

August 8, 2024 – EMPIRE VILLAGE COUNCIL WORK SESSION

The meeting was called to order at the Empire Township Hall and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Palmer at 7:00 p.m. Upon a roll call members Bacon, Chase, Dye, Palmer, Rademacher, Walton, and Webb were present. Clerk Smith was also present.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – Palmer removed the Mowing Policy under New Business. Chase will present Office updates under committee report. Bacon noted that the Sign Ordinance in the packet is not the one passed by the PC on August 1st. She also said she will report on the Aylsworth Streetlights under committee reports.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Motion by Walton, support by Bacon to approve the agenda as amended. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – Terry Bacon commented on the proposed Sign Ordinance.

COMMUNICATIONS – Letter regarding streetlights on Aylsworth was received and read aloud. A response from Bacon was read aloud. Letter regarding the proposed Sign Ordinance from Terry Bacon was received. All were included in packet.

COUNCIL MEMBER/COMMITTEE REPORTS – Chase reported on the progress of improvements to the break room, office furniture, and electrical needs. She provided 2 quotes for remodel of office area. Timing of moving technology and delivering furniture was discussed. Lowest quote was received from DPW Technician Reutter who would perform work on personal time. **Motion by Bacon, support by Dye to amend the agenda to include approval of office remodeling and equipment purchases on the agenda under Old Business #5. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Dye, Palmer, Rademacher, Walton, Webb. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.** Rademacher reported on Water Committee and Dye reported on Parks Committee. Bacon reported on the next steps for reviewing the streetlights on Aylsworth. She also reported on the Master Plan Open House and educational sessions.

OLD BUSINESS

APPROVE MINUTES: Regular Meeting 7/23/24 – Motion by Dye, support by Rademacher to approve the minutes as presented. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

SIGN ORDINANCE – Bacon reviewed some of the changes made to the incorrect draft in the packet. There was consensus that a corrected draft be forwarded to Council and such will be added to the next meeting agenda.

PARKS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – Dye reviewed the changes the Parks committee has recommended to the Beach Park Ordinance. Changes to Fee Schedule will be considered at the Budget Hearing.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE JOB DESCRIPTIONS – Walton reviewed the descriptions provided. There was discussion on the format, whether the descriptions applied to current or future duties. There was discussion of the descriptions and differences between an at-will employee, contract employee or appointed officer by ordinance. **Motion by Rademacher,**

support by Dye to extend the meeting until 9:30 p.m. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

VILLAGE OFFICE TRANSITION – Motion by Bacon, support by Dye to approve electrical contracting and construction remodeling not to exceed \$7K. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Dye, Palmer, Rademacher, Walton, Webb. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.

WATER RATES RECOMMENDATION – Rademacher reported that the committee’s recommendation is 4% RTS increase (\$58 Residential, \$105 Commercial) and continue annually until a new water study is completed. A public hearing will be scheduled at the regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

RECYCLING – Moved to next work session

NIAGARA STREET –Moved to next work session.

REVIEW FINANCIALS – The June cash and Revenue and Expenditures reports were reviewed.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Terry Bacon commented on the Sign Ordinance and job descriptions. Karen Baja commented on animal control in the beach ordinance, the sign ordinance, and on the new office.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENT – None.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:32 p.m.

Derith Smith

Empire Village Clerk

These minutes were approved at the August 27, 2024, Regular Council meeting.