

UNAPPROVES MINUTES
Earlham City Council Meeting
August 8, 2022

The Earlham City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 8, 2022, at Earlham City Hall. Mayor Lillie called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Present: Baskin, Fredericksen, Mudge, Nelsen, Swalla. Also Present: Clerk Hibbs, Police Chief Heimdal, Public Works Supervisor Coffman, Fire Chief Boyle.

1. Approval of Agenda
Motion by Baskin, second by Fredericksen, to approve agenda.
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.
2. Public Forum - none
3. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Council meeting minutes for 7-11-22
 - b. Treasurer’s Report for 8-8-22
 - c. Claims and Receipts Report for 8-8-22
 - d. Approval of Class C Beer Permit (BC) for Hometown Market of Earlham LLC
Motion by Fredericksen, second by Baskin, to approve consent agenda.
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.
4. Department Reports
 - a. Public Works - Gary Coffman, Public Works Supervisor
Regular mowing, trimming, spraying, ash tree removal. Adel Tree did \$15,000 worth of tree removal last week to meet the timing requirement for the grant we received from DNR, since trees are repurposed. City crew done with cutting down the smaller trees. Picked up stump groundings. Has our name on the list for pool renovation. Coop has been doing clean-up of property. Swalla noted Coop was not done with weeds. No-parking signs put up. Next week having meeting with Luke Monat with Shive Hattery to pin down the exact storm water project. Tree survey from DNR. Coffman stated he has not been able to find street paint so contacted Speck come out to measure street lines/parking lines for painting, with an estimate of \$11,000. Council said to go ahead and use Speck.
 - b. Police Department – Chief Jason Heimdal
Participated in continuing education classes this month. Deposition for case coming up. Helped out public works on several things. Have issued 44 ATV Golf Cart permits, which is up from last year.
5. Board, Commission, Committee Reports
 - a. Comprehensive Plan Update Committee
Hibbs stated Committee met on July 25th. Discussion on necessity of comp plan; where is growth anticipated to go. Meeting with Tami from Shive Hattery on August 15th. Talked about possible of more CDBG housing grants, rental properties & multifamily housing. Nelson said possibly a stop-gap action right now to get us through the next 5-10 years. Swalla noted reports are information heavy. Linda Smith with the Madison County Historical Preservation mentioned the Heart & Soul has done a community survey and provided a city profile. These can possibly be used for comp plan.
 - b. Park & Recreation Board
P&R met on July 26th. Denied a request from outside adult baseball league to use high school baseball field. (Caskey and Hammen, representing the school, said school was not interested in this.) Gentry Smith talked about improvement needed at Rec Park. Maybe smaller items can be addressed this year, and then budget for large items next year. Discussion on utilizing Gendler Park and possible trail to get there. Hibbs updated on Swimming Pool renovations. Discussion on transporting handicapped individuals to ballfields from parking lot. Recommended letting golf carts go back into park with handicapped stickers and park outside the fence. Recommended signage regarding golf carts and parking. Creating a sub-committee for planning wants and needs for Rec Park. Gentry mentioned a possible walking park around Rec Park. Coffman said permission needs to be granted by DNR. Mayor

is okay with path but wants to make sure it is done right and be sure it does not become a weed patch in several years. Worthy of discussion. Gentry would like to get together with Gary to discuss concession stand and restrooms.

c. Public Safety Committee

Committee met this evening at 6:30 p.m. prior to council meeting. Discussed changes recommend for Chapter 75 of the Earlham Code regarding golf cart access to the Rec Park. Talked through revisions. Mayor stated there is some overlapping of this Committee and Park & Rec Board. Committee would like to recommend golf carts be allowed to take individuals back to the fields and then be brought back to parking lot to park. Transport only. Coffman suggested 4-5 spots for people who can't get out. But would have to do that for all fields. Ordinance will be changed to Committee recommendations. Will see how this works.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Continue discussion on swimming pool renovation and new public works building funding.

Hibbs stated no new numbers on pool renovations yet. Swalla said he had friend who he felt could do concrete work cheaper. Coffman said have him get ahold of Gary and they can go look at it and get a bid. Coffman will bring number to next meeting. Swalla questioned about possibility of new pool. Coffman not ready to talk about new PW building yet.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Consider approval of Resolution No. 22-30 Authorizing Transfer of Funds from General Fund to Employee Benefits Fund to Make Whole that Fund for FY21-22.

Motion by Baskin, second by Mudge, to approve Resolution No. 22-30 Authorizing Transfer of Funds from General Fund to Employee Benefits Fund to Make Whole that Fund for FY21-22.

Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.

b. Consider approval of Resolution No 22-31 Authorizing the Madison County Historical Preservation Commission to Apply for a Certified Local Government Grant for Use in Assessing Eligibility of the Earlham Commercial District for the National Register of Historic Places.

Colleen Petersen said grant is ready to go. Got bids from several consultants. Bids around \$15,000. She stated city will not be out of pocket for any money. Grant will cover all expenses, except for in-kind.

Motion by Swalla, second by Baskin, to approval of Resolution No 22-31 Authorizing the Madison County Historical Preservation Commission to Apply for a Certified Local Government Grant for Use in Assessing Eligibility of the Earlham Commercial District for the National Register of Historic Places.

Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.

c. Discussion and possible action on water rates.

Hibbs said she spoke with Travis Squires with Piper Sandler, who said we should be safe at 3 or 4% rate increase. We have not received an increase from Warren Water. Hibbs will have ordinance ready for next meeting. Coffman asked if we should do a multi-year rate schedule, but probably better to do one year at a time for now. Adjustments in future can be made if Warren Water raises their rates. Consensus of Council to raise water rates 4%.

d. Consider approval of request from Earlham Fire Department to conduct control burn at 115 NW 6th Street.

Chief needs approval of city council to do a controlled burn. Needs 20 working-days-notice to DNR. Wants to get this done before harvest traffic begins. Either on a Saturday or Sunday. If burn ban in started in county, they will not burn. Will invite surrounding departments. Strictly burn training, no rescue involved.

Motion by Nelsen, second by Mudge, to approve request for Earlham Fire Department to conduct a controlled burn at 115 NW 6th Street.

Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.

8. Mayor's Report
Nothing except usual meetings.
9. Clerk's Report
Hibbs stated Human Resources committee needs to get together sometime to start addressing changes to the Personnel Manual. Auditors were here last week.
10. Council comments/discussion
Swalla asked about the proposed grazing of cattle by Lynn Boyle as was discussed at the June council meeting. Coffman stated the deal between property owner and Boyle was cancelled.
11. Adjourn
Motion by Baskin, second by Nelsen, to adjourn.
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.

Being there was no further business, meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Jeff Lillie, Mayor

Attest: _____
Mary Sue Hibbs, Clerk/Treasurer