CITY OF LA HARPE

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 12, 2023

REGULAR MEETING 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT OTHERS PRESENT

Austin Lee Mayor, Ella Mae Crowell

Danny Ware Jr City Clerk, Michelle Altis

Cynthia Carr City Code/animal Control, Penny Miller

Sharlyn Thompson Police Chief, Joe Stotler

Fire Chief, Marc Waggoner

Water Rep, Roy Caler

City Attorney, Fred Works

City Maintenance, Gentry Dougherty

**Call to order**

Mayor Crowell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance with 4 members present. Ron Knavel was absent.

**Approval of Agenda**

Danny Ware Jr made the motion to approve the agenda. Sharlyn Thompson seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**Approval of Minutes**

Sharlyn Thompson made the motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on March 8, 2023, special meeting March 1, 2023 and special meeting March 27,2023 as presented. Cynthia Carr seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**CITIZENS CALL FOR BUSINESS**

1. Angela Barker asked if a variance could be given for filling pools. Mayor Crowell stated, we are looking at that and if anything changes, we will let you know.
2. Sunshine Jones requested a variance for 2 goats. Mayor Crowell asked how many she had, she stated 2 goats on about 2 1/2 lots and they are fenced in. Austin Lee expressed concerns with the property being so close to Main Street. Penny Miller stated, there have been no problems with the goats. Danny Ware Jr recommended looking at the property before granting a variance and look at this again in May.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. No unfinished business discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Bids on vandalism at city hall – Home Renovations submitted a bid in the amount of $9,010.00. Mayor Crowell stated they would be done before the end of May. Austin Lee made the motion to accept the bid only if the insurance company paid the difference. Sharlyn Thompson seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
2. Sewer reserve fund – Mayor Crowell asked the council how they wanted to pay for the lids and risers, stating we have the loan we can use and also there are a couple of grant options that we are looking into as well. Danny Ware Jr made the motion to take $15,000.00 out of special highway and the other $55,060.75 out of the electric fund. Sharlyn Thompson seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
3. Water rate ordinance – Danny Ware Jr made the motion to adopt ordinance #1795, raising the city water rates. Cynthia Carr seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
4. Property Tax Sale – Mayor Crowell stated everyone should have a copy of the La Harpe properties that will may be on the tax sale June 8th. She suggested the city try to acquire 811 S. Washington since it is next to our buildings and it would give us more room for our equipment. Mayor Crowell directed the council to look over the list and if there are other properties you would like to acquire, bring it to the next meeting in May.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS**

1. Fred Works, City Attorney – Nothing to report
2. Roy Caler, Water Representative – Nothing to report
3. Joe Stotler, Police Chief – Shared his monthly time cards and report.
4. Penny Miller, Code/Animal Control – Shared her monthly reports. Penny shared a resolution to condemn a property on McKinley. Austin Lee made the motion to adopt resolution #2023-3. Sharlyn Thompson seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
5. Marc Waggoner, Fire Chief- Shared the meeting minutes: The La Harpe Volunteer Fire Department met for the monthly meeting. Marc Waggoner and Bill Gay took an 8-hour class with KSU on grain entrapment training, which we will train the other firefighters on the grain entrapment training. Also, Luke Chenowith was dismissed because of lack of attendance at meetings and fires. Marc asked the council to think about purchasing a grain rescue bin, stating they run about $4,000.00. Mayor Crowell asked if he had been looking into grant options for a new truck. She suggested to keep looking and get with Marcia Davis. Danny ware Jr asked how the work on the broken fire hydrants was going. Marc stated, they have been working on them.
6. Maintenance Department –The workorders were shared. Mayor Crowell mentioned, Dereck is doing great and going forward every other class will be hands on.
7. Michelle Altis, City Clerk – Nothing to report

**DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS –**

Mayor Crowell stated Austin Lee requested an executive session for attorney/client. Danny Ware Jr made the motion to go into an executive session for attorney/client for 15 minutes. Sharlyn Thompson seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**TREASURER’S REPORT –** File for audit.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Sharlyn Thompson made a motion to approve bills as presented. Cynthia Carr seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Cynthia Carr made the motion to adjourn. Austin Lee seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Adjourned at 8:08 pm.

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City ClerkMayor