

The Clarion City Council met in regular session Wednesday July 5th, 2023, at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers with Mayor Rod Heiden presiding. Present were Council members Andy Young, Dan Hennigar, Shayne Hennigar, and Nick McOllough (Dave Flurer by Phone). Also in attendance City Administrator Clint Middleton, City Attorney Chizek, PWD DeVries and Chief TerHark.

Mayor Heiden called the meeting to order and polled the council for any conflicts of interest with the agenda. There were none. Mayor Heiden asked if there were any citizens to address the council, there was one, Brian Reece. He was asking questions on how the land directly north of him between his place and the new Aspen Drive was going to be maintained. He was informed by PWD DeVries that it will be maintained by the city.

Motioned by D. Hennigar seconded by McOllough to approve consent agenda consisting of Minutes-2023.06.20; Financial report- approve checks; Licenses/Permits- (Building, Liquor, Tobacco, Sign, Peddler, Street Closure) Garbage hauler – American Sanitation, Building - Sheffield (Motion passed 5-0).

Motioned by Young seconded by S. Hennigar to approve Resolution (23-48) approving City Fee Structure with corrections. (Motion passed 5-0).

Members of the Clarion Volunteer Fire Department were in attendance to address the council asking the council to send the building of the Estimated \$4M+ New Fire Station to a Bond Vote. The estimation we have for the new station was given to the city by their engineers (ISG). Some local contractors believe the project can be done for less than that. The firemen gave very good, factual reasons why now is the best time to push this project forward. Middleton informed them they are not the only project that is in the sights for the city and the debt capacity that we have (available at this time) will not allow the CFD to take the \$4M of it. There is a South 2nd ST SW (a.k.a. County K, Madison Ave) that will need to be done in the near future. We are hoping to hear in Aug if we are awarded grant funds to help with that project. There is also a Rec Center Committee that is currently doing some fundraising. (This committee told Middleton it intends to raise all funds privately or through grants and has not in any way asked the city to fund even part of the project.) Middleton stated we would need to keep it in our mind as it is one of the major components this town needed after the last survey was taken (Focus on housing, daycare, and rec center). We do want the Rec Center project to be successful as it will free up some funds to go to other things, like more money towards the CFD new station. We will not know that until much later. It was finally decided we will plan on the next year's election to go to a vote. This will allow for a better understanding of the actual funds needed to Bond after fundraising and grants for the CFD. It will also allow all to see how the Rec Center project is going.

Comments from the Council: Young asked how we were coming on the 'No Trucks' signs out to Lion's Park. PWD DeVries mentioned we didn't order enough to make it as obvious as we need it to be. Mayor Heiden asked how we were coming on paving gravel roads. PWD DeVries said he had contacted Heartland Asphalt and they know the amount of money we are doing this year (more than normal) and have still not sent their estimator to us (Mayor Heiden was going to call his contact). Mayor was also contacted by a neighbor to someone who has chickens. Letters went out to possible chicken owners a couple weeks ago, but Middleton doesn't think this address was there so it will be investigated by our Code Enforcement Officer.

September 12th is the Special Election on extending the EMS as an essential service in our county. Mayor asks all to mark their calendar.

Motioned by Young seconded by McOllough to adjourn. All Ayes. (Motion passed 4-0, Flurer no longer on phone).

Respectfully Submitted,
Clint Middleton City Administrator

Clint Middleton, City Administrator

Rod Heiden, Mayor