

REGULAR COUNCIL SESSION
609 29th Street, Vienna, WV 26105
February 24, 2022
6:00 P.M.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Invocation was given by Chief Mike Pifer. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Chuck Noffsinger.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Vienna City Council met in Regular Session on February 24, 2022. Mayor Randy Rapp called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

ROLL CALL:

Attendance was taken by Recorder Melissa Elam with the following Council members present: Kim Williams, Tom Azinger, Chuck Noffsinger, Jim Leach, Recorder Melissa Elam, and Mayor Randy Rapp. Absent: Jim Leach and City Attorney Russell Skogstad.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Brenda Powell (1409 36th Street): Commented on the Parks Department Budget. Concerned about the electric box at Lake Betsy that is in bad shape. Thinks we can hold off on the adult equipment. Doesn't think the pool repair costs should be in the budget yet since we haven't made a decision about the status of the pool. Asked about the break down for class instructors that has a \$38,000 total. Wants to know how many instructors and if Linda Kern is one of them. Also, mentioned that the Board for the Senior Center has not started again since COVID began and wants to know what happened to it.

REPORT OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the Special Council Session scheduled on 2/17/2022 have been printed, posted, and circulated. Approved as posted.

Mayor Rapp presented a letter from the Wood County Prosecuting Attorney recognizing the outstanding work of the Parkersburg Violent Crime and Narcotics Task Force. The Task Force was named Task Force of the Year by the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area. Wood County is a high intensity drug trafficking county. Our Vienna Police Department is part of the Task Force and is making a difference in our community by getting drugs and guns off the streets.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **None.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **BUDGET PRESENTATIONS:**

Greater Parkersburg Convention and Visitors Bureau presented its 2022-2023 budget request. Mark Lewis presented. They will be moving to the old Point Park Marketplace location soon. Ohio River Water Trail will be promoted more this year.

Steve Black presented 2022-2023 budget requests for Parks, VRIA, and Swimming Pool.
Parks: Requesting \$2/hr increase for his eight employees. Asking to move a couple employees from S3 to S4. Requesting \$4/hr increase for himself. Needs additional funding for paying for umpires, gate keepers, concessions, etc. for increased activity and tournaments this year. Under Maintenance – Building/Grounds, major electrical work is needed. Under Capital Outlays – Buildings, the McDonough Park Restrooms need replaced. Also requesting additional funding for more Christmas lights and a new tree (that is displayed at Neale), and expansion for the exercise equipment. Other large expenses are paving the community building parking lot, access road to the garage area, and sealing walkways at McDonough. Requesting funds for new vehicle, UTV, and mower.

VRIA: Requesting funds for benches and shade canopies. Also need a UTV for the ball fields and concession stand equipment. Presented his proposal for baseball/softball tournaments. Would like to run it through VRIA and then profits can go to a specific project.

Swimming Pool: The budget he presented is for basic operating cost as it has been in the past. He supports the idea of suspending the season until repairs and upgrades are done.

Councilwoman Kim Williams asked about the S3 to S4 promotion and how they used to be S5s in another department. Mr. Black explained that when they came to his department the only positions open were S1s and so they have had to work their way back up.

Councilman Roger Bibbee asked how old the Neale tree is. Mr. Black said 10 years and that that is about their lifespan.

Mayor Rapp presented 2022-2023 budget requests for Festivals, Senior Center, and Civic Promotions. He gave Council new budgets than were originally distributed. Small changes to the Senior Center budget. Recorder Elam asked if there are anticipated expenses that would justify keeping the current amount or increasing amounts in the Senior Center budget. Mayor Rapp responded no. Councilwoman Williams would like to see the part time Senior Center employee get the \$2/hr raise also. Recorder Elam asked what class instructors are usually budgeted for. Mrs. Roberts responded \$24,000. \$38,000 is currently being requested. Small changes to Civic Promotions budget. Ms. Kern originally asked for \$9,900 under Professional Services and it has been reduced by \$1,500. Mayor Rapp stated 0% was spent last year. Councilwoman Williams questioned whether the events that have been planned can still be done for \$8,400. The Festivals budget was not supplied but Mrs. Roberts stated it is still \$5,000. If Council chooses to use that toward the Freedom Fest it can be done. She will get clarification on if it is \$25,000 for this year or next year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Rapp asked for an Executive Session to discuss a legal matter.

Recorder Elam moved to go into Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

Vote was 6-0 to go into Executive Session.

Dismissed to Executive Session at 7:29pm.

Returned from Executive Session at 7:40pm.

No decisions were made. It was information only.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mayor Rapp acknowledged in attendance: Bob Ferenbacher running for House of Delegates and Rod Smith running for Vienna City Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Melissa Elam, Recorder

Randall C. Rapp, Mayor

APPROVED: _____
 Initials Date