

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF ATTICA**

8-12-2024

The Common Council for the City of Attica met on August 12, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.

Those present at the meeting were: Council Members; Mr. Nathan Maus, Mr. Scott Voorhees, Mrs. Kaylie Carnahan and Mr. Duane Roderick. Also, present were Mayor Larry Grant, Clerk Treasurer, Joanne Broadwater, and Attorney Ingrid Barce.

Junior Council members present were Eli French and Natalee Jean and Joslyn Barnett.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- **Roderick made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 8th and 22nd 2024, council meetings, Voorhees seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.**

CITIZENS PETITIONS:

- Michael Madden spoke in favor of a city dog park and volunteered to help build and raise funds for the project.
- Justin Harneson stated the park board is in support of a dog park, it is part of the board's 5-year plan.
- Sandra Dunek addressed the council on multiple concerns: streetlights, 4-way stop at Summit and 6th, and she is opposed to the apartment complex at 6th and Summit St.

The council addressed Sandra's concerns.

- Brittnay Hays, the library director addressed the council regarding the renovations the library is planning and the need for a bond to pay the costs. She asked to be on the September agenda for the project.
- Brittnay Hays requested Washington and Brady streets be a 4-way stop, due to the amount of traffic that disregards the current stop signs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- None

JUNIOR COUNCIL REPORTS:

- None

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Eric Swank Director of Public Works:

- Was not present.

Police Chief Garret Miller:

- Was not present.

Fire Chief Mike Little:

- Reported he hired his 3rd part time fire fighter with a start date of mid-September.
- Chief Little stated the CCMG grant of \$500,000 won't be enough to complete the fire station renovation project and proposed a bond for council consideration to finish the project. The bond payments would be made by the fire territory.
- Mayor Grant stated he received a letter from the Wayne Township trustee requesting the council approve payment for West Point FD's partial coverage of Davis Township. Chief Little stated this was included in his budget and planned for.

Joanne Broadwater, Clerk-Treasurer:

- Handed out the current month's financial report.
- Reported that an exit interview for the SBOA audit has not been scheduled yet.
- The budget will be presented at the September 9th council meeting.
- Bakertilly is working on cash flow projections and the updated financial analysis to incorporate all the additional project expenses that have come up and to determine if the request for additional funds for the Streetscape project are available.

WEGA Updates (Rod Bannon)

- Provided an update on the downtown streetscape project and requested an additional \$200,000 be given to WEGA to complete the project as originally designed. The council tabled this request to the September meeting to give them an opportunity to review the cash flow and financial analysis by Bakertilly.
- Voorhees asked the RDC president, Cindy Mason, if the RDC would help cover this cost. Mason stated the RDC has not completed their budget for 2025, but this isn't part of their plan.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Mayor Grant asked for a council discussion on the GO bond funds.

Voorhees asked for input from the park board president. Justin Harmeson reported the top items from their city survey was an Amphitheatre, it rated higher than play equipment and sports fields.

The council discussed and proposed to commit \$150,000 to playground equipment, \$15,000 to a dog park, and \$125,000 to pickleball courts.

Carnahan made a motion to commit the above General Obligation Bond fund amounts to playground equipment, a dog park and pickleball courts, Roderick seconded the motion, all were in favor, the motion passed.

- Grant reported that he is still waiting on the official release letter from IDEM for the underground tanks at the corner of Jackson and Perry Streets.
- Grant asked for an update on the vacant city lots, Attorney Barce stated she is still waiting on the second set of property valuations.
- The amended cemetery rate increase ordinance was presented for signatures, it passed at the July meeting.
- No update on the tear down of 310 S. Market St.
- No update on the rental house inspection program.
- McDonald St. parking issues, waiting on signage to be installed.
- The 4 new radar speed signs are installed and working.
- Ambulance relocation - no updates

NEW BUSINESS:

- Grant proposed vacation changes for civil employees.

Grant discussed the rationale for the proposed changes and the employee impact.

After council discussion of the proposal, they agreed to the changes as proposed. Attorney Barce will have an ordinance ready for the September council meeting.

- Grant proposed a change to the employee pay schedule. Currently employees are paid weekly, he proposed changing this to a bi-weekly pay schedule. Grant states it will free up time in the clerk's office that is currently used for weekly payroll.

The council discussed this proposal and agreed to the change.

Voorhees made a motion to approve the payroll schedule, Maus seconded, Voorhees, Maus and Carnahan voted in favor of the motion, Roderick abstained, and DeLong was absent. Motion passed with an effective date of 11-1-2024.

- Grant stated he has received complaints on the number of cats roaming the city. The council briefly discussed this, but a solution was not presented.
- Attorney Barce presented Ordinance No 2024-0812A that repeals outdated city codes.

Voorhees made a motion to pass Ordinance No 2024-0812A as written, Carnahan seconded the motion, all were in favor, the motion passed.

- Attorney Barce presented Ordinance 2024-0812B amending Ordinance 2022-0912C rates and charges of the city waterworks. This ordinance restores the correct late fee percentage for utility bills paid after the 20th of each month.

Roderick made a motion to approve 2024-0812B amending the city of Attica waterworks rates, Maus seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

- Justin Harmeson asked the council to consider purchasing a lot for sale by the entrance to a Ravine Park trailhead near city hall. Harmeson stated the city may qualify for a grant that would cover the purchase price of the lot.

Voorhees made a motion allowing the park board to purchase the referenced lot contingent upon receiving grant funding for the purchase price, Roderick seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.

- Roderick addressed Mayor Grant and asked if the soccer field (Riley Field) could be used for a housing development if the soccer field is relocated in Attica, possibly by the river.

After some council discussion, Mayor Grant stated he would investigate this possibility.


MISCELANOUS:

- None

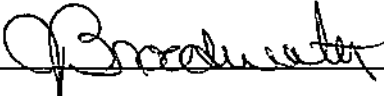
ADJORNMENT:

Grant stated he had no further business and requested a motion to adjourn. The next Council meeting will be held Monday September 9, 2024, at 6:00pm.

Roderick made the motion to adjourn, Maus seconded, all were in favor, motion passed, meeting adjourned.



Larry Grant, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Joanne Broadwater, Clerk-Treasurer
Mikki Hubbard, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer