

MINUTES
REGULAR ST. MICHAEL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 12, 2024

St. Michael City Center

7:00 p.m.

Present: Acting Mayor Joe Hagerty; Council Members Ryan Gleason; Tom Hamilton, and Zach Schoen; City Administrator Steve Bot; Community Development Director Marc Weigle; City Engineer Nick Preisler; and Deputy Clerk Amy Woitalla. Acting Mayor Joe Hagerty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. declaring a quorum present and the pledge of allegiance was said. Mayor Keith Wettschreck was excused.

Set Agenda. City Administrator Steve Bot explained that the canvassing results were distributed for approval later in the meeting. Council Members Hamilton/Gleason **moved** to approve the agenda. All voted aye.

Citizen Input. No one asked to be recognized under Citizen Input.

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

- a) Resolution #11-12-24-01 Approving Minutes of the October 22 Council meeting
- b) Resolution #11-12-24-02 Approving Releasing Security for I-94 Business Park
- c) Resolution #11-12-24-03 Approving Sidewalk Snow Plowing Employee
- d) Resolution #11-12-24-04 Approving Main Lift Station Used Utility Shelter Building Purchase
- e) Resolution #11-12-24-05 Approving Letter of Credit Reduction for Larabee Meadows
- f) Resolution #11-12-24-06 Approving Interim Use Permit Extension for PCI Roads
- g) Resolution #11-12-24-07 Approving Naber Business Park Pay Voucher #5
- h) Resolution #11-12-24-08 Approving Uhl Lake Park Pay Voucher #4
- i) Resolution #11-12-24-09 Approving WWTP Project Pay Voucher #11

Canvassing Board – Declare Results of November 5, 2024, Municipal Election). Bot reviewed the results of the recent election. Council Members Hamilton/Gleason **moved** to adopt **Resolution No. 11-12-24-10** Declaring Results of November 5, 2024, Municipal Election. All voted aye.

Consider Appointment to Vacant Council Position. Acting Mayor Hagerty explained there was an open seat on the Council after the passing of Scott Pedersen. Zach Schoen was in attendance after winning the recent election, and Hagerty asked if he would be willing to be appointed early; Schoen said yes. Council Members Gleason/Hamilton **moved** to appoint Zach Schoen as Council Member for the remaining portion of Pedersen’s term. All voted aye.

Deputy Clerk Amy Woitalla administered the oath of office to Schoen.

Sheriff’s Office Report. Wright County Deputy Kimberly Pagel reported since the last meeting three weeks earlier, there had been 557 calls for service. Hamilton asked about winter parking and if they would be issuing a warning for a first offense, and then a citation with a second. Pagel said they had not yet started issuing warnings and were waiting and watching the weather. Bot planned to follow up with the Sheriff’s office to make sure everyone was on the same page.

Fire Department Report – Fire Chief Tim Fiedler reported there had been 517 calls year to date. He added the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant opened earlier in the week and he had been working with a Grant Writer to help apply for the grant to help with the purchase of Self Contained Breathing

Apparatus (SCBA) that would need to be replaced in 2025. If awarded, this grant would cover 90% of the cost of the SCBA's.

Community Development Report.

EDA Update. Community Development Director Marc Weigle reported the EDA had received a good tour of Millside Tavern by Becky Berning. The main discussion item involved the potential acquisition of 22 1st Street SE just south of Backyard Liquor owned by Kwik Trip. The owner had reached out to the City to see if they were interested in purchasing the property, and EDA members thought it would be good to purchase as long as Kwik Trip didn't put too many use restrictions on the parcel as that would make redevelopment challenging. Weigle reached out to Kwik Trip and planned to bring it back to the December EDA meeting. Their asking price was \$260,000 and Weigle said the EDA fund was healthy and this shouldn't be a strain on that fund. The consensus of the Council was to continue moving forward with discussions with Kwik Trip.

Weigle also noted there had been a consistent problem with attendance at the EDA meetings. After brief discussion, Weigle was instructed to review the bylaws with Attorney Lenhardt and bring back to a future meeting.

Planning Commission Update. Weigle mentioned an Interim Use Permit for PCI Roads was approved on the consent agenda. He said Planning Commissioners also discussed Land Use Plan and Zoning Map revisions, cannabis regulations, and accessory structure/home extended business requirements in the A-1 District. A public hearing is scheduled for the December Commission meeting to consider the updated ordinance.

City Logo Quote for Council Chambers. Weigle reminded the Council the 2024 budget included improving the backdrop for the Council desk. Staff had received a quote for \$4,965 from Niche Visual for an aluminum logo sign. Multiple options were discussed, and the Council agreed a painted aluminum sign would be a nice addition. Staff planned to investigate moving the thermostat on that wall to make it more visually appealing, as well as possibly painting that wall a different color. Council Members Gleason/Schoen **moved** to approve the quote by Niche Visual in the amount of \$4,965. All voted aye.

City Administrator Report.

Accept Feasibility Report and Order Public Improvement Hearing for Lander Avenue/32nd Street Improvement Project (Resolution). City Engineer Nick Preisler reviewed the feasibility report including an overview of the project, a cost summary, alternative designs considered where the roadway transitions from 32nd Street to Lander Avenue, a new mini roundabout at 17th Street, as well as traffic calming measures that would take place as part of the project. He then reviewed the proposed schedule and stated the public improvement hearing would be scheduled for November 26th, 2024.

Council Members Hamilton/Gleason **moved** to adopt **Resolution No. 11-12-24-11** Accepting Feasibility Report and Ordering Public Improvement Hearing Lander Avenue & 32nd Street Improvements Project. All voted aye.

Holiday Recognition Event Location. Bot reminded the Council the annual staff recognition and appreciation events were scheduled for December 13th. The first would be a luncheon for staff at City Hall, and the evening event would be for staff, elected, and appointed officials. There was brief discussion regarding location for the evening event and the consensus was to work with BK Tap Haus as had been done in the past.

Remaining 2024 Council Meeting Schedule Reminder. Bot reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule with Councilors including the Lander Avenue public improvement hearing, the annual Truth in Taxation meeting, and the meeting to adopt the final levy.

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

Approval of Claims. Council Members Gleason/Hamilton **moved** to approve checks #49856-49973, credit card and ACH transactions in the total amount of \$1,205,979.54. All voted aye.

Adjourn. Council Members Gleason/Schoen **moved** to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. All voted aye.

Attest:

Deputy Clerk

Mayor