

August 1, 2022

A regular meeting of the Wood River City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Stalcup at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 1, 2022 in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 N. Wood River Avenue, with the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll and reported that the following members were:

PRESENT: Leroy Duncan
Sonya Hagaman
Jeremy Plank
Scott Tweedy
Tom Stalcup

and that a quorum was present and in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Duncan moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 18th, 2022, as printed, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved to approve the bills submitted for payment for the period July 15 to July 28, 2022, as printed, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

CITIZEN/OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Doug Cook stated he and his wife are one of several houses that back up to the 14th Street Detention Pond. He stated he spoke a couple weeks ago with the Mayor, Interim City Manager, and Parks & Rec Director about some ideas to clean up the area. He stated he appreciates the actions that have been taken so far to clean up the area behind their house.

Mary Roberts stated four council meetings ago she had brought something to the council's attention. She indicated that it was said that property taxes would not be raised because of the new Recreation Center but it would raise property values and make Wood River a desirable community. She stated that the individuals who were involved in the promotion of the new Recreation Center, Chris Stanley, Cheryl Maguire, and Jason Woody are all moving out of the city.

Alyssa Daniels stated she supports the Recreation Center 100% and feels it is vital for the City of Wood River. In 1997, as a young kid, she started working for the city as a concession worker. She loved it so much that she turned it into a full-time career. She had the privilege to work for the past 3 Park Directors, Jason Woody, Jeff Stassi, Otto Rice, and she feels that Jason Woody has done a great job for the community. She brought to light the mental abuse that the Recless Spending group has been slinging towards Jason and his Department. She stated they are employees of the city and not elected officials. She asked council to put an end to the harassment taking place towards the employees. She also asked that her personal name stopped being used.

Mayor Stalcup spoke on behalf of Director Palen for Public Works. The east end detention pond is close to being completed weather permitting. The 6th street detention pond is continuing and should start in a couple of months lasting approximately 6 months. 6th street resurfacing from 143 South to Roxana city limits has started and weather permitting should last about 4 weeks.

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Mayor Stalcup stated the City's ISO ratings have dropped and he asked Chief Stahlhut to provide a recap on this update.

Chief Stahlhut stated that the city is graded about every 5 years to establish the ISO rating. It is essential to homeowners and commercial property owners. The city was currently a 4 rating and had been a 4 since the mid 90's, as high as a 7 in the 70's but has now dropped to a 3. The Fire Department, Water Supply, and Emergency communications were all apart of the group effort in making this happen. The goal would be to maintain the 3 rating and continue improving to a 2 rating. He thanked the Fire Department, the Public Works Department as well as Joey Petrokovich and the Emergency Communications Department.

Councilman Plank asked if Chief Stahlhut had any idea what financial benefit the City would receive because of the deductions. Chief Stahlhut said it depends upon each individual insurance company.

Mayor Stalcup asked Kristen Burns to step up and give an update on the new city newsletter and a recap on the "What's Up Downtown" meeting.

Kristen stated there were over 50 participants at the first "What's Up Downtown" meeting and has had great feedback. The next meeting is potentially set for November 2022. The goal is to have the meetings quarterly. She also commented on the newsletter. The newsletter can be received via email as well as texting "WRNEWS" to "22828". The newsletter has a lot of great information.

Mayor Stalcup stated that on Item 6 on the agenda the council will be asked to approve the First Time Home Buyers Program. He asked Finance Director Chris Sobrino to give a background on the program.

Finance Director Chris Sobrino stated in an effort to increase home ownership within the City of Wood River there is an incentive of up to \$5,000 for a first-time home buyer within city limits. The income level of the home buyer will determine how much the buyer has to contribute. There are not too many other restrictions and assuming council approves it, the application will be ready to be put on the website or the applicant can come into City Hall to get an application.

Councilman Plank asked if this was the first year for the program. Finance Director Sobrino stated yes it was the first year for the program. Councilman Plank stated that explains why the increase in the budget now instead of in the spring. Finance Director Sobrino stated it wasn't budgeted for because it is a new program. Mayor Stalcup thanked Finance Director Sobrino.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Tom Stalcup presented the Appearance Awards for the month of August to:

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Donald & June Retzer | 320 Whitelaw |
| Petro Mart | 980 E. Ferguson |

ORDINANCE NO 2795 ESTABLISHING A FIRST TIME HOME BUYER'S PROGRAM:

Councilman Duncan moved for approval of an ordinance establishing a First Time Home Buyer's Program as submitted by the Interim City Manager and Finance Director, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE NO 2796 AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2022/23 BUDGET TO INCREASE THE HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM LINE ITEM WITHIN THE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND BY \$50,000:

Councilman Tweedy moved for approval of an ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Budget to increase the Home Ownership Program line item within the Community Improvement and Development Fund by \$50,000.00 to allocate monies for the program, seconded by Councilwoman Hagaman, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

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APPROVED – EAWRCHS TO CLOSE STREET GATES ON WHITELAW FOR OILERNATION CELEBRATION:

Councilman Duncan moved to approve a request from EAWRCHS to close the street gates on Whitelaw on Saturday, August 13, 2022, from 3:00-8:00pm for the OilerNation Celebration, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED – EAWRCHS TO CLOSE STREET GATES ON WHITELAW FOR THE TRUCKIN INTO HIGH SCHOOL EVENT:

Councilman Duncan moved to approve a request from EAWRCHS to close the street gates on Whitelaw on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, from 7:00am-9:00pm for the Truckin Into High School Event, seconded by Councilman Plank, and approved by the following vote:

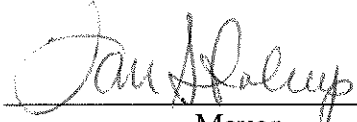
AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk