

**MINUTES
ELGIN CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2017
CITY ANNEX COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 310 NORTH MAIN STREET**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Chris Cannon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chris Cannon, Mayor
Juan Gonzalez, Mayor Pro Tem
Jessica Bega, Council Member
Mary Penson, Council Member
Daniel Lopez, Council Member
Phillip Thomas, Council Member
Sue Brashar, Council Member
Neil Beyer, Council Member

Mayor Cannon asked that the record show that Council Members Beyer, Penson and Arreaga were not present at roll call. Mayor Cannon acknowledged Council Member Penson and Council Member Beyer's arrival.

Mayor Canon stated that Council Member Arreaga was absent but had informed the Council at the last meeting she would not be able to attend.

Mayor Cannon stated that Council Member Thomas was absent at the last meeting and he tried to email the Council but was unsuccessful due to not having service at the location where he was. Council Member Brashar moved to excuse Council Member Thomas's absence on the August 1st regular council meeting. Council Member Bega seconds the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote 8-0.

Council Member Penson moved to excuse Council Member Arreaga's absence. Council Member Bega seconds the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote 8-0.

Staff: Thomas L. Mattis, City Manager
Chris Bratton, Police Chief
Buck LaQuey, Finance Director
Barbara Wilson, Director
Owen Rock, EDC Director
Michael Gonzalez, Parks Director
Sandy Ott, Library Director

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2017 – Page 2

City Annex Council Chambers

Doug Prinz, Utilities Director

Joe Parten, Public Works Director

Amy Miller, Community Development Director

Yadira Duque, Supervisory Court Clerk

INVOCATION

Council Member Thomas gave the invocation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Discussion and possible action regarding a request waiving the noise ordinance for the Sacred Heart Catholic Church annual fiesta, to be held at the Elgin Memorial Park at 1127 N Main Street on Saturday, September 2nd, from 12:00 p.m. to Monday, September 4th, 2017, 10:00 p.m.
2. Discussion and possible action regarding a request from Sacred Heart Catholic Church to waive the Open Container Ordinance at the Elgin Memorial Park, 1127 N Main Street, for the annual fiesta to be held on Saturday, September 2nd, from 12:00 p.m. to Monday, September 4th, 2017, 10:00 p.m.

Council Member Brashar asked to pull item #1 on the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Council Member Brashar moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez seconds the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote 8-0.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation by the City Manager of the Proposed FY2017-18 City of Elgin Annual Budget for all city funds and programs.

City Manager Thomas Mattis thanked the Council for the extra time to prepare the budget given the situation and that this was his first budget here. He stated that it was a challenging budget this year with some issues to deal with that carried over from prior years. He stated the circumstances were somewhat unique for a town like Elgin that is experiencing prosperity with growth and development, and that it was reasonable to anticipate better financial shape than we are in, but that the numbers are what they are and he would share that information with Council tonight.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2017 – Page 3

City Annex Council Chambers

Mr. Mattis stated this was just for presentation tonight and he would be glad to answer any questions they might have, although he knew they were seeing the document for the first time. Mr. Mattis presented the FY 2017-18 Proposed Annual Budget (Attached).

Mr. Mattis stated that the goal is balancing the budget but also this document was put together with the specific plan not to reduce services, or cutting back on personnel, and that he was satisfied that for one year this plan would do that. He stated no new positions or new spending were in the plan.

Mr. Mattis stated there was a new format that included two documents, with the bound document considered the official proposed document that will be shared with the public, and once it was finalized then a copy had to be sent to the Secretary of State's office. He stated that the addendum were working papers, with a lot more detail and information but the same numbers. He stated they could use the addendum to find prior and current year expenditures, including a personnel section with a listing of all positions and associated costs for each position. He stated that another thing he had done in the budget this year was reorganizing the budget within the department, by condensing some and expanding some. He stated in the past we had a separate budget for the City Manager, City Secretary, and Human Resources which have now been combined into the Executive Administration budget, as well as the Mayor and Council now having their own budget to track expenditures the Council specifically approved or authorized throughout the year including their small salary. He stated that this reorganization within the departments was to assign true costs and expenditures.

Mr. Mattis stated that because it took a while to get the correct numbers and prepare the books for the budget the time to finalize and adopt the budget had put the city in a tight time frame, and wanted to see what Council's thoughts were assuming they would want a couple of budget workshops. He stated he hope to adopt the budget at the September 5th meeting but had time if they needed to go beyond that date.

Mr. Mattis asked if anyone had any questions.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales asked how many years Mr. Mattis felt like the city would be in this situation. Mr. Mattis replied that he believed that by biting the bullet this year, next year would be much better. He stated that if the Council said to adopt the same budget as last year for this year the city literally could not afford it and would not have enough cash, but he also felt that great things were happening and it's going to be a building year. He stated it would still be a year before the city starts seeing revenue, but that next year would be better and in two years even better.

Council Member Penson asked what he had said about the two police officers that we haven't received yet. Mr. Mattis replied that the city had two police officer positions, and what was in the

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2017 – Page 4

City Annex Council Chambers

budget would allow one of those positions to be filled at the midyear point or both of the positions filled in the third quarter.

Council Member Beyer asked about his comments about raising the utility rate and if there were any other options in addition to the rate increase. Mr. Mattis stated that due to the gap is so big, to make up the difference there were not too many choices. The water and sewer bills include a garbage fee so increasing the garbage fee would increase the bill that much more, and property taxes would be the other one, but the tax rate would be increased by eight or ten cents, but in his opinion there were not many options to generate the kind of money that was needed.

Council Member Thomas asked if he anticipated another increase next year on the water rates. Mr. Mattis replied that this increase should have been done all along, but by doing it now he did not see an increase next year.

Mayor Cannon stated that everyone used water but not everyone paid property taxes, so the water rate increase would be the best and asked what the rate increase was last year. He stated that everyone knew that increases were needed all along but not done and did not plan on such a big bump that is now needed. Mayor Cannon commented on the financial situation and that the Council assumed they could afford the debt due to the information they received otherwise that might not have approved some of the spending.

Council Member Bega had the same concerns as the Mayor about the financial situation. She stated that in future they needed to be kept informed before they issued debt and would have to prioritize projects.

Mayor Cannon stated that the City Manager's job is to take a budget to present to Council for approval and that was what Mr. Mattis had done and if anyone disagreed with anything as far as implementation wise, the City Manager's job was to make the numbers work in the best way he sees possible.

Council Member Penson asked what the \$35,000 that was to be incurred was for. Mr. Mattis replied that the amount has been there for a number of years, the ESD sent a check for \$34,000 to the city for a dispatcher to offset costs and provide them dispatching services they need.

Mayor Cannon stated that this year they were a little behind in the budget discussions but that they had more budget meetings coming up and suggested everyone read and study the budget that the City Manager provided and bring back questions, suggestions or cuts to the budget for discussion.

Mayor Cannon asked about scheduling the next meeting and everyone agreed to have the next budget meeting on August 22, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Cannon adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:41 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2017 – Page 5

City Annex Council Chambers

APPROVED



CHRIS CANNON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



AMELIA SANCHEZ

City Secretary