

SPECIAL MEETING
Litchfield City Council - City Council Room
June 1, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.
WEBEX VIDEO/PHONE CONFERENCE

Mayor O.R. Smith called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Roll Call: Present – Mayor Smith, Councilpersons – Don Bannick, Dan Efstathiou, Andy Reynolds, Kevin Collins and Jessica Bills.

Absent: Rick Siebert

Also Present – City Manager - Douglas Terry, Treasurer/Finance Director - Jill Barrett, Clerk – Susan Ballinger, Police Chief –Dan Roberts, DPW Supervisor- Tony Langhann, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – Lauren Skelly and Assessor- Chuck Zemla.

Consent Agenda – Councilman Bannick moved to approve the consent agenda and place on file, seconded by Councilman Reynolds. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea's 0 Nay's 1 Absent Motion carried.

Call to the Public – None

Discuss Litchfield Assessing District – Chuck Zemla – Assessor Chuck Zemla asked the board with the idea to create an Assessing District which would include the City of Litchfield, Litchfield Township and Scipio Township. Mr. Zemla stated that with assessing reform that is coming into Michigan it allows neighboring municipalities to join together to form a district. Some of the advantages are it allows residents/taxpayers to attend and petitions to be heard at that one board of review. This will help with consistency for assessing practices throughout the state and more uniform in the reports that go to the state. Assessing reform is coming in 2022 and I would like to be proactive instead of reactive. Mr. Zemla stated that they did try this in another township last year and worked out great. As far as the city charter goes, Mr. Zemla said the city should refer to our attorney regarding creating a district to make sure we are in compliance. After discussion amongst the board it was the consensus of the board to have the city clerk talk to the city attorney regarding the creation of an assessing district and bring back the attorney's opinion to the regular June 16, 2020 meeting for a decision.

2020-2021 Budget Public Hearing – Mayor Smith opened the public hearing at 6:46 p.m. with no comments/concerns the public hearing was closed at 6:47 p.m.

Second Reading/Adoption Ordinance 2020-02- Salaries for Certain Appointed Officials Councilman Bannick moved to adopt Ordinance 2020-02, supported by Councilman Reynolds. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea's 0 Nay's 1 Absent Motion carried.

Adoption of Resolution 2020-06 – To Establish Tax Levy – Councilman Bannick motioned to approve Resolution 2020-06, supported by Councilwoman Bills. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea's 0 Nay's 1 Absent Motion carried.

Adoption of Resolution 2020-07 Budget Adoption Resolution & Appropriations Act – Councilman Bannick moved to adopt Resolution 2020-07, support by Councilman Collins. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea's 0 Nay's 1 Absent Motion carried.

Adoption of Resolution 2020-08 – Establish Authorized Financial Dealers – Councilman Collins moved to adopt Resolution 2020-08, support by Councilman Reynolds. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea's 0 Nay's 1 Absent Motion carried.

Adoption of Resolution 2020-09 To Rescind Resoltuion2010-14 & to Allow Sale of Alcohol on Sunday Mornings. – Councilman Collins moved to adopt Resolution 2020-09, support by Councilwoman Bills.

Roll Call Vote: 4 Yea's 2 Nay's Councilpersons Bannick & Efstathiou 1 Absent Motion carried.

Review/Adopt City of Litchfield Re-Opening Plan – Councilman Bannick moved to adopt the City of Litchfield's reopening plan as presented, support by Councilman Collins. 6 Yea's 0 Nay's 1 Absent Motion carried.

Re-appointment of City Planning Commission Member Brett Smith – Councilman Bannick moved to re-appoint Brett Smith to Litchfield's Planning Commission Board, support by Councilman Collins. 6 Yea's 0 Nay's 1 Absent Motion carried.

Approve Lot Line Adjustment Laporte/Miller – Councilman Bannick moved to allow the lot line adjustment for Mr. Laporte and Mr. Miller, support by Councilman Efstathiou. 6 Yea's 0 Nay's 1 Absent Motion carried.

Discuss City Wide Yard Sales – After discussion amongst the board members it was the consensus to postpone the city-wide yard sales until 2021.

Discuss June's Curb Side Pick Up - After discussion amongst the board members it was the consensus of the board to have the city clerk talk with Modern Waste to see if the new Executive Orders allows for curbside junk pick up and if yes, what will residents need to do different as far as setting junk to the curbside. Bring back information to June's regular meeting to make a decision on when to schedule the pickup if possible.

Bills for Approval – None. (Bills for May paid and approved in Manual Checks)

Police Report – Councilman Collins moved to approve the police report as presented and place on file, supported by Councilman Reynolds. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea's 0 Nay's 1 Absent Motion carried.

Public Works Report – DPW Superintendent Tony Langhann informed the board that they have had the May discharge done and the guys have doing a lot of mowing and maintaining. We did spend a lot time on lift station maintenance due to things getting flushed that shouldn't be flushed. It was consensus of the board to accept the verbal report from Superintendent Langhann.

Treasurers Update – Treasurer Barrett informed the board that she is working on updating the chart of accounts and she getting ready for the fiscal year end.

City Manager's Update – Manager Terry stated Mill Street we are anticipating that by next week Parrish will resume completing Mill Street and all the underground work in preparation for paving. We are looking at some drainage things and one resident voiced his concern over Mill Street but both the Mayor and I have talked with that resident and his concerns.

The city pool is in the process of having the bid/spec documents amended to the satisfaction of the MNDR and once that's completed the city can go out for bids and we anticipate that to be in late July or August.

We are trying to get all the employees back and to some type of normalcy within the city office.

Correspondence – None

Committee Reports – None

Councilpersons Concerns – None

Clerk Ballinger reminded the board that there will three council seats are up for re-election this year and petitions are available on June 22, 2020.

Adjournment – Councilman Bannick moved to adjourn at 7:30 p.m., supported by Councilman Collins.

Roll Call Vote: 7 Yea's 0 Nay's 0 Absent Motion Carried.