CITY OF LA HARPE

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

JULY 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 Water Rep, Roy Caler

Ron Knavel Fire Chief, Marc Waggoner

**Call to order**

 Mayor Crowell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance with 5 members present.

**Approval of Agenda**

Danny Ware Jr. requested an executive session for non-elected personnel to be added at the end of meeting. Sharlyn Thompson made the motion to approve the amended agenda. Austin Lee seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**Approval of Minutes**

 Danny Ware Jr made the motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on June 14, 2023, and the special meetings on June 1, 2023 and June 22, 2023 as presented. Ron Knavel seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**CITIZENS CALL FOR BUSINESS**

1. Ray Maloney inquired about the incentive for tiny homes, wanting to know where the council was on this. Mayor Crowell stated we have added it to our incentive, Penny Miller gave Ray a builder’s packet to review.
2. Sunshine Jones inquired on her variance request. Mayor Crowell stated you are fine as long as pen size has increased.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Animal Ordinance – Fred Works shared an email recommending if the council approved, he would have something ready for the August meeting. He stated, Humboldt’s ordinance reads any kind of animal within the city that is not recognized as a typical house pet is prohibited. Anyone in La Harpe that would not conform to this new rule would be grandfathered in for as long as those animals continuously reside in the city. If they die or their presence in the city is interrupted, the grandfather status is terminated.
2. Fire Ordinance – Ron Knavel disagrees with using bricks and rocks. The council had no problem with bricks and rocks but the size should be taken into consideration. Penny Miller mentions the burn pit in the park is not allowed there because the ordinance states no burning in park other than on provided grills. Mayor Crowell suggested we add an exception to the park.
3. Burn Permit – Michelle Altis suggested she fill out the permit, make a copy of it and tell the individual getting the permit, it will only be approved by the fire chief after his inspection of burning items. At that time, he can get their signature and give them the other copy. The council was good with that.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Fire Hydrant – Mayor Crowell stated we had to borrow a hydrant to fix a leak at 14th & Broadway. We are replacing Moran’s hydrant but I would like to keep on of each size in stock, we have a 6” but need a 4” to have. The price of the hydrant is around $3200.00. Danny Ware Jr made the motion to buy 2 hydrants, one for Moran and one for the city. Ron Knavel seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
2. Roads – Austin Lee asked about the ditches, wondering when they were going to get done. Mayor Crowell stated, ditch work will get started when they are done with the roads. Cynthia Carr and Austin Lee were inquiring the last time Broadway, from highway 54 to 5th street was done. Michelle stated, that stretch was done in in September 2017. Austin Lee asked when they were going to fix 3rd street, it is developing a pothole already. Mayor Crowell stated she would look into it.
3. Bids on demo of 402 S. Harrison – Mayor Crowell shared a bid from Ray’s Metal Depot in the amount of $2900.00 for the removal and cleanup of the property. Austin Lee made the motion to approve the bid. Cynthia Carr seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS**

1. Fred Works, City Attorney – Absent from meeting.
2. Roy Caler, Water Representative – Nothing to report.
3. Joe Stotler, Police Chief – Absent from meeting but shared his monthly time cards.
4. Penny Miller, Code/Animal Control – Shared her monthly reports. She stated, she would like to leave the kennel license as is for now. Mayor Crowell agreed stating as long as there are no issues and they are registered with the city.
5. Marc Waggoner, Fire Chief- Shared the meeting minutes: Present: Matthew Waggoner, Mehan Sparks, Josh Sparks, Marc Waggoner Sr., Bill Gay, Dennis Sidebottom, Pamela Waggoner, Kiefer Endicott & Ronald Splector. Absent was Gentry Dougherty. La Harpe firefighters started meeting, training Kiefer Endicott on how to operate fire trucks and training will continue on operation of fire trucks and then show Kiefer and Gentry how to operate SCBA bottles. All hydrants have been flushed. Danny Ware Jr asked about the hydrant at the park and Marc stated he has been working on it.
6. Maintenance Department –The workorders and Dereck’s progress report were shared. Mayor Crowell shared 3 bids for tires on the crew truck; Ken Pratt Motors was $483.75; Moran Tire Shop was $474.00 and JD’S Tire was $504.00. Mayor Crowell recommended Ken Pratt Motors because that is the working truck with all the tools and if they need something off of it, it’s right here in town. Danny Ware Jr made the motion to accept Ken Pratt Motors bid. Austin Lee seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Mayor Crowell stated the air compressor we have does not work and recommended getting the Huskey one for $899.00. Danny ware Jr recommended getting one on wheels that can be moved easily. Danny Ware Jr. made the motion to purchase an air compressor not to exceed $600.00. Ron Knavel seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Mayor Crowell stated the county was going to help the city get the blocks to town for our bays at the park. The crew would like 2 concrete pads for the cold patch and top soil and pricing for that would be $1815.00 for 15 yards of concrete making the pads 10” deep. Danny Ware Jr stated 6” would be plenty and reduce the price about $300.00 or so. Mayor Crowell suggested we revisit this after the blocks are in.
7. Michelle Altis, City Clerk – Nothing to report.

**DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS –**

Mayor Crowell requested a motion to go into executive session 30 minutes on non-elected personnel. Danny Ware Jr made the motion to go into executive session 30 minutes on non-elected personnel. Austin Lee seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

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

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Danny Ware Jr made a motion to approve bills as presented. Sharlyn Thompson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

 Cynthia Carr made the motion to adjourn. Danny Ware Jr seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Adjourned at 8:55 pm.

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City ClerkMayor