

**Toulon City Council**

**Regular Meeting**

**November 13, 2024**

**Toulon Firehouse**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Larry Hollis, Barbara J Cantwell City Clerk, Kate Carter city attorney

Donna Lefler, Joe Hulseby

Alderman Ward 1

Michael Schott, Connie Jacobson (absent)

Alderman Ward 2

Ryan Kelly, Brandon Simpson

Alderman Ward

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Hollis called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**MINUTES TO THE OCTOBER 16, 2024 MEETING:** Page 2 under Report from City Employees/Committee Chairman 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence should read Matt Forstrom reported the sidewalk in front of the Baptist Church has been torn out and repoured. 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence change the work edition to addition. Then the rest of that sentence should read the fire hydrant by the corner of Washington and Main St. not fire hydrant by the Tap. Page 5 first paragraph 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence change the word demolishing to demolition. Paragraph under TIF delete the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence. Donna Lefler made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Michael Schott 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

**CASH RECEIPT REPORT:** Total Cash Receipt for October 2024 is \$304,289.60. Ryan Kelly made a motion to approve the Cash Receipt Report for October 2024. Michael Schott 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Total for the Treasurer Report for September 2024 is \$1,115,377.51. Donna Lefler made a motion to approve the Treasurer

Report for September 2024. Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

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**TREASURER REPORT:** Total for the Treasurer Report for October 2024 is \$1,247,481.85. Brandon Simpson made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report for October 2024. Donna Lefler 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

**REPORT FROM THE CITY EMPLOYEES/COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:**

James King reported the visit from the IEPA went well just a few minor things that need to be corrected. Also finished building the stairs to the creek behind the sewer plant leading to the effluent pipe. Ryan Kelly read the police report.

**APPROVAL OF SUBMITTED CLAIMS:** Brandon Simpson made a motion to approve the submitted claims as submitted. Donna Lefler 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

**ATTORNEY REPORT:** Kate Carter reported of some property issues. On 315 W Jefferson the demolition order was obtained from the court. The city can demolish the recidents. On 213 E Greenwood hoping to get a demolition order within the next several weeks. Eric Guy has been in contact with Kate's office, and he is committed to cleaning up the trailer park. He has 60 days to make it look better and get things in order. Anything after that an ordinance violation ticket will be issued and will proceed through the court system.

**ENGINEER REPORTS:** Justn Reeise was present and reported he received a formal response from IDOT on the City's request to look at the speed limits through downtown. Everything that is 25 miles per hour is as low as they can make it by the statue. The EPA wants additional information about the caustic.

**BIDS FOR DEMOLITION OF 311 N FULLER:** Gordon Whittaker bid \$27,500 if the property is unburnt. If burnt first would be \$17,000. MTG

Excavating bid is \$33,000 prior to being burnt and \$18,000 if burnt. Michael Schott made a motion to accept the bid from Gordon Whittaker on the property of 311 N Fuller St. Joe Hulsey 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

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**BIDS FOR LANDSCAPING CITY HALL:** The Mayor did receive bid from GC Designs from Minooka Il. for \$30,445.00. The council decided to decline the bid and put it out for bids again in the spring.

**LIME PUMP REPLACEMENT:** The council wants to wait to hear about the caustic before moving forward and buy a new lime pump.

**ORDINANCE 969 NEW WATER/SEWER RATES:** Kate was asked to amend the ordinance and remove the bond sewer charge. The change of rates will start beginning December 1, 2024 and through April 30, 2026. Water services shall include \$24.47 monthly base rate, plus a charge of \$0.45 per 100 gallons used up to 5,000 gallons and \$0.60 per 100 gallons over 5,000 gallons. Beginning May 1<sup>st</sup> thereafter, the base rate and monthly usage fee shall increase by 3%. Rural rates stayed the same. For the Sewer rates beginning December 1, 2024, and through April 30, 2026, the cost of city sewer services shall include a \$19.13 monthly base rate, plus a charge of \$0.40 per 100 gallons used. Beginning May 1, 2026, and each May 1<sup>st</sup> thereafter, the base rate and monthly usage fee shall increase by 3%. Michael Schott made a motion to approve Ordinance 969. Brandon Simpson 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

**ORDINANCE 970 GARBAGE /RECYCLING RATES:** Kate Carter reported there will be \$1.00 rate increase starting December 1, 2024, and a dollar increase every May 1<sup>st</sup> thereafter through April 30, 2029. Brandon Simpson made a motion to approve Ordinance 970. Michael Schott 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

Michael Schott made a motion to move New Employee for Office right before the TIF business and move Annual Insurance Renewal to now. Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

**PUBLIC CONCERNS:** None

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**ANNUAL INSURANCE RENEWAL:** Ben Leezer was present and spoke about the insurance. Ben wanted to give the council an idea as to how much the insurance will run for 2025. There will be some adjustments made before the December meeting. Our insurance will expire on 12/31/24. Will vote on this at the December meeting.

**TOULON CHRISTMAS WALK DONATION (LAST YR \$1,000.00):** Michael Schott made a motion to donate \$1,000.00. Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

**AM. LEGAL COST OF SUPPLEMENT FOR NEW ORDINANCES \$1,000.00-\$1,700.00:** Teresa Macy will work on the ordinances to see which ones need not be codified, so the price can be lowered some.

**SALE OF KIOTI TRACTOR:** The clutch is going out on the tractor so the city is going to try and sale it. Michael Schott made a motion to approve Ordinance 971 an Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property in The Possession of the City of Toulon. Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

**MAUSOLEUM ROOF REPAIR AT CEMETERY:** The roof on the mausoleum is leaking. Quotes are needed to see what the actual cost will be to repair the mausoleum.

**QUOTES FOR BUNKER AT CEMETERY:** Matt Forstrom would like to have a bunker to keep the dirt in. Michael Schott made a motion to approved 19 blocks for a concrete bunker not to exceed \$1,500.00. Brandon Simpson 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

**WASHING MACHINE AT WATER PLANT:** The washing machine at the plant does not work. There is a quote from Morrissey Appliance for \$549.95. Michael Schott made a motion to purchase the washer from Morrissey Appliance for \$549.95. Donna Lefler 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

**3<sup>RD</sup> EMPLOYEE FOR CITY OUTSIDE WORK:** The city has currently been hiring

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2 part-time employees for summer help. The mayor wants James King to work with just the water, and one of our part-time employees will not be coming back to work next summer for the city. The mayor wants to see if it will be feasible to hire another employee full-time. The mayor also reported that James King has been doing a great job at the water plant.

**ESTIMATE TAXES:** The tax levy is due last Tuesday of December and Kate just wants to make sure that the city can get the hearings in order.

**CITY PROPERTY USE:** The mayor was approached to see if the city would sell the property down at the sewer plant for a purpose other than building houses. The mayor wants the council to see if we want to wait and see what Hometown Consulting is going to end up doing or what they want to do.

**NEW EMPLOYEE FOR OFFICE:** The mayor interviewed a few people on Monday.

7:23

Donna Lefler made a motion to move to an executive session pursuant to Section 2 (C) (1) of the Open Meetings Act to consider issues of employment and /or Performance of Employees. Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

7:49

Donna Lefler made a motion to go back into regular session. Joe Hulsey 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

**TIF:** The only bills that need to be paid are Jacob & Klein and Economic Development of Bloomington and we have a contract with them, so those bills do not have to be approved.

Teresa Macy presented a list that TIF can repay back to general and water/sewer savings.

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Michael Schott made a motion to adjourn. Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, Connie Jacobson absent, motion passed.

7 :56

