

BRYAN CITY COUNCIL

OCTOBER 21, 2019

Council President Lynn Wieland opened the meeting with the following members present: Judith Yahraus, Mary Leatherman, F. John Betts, and Richard Hupe. Also present were: Mayor Carrie Schlade, City Attorney Rhonda Fisher, Parks and Recreation Director Benjamin Dominique, Fire Chief Bruce Siders, Interim Police Chief Christopher Chapa, City Engineer Brian Wieland, Street Commissioner Tyson Engstrom, Wastewater Superintendent Wes Wygant, Board of Public Affairs members Jim Salsbury and Tom Sprow, and Clerk-Treasurer Laura Rode.

Mrs. Yahraus moved, Ms. Leatherman seconded, to approve the minutes from the October 8, 2019, Regular Meeting as written. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Former Councilman and Bryan citizen Richard Reed approached Council advocating for the elimination of duplication in City government. He stated that he believed the City could run more efficiently and effectively with only one governing body noting Section 3.05 of the Bryan City Charter regarding the legislative authority pertaining to the City. He continued that Bryan is the only entity to his knowledge in the State with both an elected City Council and Board of Public Affairs. He added that having two (2) governing bodies creates a duplication of efforts and hinders communication. He continued that in his opinion the people should decide if the City should move to one (1) governing body and put the issue requiring a Charter change on an upcoming ballot.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Hupe seconded, to have City Attorney Fisher draft legislation to place the issue on the ballot and before the electorate for the voters to determine if the Board of Public Affairs should be dissolved to streamline City government. Adding that the motion would give City Council time to review the draft legislation and have readings if necessary to allow it to go to the Board of Elections in December if approved for the 2020 election. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to approve the September 30, 2019, Clerk-Treasurer's report as presented by Clerk-Treasurer Rode. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 44, 2019, titled,

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH REGIONAL GROWTH PARTNERSHIP OF NORTHWEST OHIO (RGP) TO LEASE SPACE WITHIN THE DON NORTH BUILDING.

was presented and read by title only. City Attorney Fisher requested Council's permission to lease space to Regional Growth Partnership of Northwest Ohio in the Don North Building at the rate of \$150 per month. Further discussion was held.

Mr. Betts moved, Ms. Leatherman seconded, to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 44, 2019, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mrs. Yahraus moved, Mr. Hupe seconded, to pass Ordinance No. 44, 2019. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Interim Police Chief Chapa requested that Dispatcher McKenzie Martinez be moved from probationary status to regular employment status effective October 15, 2019, taking her from \$15.00 per hour to \$15.38 per hour and that Dispatcher Jordyn Waters receive a \$.50 per hour increase for completing her 12 week training period.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Hupe seconded, to move Dispatcher McKenzie Martinez from probationary status to regular employment status effective October 15, 2019, taking her from \$15.00 per hour to \$15.38 per hour and that Dispatcher Jordyn Waters should be increased from \$14.50 per hour to \$15.00 per hour effective September 20, 2019, as she has completed her 12 week training period. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Siders requested Council accept the resignation of Volunteer Firefighter Kacey Grubb.

Mrs. Yahraus moved, Ms. Leatherman seconded, to accept the resignation of Volunteer Firefighter Kacey Grubb. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mayor Schlade requested Council approve hiring Norma Jean Barron for part-time cleaning services effective October 21, 2019.

Mr. Betts moved, Ms. Leatherman seconded, to hire Norma Jean Barron for part-time cleaning services effective October 21, 2019, at a rate of \$12.00 per hour. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Wastewater Superintendent Wygant requested to move Wastewater unlicensed worker Brett Miller from probationary status to regular employment status effective November 7, 2019, with no change in pay.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mrs. Yahraus seconded, to move Wastewater unlicensed worker Brett Miller from probationary status to regular employment status effective November 7, 2019, with no change in pay. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Citizen John Shaffer offered his support to examining the governance issue via the ballot.

Interim Police Chief Chapa reminded the public of Trick or Treat safety practices.

Several Council members thanked Mr. Reed for attending and also expressed their appreciation of the recent Firemen's banquet specifically noting the sendoff for Leonard Bauer and Paul Combs.

Councilman Betts clarified his opinion regarding allowing the residents of Bryan the opportunity to decide how much government they want and/or need. He continued that deciding to consider this Charter change was not a reflection on any Bryan Municipal Utilities employees and/or members of the Board of Public Affairs. It is strictly a governance issue.

A brief recess was taken.

Ms. Leatherman moved, Mrs. Yahraus seconded, to go into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining and acquisition of property at 7:20 p.m. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Asked to attend Executive Session were: Mayor Schlade, City Attorney Fisher, Interim Police Chief Chapa, Wastewater Superintendent Wygant, and Clerk-Treasurer Rode.

Interim Police Chief Chapa and Wastewater Superintendent Wygant exited Executive Session at 7:23 p.m.

Mr. Mike Shaffer entered Executive Session at 7:23 p.m. and exited at 7:45 p.m.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mrs. Yahraus seconded, to adjourn Executive Session at 7:46 p.m. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mayor Schlade led a discussion regarding the upcoming Veterans Day holiday noting that negotiations for the bargaining units have not yet taken place. The holiday is now permitted via the City Employees Handbook; however, Police and Wastewater bargaining unit employees are not granted the holiday under the current contracts. Council members discussed the need to be consistent and fair with all employees regarding the holiday.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Wieland seconded, to allow Police and Wastewater bargaining unit employees to receive the Veterans Day holiday for 2019 to be consistent with other City employees. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mrs. Yahraus moved, Ms. Leatherman seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

President of Council

Clerk-Treasurer