

The City Council for the City of Junction City, met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, in a virtual meeting format via internet and phone.

PRESENT: Mayor, Beverly Ficek; Councilors Sandie Thomas, Ken Wells, Andrea Ceniga, John Gambee, Karen Leach, and Sidney Washburne; City Administrator, Jason Knope; City Attorney, Carrie Connelly; Public Works Director, Gary Kaping; Police Chief, Bob Morris; Deputy Chief, Eric Markell; Finance Director, Mike Crocker; HR/Admin Services Manager, Stephanie Moran; and City Recorder, Kitty Vodrup.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ficek opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and took roll call.

2. Changes to the Agenda

None.

3. Approval of Minutes – February 23, March 9, and March 23, 2021

MOTION: Councilor Washburne made a motion to approve the February 23, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Leach and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

MOTION: Councilor Thomas made a motion to approve the March 9, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Washburne and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

MOTION: Councilor Washburne made a motion to approve the March 23, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

Councilor Thomas asked about the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Ficek apologized for missing that and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Public Comment on Items not Listed on the Agenda

Mr. Jack Sumner, 1061 Quince Drive, Junction City stated that he had submitted an agenda item request and it was not on the agenda. Administrator Knope responded that it would be on the agenda under Council Agenda Forecaster Review.

Mr. Sumner asked why two Councilors were each chairing two Committees and three Councilors were not chairing any Committees. Mayor Ficek responded that the Committee appointments were the Mayor's responsibility and that was the way she had set the Committees up. She added that she made the appointments based on what she thought would make the Committees work the best.

Councilor Ceniga stated that she did not feel that was really answering Mr. Sumner's question. Mayor Ficek responded that she would be glad to get back to Mr. Sumner outside of a Council meeting and discuss it with him further.

5. Public Hearing – Annexation/Rezone 75 Chick Lane (A-20-38 & RZ-20-39)

A. Public Hearing

Mayor Ficek called the public hearing at 6:42 p.m. She reviewed the specifics on how the hearing would be conducted and asked if there were any conflicts of interest, exparte contacts, or bias.

Councilor Leach declared a potential conflict of interest and an exparte contact, as the subject property was behind her house.

Councilor Thomas noted that she had spoken to her neighbor last night about this item and told her she could listen in on the meeting tonight.

Councilor Ceniga declared a potential conflict of interest and an exparte contact, as the subject property was behind her in-law's home.

Mayor Ficek asked if there were any challenges from the public as to the conflicts of interest, exparte contacts, or bias related to a member of the Council. There were none.

Mayor Ficek read the state law required statements and proceeded with the hearing items.

Staff Report

Planner Henry Hearley stated that he worked for Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) and the City had contracted with LCOG for planning services. He added that Planning Technician Tere Andrews had been a great help in processing this application. He presented the annexation and rezoning information: Mark and Jacqueline Bess, applicants and property owners, had submitted an application on December 31, 2020. After review, the application was determined to be complete, and the City sent out the required notice on February 10th and noticed DLCD (Department of Land Conservation and Development) on January 22nd. On March 17th, the Planning Commission held a public hearing and recommended approval. The criteria were: Chapter 17.145 Amendments, 17.165.110 Annexation, and consistency with the Junction City Comprehensive (Comp) Plan and Oregon statewide planning goals.

Planner Hearley continued: The applicant was proposing to annex two properties into City limits: One was Tax lot 9200 with 2.46 acres that contained an existing home with the address of 75 Chick Lane; the other property was located to the south at Tax lot 9100 with 3.1 acres. The applicant was proposing to rezone the properties from Rural Residential 5 (County designation) to Low Density Residential (City designation). The area around the properties was also zoned residential. No development on either property would occur as a result of the annexation and zone change, and appropriate land use approvals and building permits would have to be obtained before that could occur. It was reasonable for the City to expect future residential uses to occur on both of these properties, because that was what was envisioned in the City's Comprehensive Plan map. The properties were contiguous with the City limits, which was one of the main approval criteria for annexations. Another important and key approval criteria for annexations and rezoning was consistency with the Comp Plan map, and the area in question was designated as low density residential.

Planner Hearley reviewed how the application was consistent with the Comp Plan:

- Chapter 6 Transportation Element – Invoked the City's Transportation System Plan (TSP), which was an element of the City's Comp Plan. Chick Lane was presently a private road and took access from West 6th Avenue, and the home at 75 Chick Lane took access via this private road. Annexation and zone change would not change the access for 75 Chick Lane or any properties in the immediate vicinity of 75 Chick Lane. Tax lot 9100 took access from the stubbed street at West 3rd and abutted West 3rd for about 25 feet. The City's TSP did not show West 3rd connecting through to the east. As noted earlier, no development could occur as a result of annexation and rezone, but it was expected that in the future, development on Tax lot 9100 would take access from the stubbed road at West 3rd. Any improvements required to West 3rd would be done at the time of development.
- Chapter 7 Public Facilities Element – The City had to provide public facilities in an efficient and timely manner with the present proposal and any future development. The Public Works Director indicated that the City would provide City services to these properties without detriment to existing services. There was an existing water line in West 3rd that could be extended to the property, as well as an 8-inch sewer line. The City had a policy that upon annexation, if a dwelling was located within 300 feet of a water line or 150 feet of a sewer line, they must connect. The home at 75 Chick Lane was not that close to either service lines, so connection would likely occur once development occurred on Tax lot 9100 to the south.
- Chapter 9 Housing Element – The City needed new dwelling units in order to meet its housing needs. The City was in need of 1,590 dwelling units by 2031, and of those, 875 should be in the form of low density residential. By bringing in more residential lands into City limits and zoning the subject properties as residential, the City was furthering its efforts to reach that goal. According to the Comp Plan, low density residential typically carried a density of 1 to 8 dwelling units per acre for detached structures. Applying this to the annexed property, it roughly equaled 6 to 48 dwelling units, without taking into consideration space for rights of way, existing dwellings, or other site constraints.

Planner Hearley continued that public comments generally spoke about the increased traffic concerns near West 3rd, Walnut, and on Chick Lane. As he mentioned earlier, Chick Lane would remain as is and no additional traffic would use Chick Lane; the same would be true for West 3rd. If future development did occur, it was expected additional traffic would use the stubbed West 3rd; the TSP did not show West 3rd extending, but that did not mean that it

could not extend service to the subject properties. Any required improvements with respect to road, streetlights, and drainage would be addressed by the applicant upon a submittal plan for land use or development. Another comment was received in support of the proposal, welcomed the applicants to the neighborhood, and felt the planned usage of the property would be an asset to adjoining property owners. Staff recommended that the Council accept the Planning Commission's recommendation and approve the annexation and rezone.

Councilor Leach noted that there was a sewer line that went straight down Chick Lane and to the pump house on Walnut. She asked why the property would not need to hook up to that now. Director Kaping responded that the sewer line that went down Chick Lane was a pressure sewer main and they could not tie into that.

Councilor Thomas asked if fire trucks would be able to get through to that property. Planner Hearley responded that any fire access issues would have to be addressed upon site development; West 3rd was stubbed and had 25 feet of frontage, but he would fully expect fire trucks to be able to get back there.

Applicant Testimony

Mr. Mark Bess, 75 Chick Lane, Junction City, asked if participants could please mute their phones when not talking, as it was hard to hear the meeting.

Mr. Tony Favreau stated that he was a civil engineer and worked for Mr. Bess. He could answer any questions the City Council might have and thought Planner Hearley did a good job of presenting their proposal.

Councilor Ceniga asked for confirmation that there were no current plans for development. Planner Hearley responded this was just to annex the property into the City limits and to rezone.

Councilor Washburne asked about growth related to the Urban Growth Boundary and City. Director Kaping responded that the property was within the Urban Growth Boundary and if annexed into the City, it would be growth for the City.

Public Testimony – Those in Favor

No comments.

Public Testimony – Neutral Testimony

Mr. Jack Sumner, 1061 Quince Drive, Junction City, stated that he liked the idea of bringing this property into the City. He asked if they needed to hook up to City sewer and water lines. Director Kaping responded that if they developed that property, they would be required to hook up to the sewer and water lines at 3rd Street, but they did not have to hook up right now because they were not close enough to water and sewer lines.

Public Testimony – Those Opposed

No comments.

Additional Staff Comments

None.

Applicant's Final Comments

Mr. Bess stated that everything was presented correctly.

Questions from the Council

None.

Mayor Ficek closed the public hearing and the record at 7:14 p.m.

Council Deliberation

None.

B. Ordinance No. 1 – An Ordinance Approving the Annexation and Rezone of Tax Lots 9100 and 9200 of Lane County Assessor's Map 15-04-31-43.

Attorney Connelly read Ordinance No. 1 in full.

MOTION: Councilor Leach made a motion to read Ordinance No. 1 by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wells and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

Attorney Connelly read Ordinance No. 1 by title only.

MOTION: Councilor Wells made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1. The motion was seconded by Councilor Leach and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

6. Street Closure Request – 2021 Function 4 Junction

Director Kaping presented the request from Corrie Lucas, Function 4 Junction Association President, to close specific streets for the 2021 Function 4 Junction on June 4th and 5th, 2021. The Community Development Committee reviewed on April 7, 2021 and recommended approval.

Director Kaping noted that legal counsel had recommended changing Number 7 in the conditions to read, “Applicant will ensure that its event, and event attendees, participants, employees, contractors, and volunteers, comply with all applicable Public Health Laws issued by the Governor, in the form of Executive Orders, and Oregon Health Authority (OHA), in the form of guidance to implement those Executive Orders. If the Public Health Laws change between permit issuance and the date of the event, Applicant will immediately resubmit its compliance Plan to the City for review. City reserves the right to modify these conditions or revoke this permit, as a result of any Public Health Law changes.”

Councilor Gambee declared an actual conflict of interest, as he owned two businesses in downtown Junction City that would be impacted by this event. He recused himself.

MOTION: Councilor Ceniga made a motion to approve the street closure request for the Annual Function 4 Junction on June 4th and June 5th, 2021, as conditioned in Attachment B with the nonexclusive use of City streets for street closure from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on June 4th and from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on June 5th. The use of City streets will apply to the route shown in Attachment A, contingent upon approval from the Oregon Department of Transportation with the following changes to Number 7 in the conditions of approval as presented tonight. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wells and passed by unanimous vote of Councilors Thomas, Wells, Ceniga, Leach, and Washburne.

Councilor Gambee rejoined the meeting.

7. Front Street 1st to 4th Paving Project

Director Kaping presented the request to grind and overlay Front Street from 1st to 4th. This project would be in the 2021-2022 budget and be paid from the Streets Capital Fund. The Public Works Committee reviewed on April 5, 2021 and recommended approval.

MOTION: Councilor Washburne made a motion to award the Front Street 1st – 4th paving project to Pave Northwest in the amount of \$68,070.00 and authorize the Public Works Director to sign the necessary documents. The motion was seconded by Councilor Leach and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

8. 4th Street Paving Project Ivy to Juniper

Director Kaping presented the request to remove and replace asphalt on 4th from Ivy to Juniper. This project would be in the 2021-2022 budget and be paid from the Streets Capital Fund. The Public Works Committee reviewed on April 5, 2021 and recommended approval.

MOTION: Councilor Thomas made a motion to award the 4th Avenue paving project to Pave Northwest in the amount of \$45,450.00 and authorize the Public Works Director to sign the necessary documents. The motion was seconded by Councilor Leach and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

9. 9th Street Paving Project Juniper to Kalmia

Director Kaping presented the request to remove and replace asphalt on 9th from Juniper to Kalmia. This project would be in the 2021-2022 budget and be paid from the Streets Capital Fund. The Public Works Committee reviewed on April 5, 2021 and recommended approval.

MOTION: Councilor Wells made a motion to award the 9th Street paving project to Pave Northwest in the amount of \$46,079.00 and authorize the Public Works Director to sign the necessary documents. The motion was seconded by Councilor Ceniga and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

10. Timothy Bike Path Paving Project

Director Kaping presented the request to overlay the Timothy Bike Path that runs from Timothy Street to Alona Place and Saxon with 2 inches of asphalt. This project would be in the 2021-2022 budget and be paid from the Bike Path Reserve Fund. The Public Works Committee reviewed on April 5, 2021 and recommended approval.

MOTION: Councilor Washburne made a motion to award the Timothy Bike Path paving project to Pave Northwest in the amount of \$14,361.00 and authorize the Public Works Director to sign the necessary documents. The motion was seconded by Councilor Ceniga and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

11. Hot Box Purchase

Director Kaping presented the request to purchase an Asphalt Hot Box for the projects crew. Staff would use ODOT exchange money for this purchase, which would reduce the cost to the City to \$2,070.00. The Public Works Committee reviewed on April 5, 2021 and recommended approval.

MOTION: Councilor Ceniga made a motion to approve the purchase of an Asphalt Hot Box from CRAFCO Inc. for \$34,500.00 and authorize the Public Works Director to sign the necessary documents. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wells and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

12. Downtown Street Lights

Director Kaping presented the request to purchase solar streetlights for the downtown area. The lights would be placed from Front Street to Ivy on 6th, 5th to 7th on Greenwood, and in both City parking lots on Greenwood. Funding would be from the Streets Capital Fund. The Community Development Committee reviewed on April 7, 2021 and recommended approval.

Councilor Gambee declared an actual conflict of interest and recused himself, as he owned property and businesses in downtown Junction City and this would have a financial benefit by inviting more people to Junction City.

Council members expressed appreciation to Director Kaping and to Councilor Ceniga (Chair of Community Development Committee) for bringing this item to fruition, as it had been discussed for many years. It was noted that this would be a great benefit to the community.

MOTION: Councilor Ceniga made a motion to approve the purchase of the Gama Sonic Royal Solar lights from Ferguson for \$20,800.00 and authorize the Public Works Director to sign the necessary documents. The motion was seconded by Councilor Leach and passed by unanimous vote of Councilors Thomas, Wells, Ceniga, Leach, and Washburne.

Councilor Gambee rejoined the meeting.

13. Ophelia's Place Request

Manager Moran presented the request from Ophelia's Place to temporarily suspend their rent payments until October 1, 2021. Ophelia's Place had been renting at Dutch's Field since 2018 and paid \$550 per month. Their facility was closed, due to COVID, and they planned on reopening on October 1, 2021.

The Council expressed appreciation and support for the good work that Ophelia's Place was doing in the community.

MOTION: Councilor Washburne made a motion to approve the request to temporarily suspend the rent for Ophelia's Place until October 1, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilor Ceniga and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

14. Budget Stabilization Fund

Director Crocker presented the request to create the Budget Stabilization Fund. This was also known as a “rainy day” fund and could be used for ups and downs with recessions to cover revenue shortfalls and for major accidents, disaster recovery, unforeseen expenditures, and emergency situations. The idea would be that funding would be set aside in years with a budget surplus, to be used for unforeseen events or to offset lean years. The Finance and Judiciary Committee reviewed on April 1, 2021 and recommended approval. A corresponding fiscal policy would be drafted and reviewed by the Finance and Judiciary Committee within the next few months and then forwarded to Council for approval. The fund was included in the proposed 2021-2022 budget, and funding would need to be approved by the Budget Committee.

A. Resolution No. 1 – A Resolution Authorizing the Establishment of a New Reserve Fund.

MOTION: Councilor Wells made a motion to approve Resolution No. 1. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

15. Discussion on In-Person Meetings

Administrator Knope stated that at the last meeting, the Council asked him to present some options for in person meetings. He presented three options and recommended that if the Council wanted to meet in person, that they choose Option 3 to use the Council Chambers for Committee meetings and use the Community Center for the Council, Planning Commission, and Budget Committee meetings. Most of staff and all of the public would attend virtually, and the governing body members could also attend virtually if desired.

In response to a question from Councilor Ceniga on if the City would face any penalties if they met in person, Attorney Connelly stated that her understanding was that if the City was in compliance with OSHA’s rules and protecting staff, that would be the number one priority as that would have a much higher level of exposure, which supported Option 3. Beyond that, the Council would have to find that they could not reasonably meet virtually, and she noted that there was some evidence from tonight’s meeting to support that virtual meetings could be difficult.

MOTION: Councilor Washburne made a motion to direct staff to proceed with Option 3. The motion was seconded by Councilor Leach and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

16. Revolving Loan Fund Committee Appointments

Councilor Gambee declared an actual conflict of interest and recused himself.

Mayor Ficek stated that the member terms on the Revolving Loan Fund Committee had expired. Positions had been advertised and applications had been received.

It was noted that the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Criteria had been approved by Council resolution and provided guidance on the membership configuration, which consisted of up to five members, one of which shall be a City Councilor or Mayor, three financial industry professionals, and one member of the public at large. Terms were for two years. Appointments were made by the Mayor and approved by the Council.

Discussion occurred on the membership and applicants, which included that there were two applicants for the one member of the public at large. Mayor Ficek asked if the Council wanted to review the composition of the membership of this Committee.

It was the consensus of the Council to have the Finance and Judiciary Committee review the RLF Membership at their next meeting and bring back to Council in one month. Administrator Knope noted that the RLF Committee did not have a parent Committee to review things, so if the Council wanted to send this to the Finance and Judiciary Committee, he would request that the Finance and Judiciary Committee also consider modifying their purpose statement to reflect RLF oversight.

Councilor Gambee rejoined the meeting.

17. Council Representative Tri-County Chamber

Mayor Ficek asked if there were any Council volunteers to be the City Council’s representative at the Tri-County Chamber. Councilor Leach volunteered to serve in this role

and, Councilor Wells volunteered to serve as back up. Mayor Ficek thanked both Councilors and said she would be looking forward to future reports.

18. LCOG Board of Directors and Lane ACT Representative

Mayor Ficek stated that Councilor Gambia would serve as the LCOG (Lane Council of Governments) Board of Director representative and Councilor Leach would serve as the Lane ACT (Area Commission on Transportation) representative. Mayor Ficek added that she looked forward to future reports.

19. City's 150th Birthday

Mayor Ficek stated that the City's 150th birthday would occur in the fall of 2022, and discussion on doing something for this started three years ago. She continued that she was excited about this and thought they should start planning. She had a few ideas and asked that Councilors please email her their ideas on commemorating this event.

20. Councilor Agenda Forecaster Review

Administrator Knope presented the Council Agenda Forecaster. He noted that some Council Agenda Item Request forms had been submitted, for Council review:

1. "To see if the Council is interested in doing an evaluation for the City Administrator – pros and cons of that" from Councilor Thomas.

COUNCIL CONSENSUS: Put on the May 11, 2021 Council agenda to see how the Council would like to proceed.

2. "Discuss bucket list pros and cons – if and what as a Council we want" from Councilor Thomas.

COUNCIL CONSENSUS: Have Finance and Judiciary Committee discuss and bring back to a Council regular meeting or work session.

3. "Discussion on the release of information of the people/businesses who received Pandemic Relief Funds. These funds used were public funds from the Revolving Loan Fund" from Jack Sumner.

Councilor Gambia declared an actual conflict of interest and recused himself from discussion.

COUNCIL CONSENSUS: Put on April 27th Council Work Session agenda.

Councilor Gambia rejoined the meeting.

4. "Making a Policy for Journalism for our Meetings" from Councilor Thomas. Administrator Knope stated that he worked with Attorney Connelly's office and a draft policy would be reviewed at the next Finance and Judiciary Committee and then come before Council for final consideration within next 30 days.

COUNCIL CONSENSUS: Finance and Judiciary Committee would review draft policy and bring to Council at the May 11, 2021 Council meeting.

21. Committee Reports

Finance and Judiciary Committee (April 1st, 2021). Councilor Gambia reported:

- Director Crocker had done a tremendous job with the budget. Excited about the additional reserve fund; an associated policy would be reviewed and brought back to Council.
- The City was in a great position with a lot of reserves, because of the excellent policies of the Administrator and staff.

Public Safety Committee (April 6, 2021). Councilor Gambia reported:

- Vice Chair Wells led this meeting and did an excellent job.
- Deputy Chief Markell and Chief Morris gave an update on work that the Police Department (PD) was doing, including tracking down criminals, locating stolen RVs, etc.

A lot of great work was being done by the Police Department in these challenging times with the pandemic, homelessness, drug use, etc.

- The new roof and gutters on the building that the PD was leasing were donated by contractors, which was a tremendous thing. He thanked those contractors for helping the Police Department and improving downtown.

Community Development Committee (April 7, 2021). Councilor Ceniga reported:

- Was happy with the work of the Committee. Made great progress on the lights, and she thanked Director Kaping and his team for all their work on that.
- After the lights were up, they would look at planter boxes and some other things to continue to spruce up the area. Hopefully with more time and a good budget, they could expand the lighting in the downtown area on some of the other streets that were not getting lights in this go around.
- She appreciated having the Mayor listening in on the meetings. She encouraged everybody to listen in and noted that she appreciated the support and feedback.

Community Services Committee (April 6, 2021). Councilor Washburne reported:

- They were trying to decide if the pool could open this year. They were currently having problems finding people to train lifeguards.
- The Committee would be working with the Library Board to possibly change the code on the Library Board duties.
- The pandemic had really kept some Community Services facilities closed, but hopefully the Viking Sal Senior Center could open back up in the future.

Public Works Committee (April 5, 2021). Councilor Washburne reported:

- It was mindboggling how many projects were occurring with Public Works. He thanked Director Kaping for going the extra mile and getting the qualified bids that were needed for the street repairs and other projects that were occurring. He noted they were on the right track to improve roads and water and sewer in the City.

22. Staff Reports

Manager Moran reported: AARP just finished their tax aide service. Interviews had been completed for the Library Coordinator position and narrowed down to three people; hoped to have someone start in May and have six to eight weeks to train with Coordinator Darling before she retired at the end of June. Not sure if the pool would open this year but hoped to have two people go through the Lifeguard Instructor Course, so they would be able to train lifeguards; that certification was good for two years.

Director Crocker reported: He was looking forward to the Budget Committee meeting and getting started on Thursday. He was catching up on tasks, now that the proposed budget had been prepared.

Director Kaping reported: He and Superintendent Tracer had been mapping out summer/fall projects and had provided to Administrator Knope for a newsletter that would be going out. The crack seal machine had been received and training was being set up. The new backhoe was supposed to arrive on the 20th with training occurring on the 21st. The concrete pad had been poured, and they were erecting the new building at Public Works.

Chief Morris reported: The department had been very busy, and he asked Deputy Chief Markell to give a summary of cases over the last month. Deputy Chief Markell reviewed: worked with other agencies to recover two RVs that had been stolen; had three overdose calls, with two resulting in death; several people taken to the hospital for mental evaluations; arrested a suspect who had stabbed someone and violated a court order by continually contacting the victim; arrested a subject who held a box cutter to someone's throat; recovered a stolen vehicle; arrested a father for strangling a subject who had been involved with playing with butane/matches and causing an apartment fire; Officer Bonner responded to the Harrisburg bridge pulled a suicidal subject off the bridge, and took him to the hospital; and someone fired a small caliber bullet through a house.

Mayor Ficek expressed appreciation to the Police Department on behalf of all the citizens of Junction City for all their hard work.

23. Councilor Comments/Questions

Councilor Ceniga thanked Officer Bonner for his quick response. She expressed the importance of having the public participate in public meetings, even with the challenges of virtual meetings. She felt that as a Council and as staff, it was their responsibility to answer questions that were asked by the public and to give a sufficient answer. She felt that tonight a question was asked by a member of the public and in her opinion, the answer was disrespectful and not sufficient. She added that they owed Mr. Sumner an answer and it needed to be done in a public meeting, because he had asked his question at a public meeting.

Councilor Washburne stated that he would like to see expenditures be brought back to Council meetings, so they could discuss those in a public forum and the people of Junction City could hear questions and answers about expenditures in a public meeting.

Councilor Thomas shared that the Police Department put roofing on a building that the City was renting and wondered if it would be up to the property owner to do those types of things rather than the City. Chief Morris responded that the City had spent no funds to replace that roof.

Councilor Wells complimented everyone for partaking in tonight’s meeting, as they had a full schedule and did a very good job getting through it. He was pleased to see in the monthly financials that taxes received were now over 92%. The budget report for the current year looked really good, and he said job well done to everybody who had been positive when the budget was created, as it had turned out as predicted. He asked if the City had a donation policy, and noted that if not, he would submit an agenda request form to hopefully have one created.

Administrator Knope responded that the City did not have a donation policy, but he would work with Director Crocker to come up with some examples and take to the Finance and Judiciary Committee for review and then forward to the Council for consideration.

Councilor Leach thanked the entire Council for all the hard work tonight. She expressed appreciation to staff in setting them up for face to face meetings. She looked forward to future work sessions and noted they had a lot to discuss. Having a donation policy would be a good topic for a work session. She thanked staff for all that they did.

Councilor Gambee noted that the hot box purchase was an example of staff figuring out a way to continually save the City money year after year and to do things better. Staff also did a great job of spending less and saving money, which went towards the reserve funds. He continued that there were many leases where a tenant was required to improve or maintain a building, and he thought it was great that contractors were willing to support the police and the community by donating improvements. He expressed appreciation to Chief Morris for finding resources and donations for projects, which had saved using tax dollars over and over again; he added that the Department Directors had done this as well. He thanked everyone for their work.

24. Mayor’s Comments

Mayor Ficek noted this was a long meeting and thanked the Council and everyone for their hard work. She thanked the staff at every department and at every level for all they did for the Council and for the City. She agreed with everyone that it would be nice to have meetings in person where they could see each other.

25. Adjournment

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Kitty Vodrup, City Recorder

Beverly A. Ficek, Mayor