consideration now to get the process going. The approval of the Special Use Permit is conditional upon the North parking lot and the expansion of parking space. Attorney Porteous suggested Ron check with the developer and the State to make sure it is clear when they need a decision. So if there is a time line it gets to City council.
- Budget It was the consensus of council to set a special meeting for Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 5:30 P.M. for a Public Hearing and adoption of the proposed 2021 – 2022 Budget.
- MOU Motion by Bailey, seconded by Nixon, **CARRIED**, to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding with Ron Howell of RMH Associates extending City Manager services from May 1, 2021 ending December 21, 2021, with the exception of paragraph 7 concerning the gasoline price, indicate that should the regular gasoline price exceed \$4.25 per gallon in Cedar Springs on days which Mr. Howell travels for Reed City business. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Nixon, Meinert, Guiles, Burchett, Nehmer, Bailey and Woodside. Ron Howell accepted the change in paragraph 7.
- Councilperson Nixon received a phone call and excused himself at 7:53 P.M. and left the meeting.
- Backup Server Motion by Meinert, seconded by Guiles, **CARRIED**, to purchase a backup solution not to exceed \$1,500.00 and the backup solution provide both onsite and offsite storage with the high recommendation of looking at QNAP or Synology NAS units. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Meinert, Burchett, Woodside, Guiles, Nehmer and Bailey.
- R-O-W Ron brought to the council attention, at the last council meeting the Brewery represented two parking space were privately owned by the private business but it has been verified that the right-of-way on Higbee Street is 80 feet and all parking is public. Council approved the use of a Food Truck on the basis those parking spaces were on private property but given they are the in the public right-of-way they should have a peddlers permit.
- Bills Mayor Meinert 2021 Schedule of Reviewing Bills appoints Nate Bailey to review bills prior to the May meeting.
- Meetings Mayor Meinert suggested changing the day and time of council meeting. Attorney Porteous stated it could be done by resolution, the only exception is in Chapter 6 of the Charter requires a Monday meeting following a regular city election. The Mayor ask council members to think about it and give it some consideration.
- Attorney Attorney Porteous believes it would be best to personally reach out to the property owner on the north city line of Westerburg Park and explain the property line and that there will be a surveyor putting in permanent markers so the property line will not be questioned in the future. The City Manager offered to make a personal visit to the property owner.

Attorney Porteous advised due to the state trail being there where E. Osceola was vacated, to get a Circuit Court order. It would require notification to the state that there would not be access from the trail across what has been vacated. The costs should be reimbursed from the property owners(s) who benefit from the vacation. Ron will reach out to Bill Terryn regarding this.

Adjourn Mayor Meinert adjourned the meeting at 8:26 P.M.

Jacalyn R. Beam, City Clerk