

MINUTES
REGULAR ST. MICHAEL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 20, 2024

St. Michael City Center

7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Keith Wettschreck; Council Members Ryan Gleason, Joe Hagerty; and Tom Hamilton; City Administrator Steve Bot; Finance Director Sue Ferbuyt; City Attorney David Lenhardt; Fire Chief Tim Fiedler, and Deputy Clerk Amy Woitalla. Mayor Wettschreck called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. declaring a quorum present and the pledge of allegiance was said.

Set Agenda. City Administrator Steve Bot added an update on the Citizen Serve software under the City Administrator Report. Council Members Gleason/Hagerty **moved** to approve the agenda as amended. All voted aye.

Citizen Input. Mayan and David Dufner – 2260 Jamison Avenue NE. They stood to say the development occurring around their property was affecting their farm and drainage. Mayan had met with staff on July 17 and were told the City Engineer would work with the Developer, but they now had more water than ever before, and she wanted something done about it.

Bot said he had talked with City Engineer, Nick Preisler earlier in the day and after doing some calculations, there was a plan in place to build a berm all the way along their property line to try to push the water towards Gonz Lake. Bot said he believed this was a long-term solution, but there would be nothing the City could do if Gonz Lake were to start backing up onto their property. Bot planned to have Preisler contact them the following day to discuss.

Consent Agenda. Council Members Hagerty/Gleason **moved** to approve the Consent Agenda Items a) through d) as listed below. All voted aye.

- a) Resolution #08-20-24-01 Approving Minutes of the August 14 Council meeting
- b) Resolution #08-20-24-02 Liquor Compliance Violation
- c) Resolution #08-20-24-03 Approving Change Order #1 for 2024 Pavement Rehabilitation Project
- d) Resolution #08-20-24-04 Approving Pay Voucher #1 for 2024 Pavement Rehabilitation Project

Sheriff's Office Report. There was no report from the Wright County Sheriff's Office.

Community Development Report. There was no Community Development Report.

City Administrator Report.

Citizen Serve. Bot reported there was no discount offered for a multi-year contract, but Citizen Serve would hold the rate for the full term of the contract. They were also willing to spread out the implementation fee over the term of the contract whether it be for 3 or 5 years. Originally the Council talked about paying for the entire thing with excess revenue at the end of this year, but if we choose to spread it out making it an even amount annually, this would need to be included in the preliminary budget for 2025.

Council was also provided with example contracts which included an exit clause that was previously discussed. Hamilton wanted to see the contract include language that the City could terminate with or without cause and detail the related costs. The consensus was for staff to work with Attorney Lenhardt on the exit clause verbiage in a 5-year contract and to include this in the 2025 budget and bring back to the September 10th meeting.

There was also some discussion of a possible convenience fee which Ferbuyt said she would talk with different processing companies when the time came to find out if they take e-checks and what type of charges may be incurred by the City.

2025 Preliminary Budget Revisions. Bot explained as he and Ferbuyt were making changes discussed at the previous meeting, there were a few things that had been missed, mainly due to new hire insurance. Between the additional insurance expenses and what was discussed earlier in the meeting with Citizen Serve, Bot projected a levy increase of about 4.15%. Staff planned to bring back to next meeting on the 10th.

City Attorney Report. Attorney Dave Lenhardt had nothing to report.

Fire Chief Tim Fiedler said he had worked with Attorney Lehnhardt to discuss the donation of a new Subaru to the fire department. A representative that lives in the City offered to donate the car to be used for multiple fire trainings, and Chief Fiedler found someone to take the vehicle to recycle after the training was complete. Lenhardt had no concerns about the donation.

Approval of Claims. Council Members Gleason/Hamilton **moved** to approve checks #49618-49677, credit card and ACH transactions in the total amount of \$817,595.64. All voted aye.

The Council complimented Bot on the I-94 Gap Project Ribbon Cutting. Hagerty commented there were people there from the Senate and the House and to have them all there together was impressive.

Adjourn. Council Members Gleason/Hagerty **moved** to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. All voted aye.

Attest:

Deputy Clerk

Mayor