

REGULAR SESSION

January 10, 2024

The Essex City Council met in regular session at the Essex Community Room at 7:00 PM. Mayor Kinney called the meeting to order and roll call was taken showing the following members of the Council present or absent. Present: Ballinger, Eshelman, Franks, Gresham, Wenstrand. Absent: none. City Attorney Sorensen and City Clerk Ohnmacht were also present.

The Agenda was approved. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

No members of the public were present.

Public Hearing for amending Ordinance Chapter 69 Parking Regulations in the 500 block of Iowa Avenue was opened. There were no oral or written comments or objections. The public hearing was closed. Motion to approve the first reading by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All. Motion to waive second and third reading by Ballinger, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2024 – 1 Parking Regulations by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Mayor Kinney appointed the following with unanimous support of the City Council:

1. Mayor Pro Tem: Patti Ballinger
2. Library Board of Trustees Chairperson: Carol York
3. Zoning Administrative officer: Tim Moyer
4. Essex Youth Sports Chairperson: Sarah McDowell

The City Council reappointed the following:

1. City Clerk/Treasurer: Mary Ohnmacht. Motion by Franks, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.
2. City Attorney: Mahlon Sorensen. Motion by Eshelman, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.
3. Public works director: Justin Ross. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Franks. Ayes: All.
4. Street superintendent: Mark Marriott. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.
5. Planning & Zoning Commission: Tim Moyer, Blake Jensen, Tom Ross, Roger Burns, Carol Chambers. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Franks. Ayes: All.
6. Essex Low Rent Housing Board of Commissioners: Joey Samuelson, Jan Humphrey, Jeannine Liljedahl, Brent Younggren, Ken Royer. Motion by Eshelman, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.
7. Cemetery Board of Trustees: Lisa Nelson, Jim Alexander, John Bengtson, Sandy Correll, Nicole Wenstrand. Motion by Franks, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.
8. Page County Landfill Representative: Patti Ballinger, alternate: Betty Franks. Motion by Franks, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.
9. Building Inspector: Mike Burnison. Motion by Eshelman, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.
10. Fire Chief: Tim Bowers. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2024 – 01: Establishing Regular Meeting Dates for the Calendar Year 2024. Motion by Franks, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2024 – 02: Appointment and Retainer and Compensation of City Attorney. Motion by Franks, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2024 – 03: Designating Official Newspapers. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2024 – 04: Naming Depositories. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Acceptance of monthly police report December 10, 2023 – January 6, 2024. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Acceptance of delinquent utility report. Motion by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Approval of 2024 Holiday Garbage Schedule. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Approval of Pay Application #2 for the 2022 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project. Motion by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Change order #1 was discussed. Jessica Bass from the USDA was called to explain financing options. Motion for approval of change order #1 by Franks, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All. Motion to seek funding from USDA for funding by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

No library report.

Council discussed the zoning ordinance. Sorensen will work on changes to present in March.

Approval Resolution 2024 – 05: Wage Resolution. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval of IRS standard mileage rates for 2024 of 67 cents per mile. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

The rural fire meeting will be held Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 6:30 PM.

Public comments on agenda items: none.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Minutes: December 13, 2023, December 14, 2023, December 20, 2023, December 28, 2023, and January 4, 2024; Treasurer's Report: December 31, 2023; Abstract of Claims: December 14, 2023 – January 10, 2024. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Sorensen updated the Council on a nuisance property.

Mayor reported to the Council on snow issues, reviewed correspondence sent to the Shenandoah Mayor.

Council then reviewed options presented for police vehicles. Motion by Eshelman, second by Franks for Mayor Kinney to make inquiries on 2 vehicles and move forward to purchase through Select Motors. Ayes: All.

Good News:

- Jeff – Deanna’s birthday is coming up
- Dennis – Facetimed with granddaughter
- Nicole – they are having a boy!
- Patti – going to Atlantic on Saturday for Trump rally
- Mary – enjoyed day off
- Calvin – going to Chief’s game with his kids

Adjournment at 9:10 PM. Motion by Franks, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Mayor, Calvin L. Kinney

ATTEST:

City Clerk, Mary A. Ohnmacht