

AGENDA

A regular meeting of the Wood River City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Stalcup at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 20, 2024, 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: David Ayres
Bill Dettmers
Jeremy Plank
Scott Tweedy
Tom Stalcup

and that a quorum was present and in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Ayres moved to amend the minutes of the regular meeting of May 6, 2024, as printed and seconded by Councilman Plank, and the amendment was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 6, 2024, with the amendment, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilman Plank moved to approve the bills submitted for payment for the period May 2, 2024, to May 15, 2024, as printed, seconded by Councilman Tweedy

Councilman Ayres asked about vendor number 2468 on page two of the bills under the topic street lighting. It states that there was a signal knocked down at 143 and Wood River Avenue costing the City \$1,599.84. It also stated that there was a traffic signal hit on 143 and E. Edwardsville Road costing the City \$673.20. Councilman Ayres asked if the City's insurance covers streetlights and traffic lights when they are hit or knocked down.

City Manager Steve Palen responded yes if the vehicle is caught, sometimes it is a hit and run, but if the driver is identified it will go through their insurance.

Councilman Ayres asked if the City collects from the driver's insurance.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that he is not sure how often it happens and that Finance Director Karen Weber would have more information.

Finance Director Karen Weber responded that in this instance the driver was not identified, but in the case where the driver is identified and is insured, then yes, it is collected 100% of the time.

Councilman Dettmers stated that these are big costs, and asked what exactly it is that is being paid for.

City Manager Steve Palen explained the cost covers the traffic signal being replaced.

Councilman Dettmers inquired about the cleaning costs on the bills submitted for payment. He stated that the Parks and Recreation Department started using their employees to clean their buildings and the Police Department has been using a cleaning company. He asked if the Police Department has considered using the same employees that the Parks and Recreation Department is using to cut down on cleaning costs.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that he has not thought about that, but he has considered hiring a full-time janitor to clean all the City buildings to try and eliminate private companies. It has been done in the past, when that employee quit about 10 to 12 years ago it was decided that each City building would get contracts with a cleaning service company. The City can start searching for

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someone, but it will more than likely be a part-time position and there is only a certain number of hours a part-time employee can work.

Councilman Dettmers stated that the City just passed a spending policy and there have been some issues trying to adjust. Councilman Dettmers requested that the City consider having an independent company come in around six months or a year after the policy has been in effect to review how the policy is being implemented and where changes might need to be made. Some of these expenses will need to be put out for bid. Councilman Dettmers has been communicating with Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut about some issues the Fire Department has been having, and Councilman Dettmers does not want the public to be put in a bad spot where the emergency response teams do not have the vehicles they need to perform their services.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the City has three-year maintenance contracts for HVAC, plumbing, electric, generator service, and pest control. There have been conversations about adding City emergency vehicles to the contracts in September when the current three-year maintenance contracts expire.

Councilman Dettmers stated that was the suggestion he had with Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut.

Mayor Stalcup stated that he thinks the Fire Department does an excellent job at keeping up with the equipment that they have, and so does the Police Department.

The bills were approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Councilman Plank moved to approve the Financial Statement ending April 30, 2024, as printed, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Stalcup presented a Certificate of Recognition to Captain Brian Crawford on his retirement after 30 years with the City of Wood River.

OATH OF OFFICE:

City Clerk Danielle Sneed administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Fire Captain Scott Crump.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Cindy Dickinson lives on 10th Street in Wood River and expressed her concern about hydrant flushing. Ms. Dickinson stated that she knows it needs to be done, but there should be proper notification so everyone knows when it will happen. Ms. Dickenson stated that she uncovered her pool to fill it, unaware that the City was flushing hydrants in her neighborhood. She took before and after photos of what the water looked like, it started clear blue, and six hours later it was green and the only thing she put in the pool was the hose. She stated that if she knew that the hydrants were going to be flushed, she would have waited to fill her pool. Ms. Dickinson then stated that the citizens of Wood River have not received a pipeline in ages and that she was told that the hydrant flushing notice was posted at City Hall, the Library, and laundromats which are not places that she frequents. Ms. Dickinson asked if there is a way to get the notice out ahead of time so that everyone is aware of the hydrant flushing.

Bill Rogers stated that with Memorial Day coming up he would like to do something different than normal. He read a poem that was written by his grandmother 82 years ago. Mr. Rogers then shared the backstory behind the poem, all his mother's brothers except for one served in World War II. The one brother that did not survive the war was the one that was not on active duty. He was working on the Elwood Ordinance Plan, when there was an explosion in the early morning of June 5, 1942. Some say that the explosion could be heard 100 miles away in Waukegan. Some evidence states that they were loading pressurized tank mines, and three rail cars blew. It also said that there were 67 people injured and 48 people killed, of the 48 killed the remains of 16 people were never found. Mr. Rodgers's uncle was one of those 16 people. The poem that Mr. Rodgers read was written

shortly after the family was notified of his uncle's death.

Mary Roberts stated that Wood River will have their Memorial Day Service at the Roundhouse on Monday, May 27, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. to honor and remember those who died in battle while defending our Country. The Committee has an awesome program planned this year. Boy Scout Troop 777 will post and retire the Colors and perform the Pledge of Allegiance. Girl Scout Troop 325 will perform the Missing Man Table Presentation. Marissa Jones, a 2024 Alton High School Graduate and a member of the JROTC and Army National Guard will sing the National Anthem. William Steiner, an EAWR High School Junior will play TAPS. Chris Apps, a St. Louis Bagpiper, will perform "Amazing Grace" and "Scotland the Brave". Members of the Marine Corps Ladies Auxiliary, Lola Cochran and Daphne Kappos, will read the names and ring the bell after each Veteran's name is read. CSM Phillip J. Barber, State Command Sergeant Major in the Illinois Army National Guard is our Guest Speaker; and Jeffrey Sanders, a Veteran and a young man studying at the Illinois School of Ministry, which is affiliated with the Assemblies of God, will give the Invocation and Benediction. Our Mayor, Tom Stalcup, will be there to welcome everyone and Councilman Jeremy Plank will be the Master of Ceremonies. Patti Lash, owner of Budget Signs, donated two of the banners that will be put up on the fences and Joyce Wilkinson (Dottie Wilkinson) refreshed the flowers. Ms. Roberts invited everyone to the ceremony to help show honor to the heroes who will always be remembered.

CITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Leon Smallwood Bay from the NAACP gave the City recognition for the Affirmation of the Shared Principles that the City is adopting tonight. Mr. Bay shared how important it is for the City to vote for adopting the ten shared principles. Police Chief Brad Wells had a great relationship with the past President, Andy Hightower, and the relationship will continue with Chief Wells and Mr. Bay. The ten shared principles have been adopted by the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police all over Illinois. Mr. Bay stated that he wants to highlight a few points about these principles and why it is very important they be adopted. The first principle is to value the life of every person and consider life to be of the highest value. The second principle states that all persons should be treated with dignity and respect. The third principle rejects discrimination toward any person that is based on race, ethnicity, religion, color, nationality, immigrant status, sexual orientation, gender, disability, or familial status. The fourth principle endorses the six pillars in the report of the President's Task Force on 21st century policing. The first pillar is to build and rebuild trust through procedural justice, transparency, accountability, and honest recognition of past and present obstacles. The fifth principle endorses the four pillars of procedural justice, which are fairness, voice (i.e., an opportunity for citizens and police to believe they are heard), transparency, and impartiality. The sixth principle endorses the values inherent in community policing, which includes community partnerships involving law enforcement, engagement of police officers with residents outside of interaction specific to enforcement of laws, and problem-solving that is collaborative, not one-sided. The seventh principle believes that developing strong ongoing relationships between law enforcement and communities of color at the leadership level and street level will be key to diminishing and eliminating racial tension. The eighth principle believes that law enforcement and community leaders have a mutual responsibility to encourage all citizens to gain a better understanding and knowledge of the law to assist them in their interactions with law enforcement officers. The ninth principle supports diversity in police departments and the law enforcement profession. Law enforcement and communities have a mutual responsibility and should work together to make a concerted effort to recruit diverse police departments. The tenth principle believes that de-escalation training should be required to ensure the safety of the community members and officers. The NAACP endorses using de-escalation tactics to reduce the potential for confrontations that endanger law enforcement officers and community members; and the principle that human life should be taken only as a last resort. In summary, these principles are to replace mistrust with mutual trust wherever, whenever, and however possible. Mr. Bay gave his word that he will work hand and hand with Chief Wells to make sure that the principles are being enforced.

Director Pat Minogue of Parks and Recreations shared a few updates on the Recreation Center. The Recreation Center opened on February 19, 2024, and has been open for 91 days as of May 20, 2024. In those 91 days, the Recreation Center has sold 322 membership packages. There are 17 different types of membership packages ranging from monthly to yearly options and separated by youth, adult, senior, family memberships, and 65+ Medicare memberships (silver sneakers/renew active/silver and fit). With those 322 membership packages that the Recreation Center has sold, there are also 467 individual members in 91 days. Director Minogue purchased 500 membership cards in February expecting that they would last a full year, but they only lasted 91 days. 46 percent of the members are senior citizens. 37 percent of members are families, and the remaining 17 percent are adults/youth who are not on family memberships. In those 91 days, there have been

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3,618 membership visits, not including the people who are not members and have purchased day passes. Approximately 1,000 day passes have been sold. The Recreation Center has members from Wood River, East Alton, Roxana, Alton, Godfrey, Granite City, Edwardsville, and Bethalto. Pickleball has been a big hit, the Recreation Center has six indoor pickleball courts, and it is probably the nicest indoor facility in the Metro East. Monday through Friday in the mornings there is open play from 6 a.m. to Noon. Usually from around 8 a.m. to Noon, there are between four to six courts going. It has slowed down since the weather started to warm up but is expected to pick back up in the fall. On Monday and Thursday nights from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., there is open play pickleball. The Recreation Center also has gymnastics that is run by the Library Director Lindsey Herron and is held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights, and Saturday mornings. There are 220 kids in the program, up about 70 kids since moving to the new Recreation Center. The Recreation Center will be adding eight more classes in the fall which will add 64 more kids bringing the total to 300 kids participating in gymnastics at the Recreation Center. There is also Tri-City volleyball and basketball in the Recreation Center for the first time. The Recreation Center has three Birthday Packages: a sports package, a gymnastics package, and a hybrid package. They are all under \$250, and there is a 15% membership discount on those as well. The Recreation Center has booked over 20 birthday packages, and they typically get booked out two months at a time. There are group packages as well. The Recreation Center offers 12 different classes; strength, yoga, cardio, Zumba classes, and silver sneakers which are free to members. Non-members must pay for a day pass. Some of the assorted events that have been going on include Ball Hog Basketball out of Edwardsville, and they have been renting the gym on Tuesday evenings for practices. The volleyball organization will be renting it out for Wednesday evenings for practices, and the USA Softball of Illinois Umpire Clinic was held at the Recreation Center in February. Umpires from all over the state came to the Recreation Center to learn the new rules for the upcoming softball season. The high school baseball and softball teams have batting practice in the Recreation Center when it is raining outside. Tri-City softball and baseball have been using the batting cages as well. East Alton Middle School had its after-grad party at the Recreation Center. The high schools have already reached out to Director Pat Minogue about having their after-prom at the Recreation Center in 2025. The sixth-grade class from Lewis and Clark Elementary School came to the Recreation Center from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. to hang out. Some upcoming events that will be happening include a summer camp called Camp Otto Monday through Friday for two months starting June 10, 2024, to August 2, 2024, sponsored by the refinery. Camp Otto is named after the old Parks & Recreation Director Otto Rice. The camp is for kids in first grade through sixth grade in the 2024/25 school year. It will be from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., costing \$165 a week. If your kid attends the entire week, the cost will be \$3.14 an hour, which is cheaper than many babysitters. As of right now, there are 20 kids signed up. The goal is to get at least 50 kids signed up. The Recreation Center will be taking the kids on field trips to the bowling alley, the St. Louis Zoo, the St. Louis Science Center, the Altitude Trampoline Park in Edwardsville, the Collinsville Aqua Park, Belk Park, and the Roxana Nazarene Church. On Wednesdays, there will be performers at the Recreation Center such as magicians and musicians. Visit the Wood River Recreation Center to sign up, online registration is not an option for the summer camp. Library Director Lindsey Herron will have five different gymnastics/cheer camps this summer for ages 4-12, ranging from all different skill levels. Some of the camps are one day and some are three days. They will be in June, July, and August and are all under \$60.00. Also, a pickleball tournament will be held on July 27, 2024. The goal is to get 50 teams signed up for the pickleball tournament. Tyler Lafferty, the Recreation Center Manager, has been working with Mark Beatty, the athletic director at East Alton Wood River High School to have the JV Volleyball tournament in October at the Recreation Center, they already have 16 teams committed to that tournament. Director Minogue thanked the City Council for approving the purchase of the cardio equipment. There will be 11 different machines ranging from treadmills, ellipticals, and recumbent bikes. The equipment should arrive in about seven weeks. He also thanked OSF, Saint Anthonys Healthcare for sponsoring. If you want to know more about what is going on at the Recreation Center go to www.wrparcs.org or follow the Parks and Recreation Department on Facebook.

Councilman Dettmers asked how many pickleball courts are at the Wood River East End Park.

Director Minogue stated there are four courts.

Councilman Dettmers then asked if there has been a lot of activity on the courts.

Director Minogue stated there is some activity and with the weather getting better there should be even more activity. The Parks and Recreation Department employees have been working on getting the bathrooms opened by the courts, which should help increase activity.

Councilman Dettmers asked about the water situation by the courts.

Director Minogue stated it is a long story, but it is almost resolved.

Councilman Plank asked if all the memberships are annual.

Director Minogue stated no, but he can get Councilman Plank a breakdown of what is monthly and what is annual.

Councilman Dettmers asked what the plans are for West End Park.

Director Minogue stated nothing right now, the Junior Oilers have been playing there and they do a good job of taking care of the field. There are no other immediate plans.

Councilman Dettmers asked if there are any activities there for the kids in that neighborhood.

Director Minogue stated there is a playground but nothing that is formally structured.

Mayor Stalcup thanked Director Minogue and his crew. He stated that they do a great job.

RESOLUTION NO. 2060: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COMMERCIAL SUBSCRIPTION AGREEMENT UNDER THE ILLINOIS COMMUNITY SOLAR PROGRAM WITH ARCADIA POWER:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of a Commercial Subscription Agreement under the Illinois Community Solar Program with Arcadia Power, as submitted by the City Manager, seconded by Councilman Tweedy.

Councilman Dettmers asked for an explanation of what electrical credits the City is selling and asked where the electricity is being generated.

City Manager Steve Palen responded that a solar field is going to be constructed in Central Illinois, and they are building up their portfolio of communities that are going to participate. It is already partially built but they are going to add to it. That is why it is a 20-year term that the City is signing up for. For the first ten years, there is a penalty for withdrawing. There is no reason why the City would withdraw, and it is annual savings of approximately \$31,000.

Councilman Dettmers asked if the City is investing in the solar field in Central Illinois.

City Manager Steve Palen responded that the City agreed to purchase our electricity from a solar field in Central Illinois. The solar field gets the credits through the government, and they can offer the City a 10% discount on all the City's electricity.

Councilman Dettmers asked if the City will still purchase electricity from Ameren.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the City gets their electricity from Constellation New Energy right now through the aggregation, but the discounted program bill will still come through Ameren. Councilman Dettmers said that he thinks the break even was seven years.

City Manager Steve Palen replied in the affirmative and stated that if the customer does not leave in the first ten years, it is money over and above in savings.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2061: WAIVING THE COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENT AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MORROW BROTHERS FORD, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2024 FORD F-550 ON THE "STATE BID":

Councilman Plank moved to approve a resolution waiving the competitive bidding requirement and approving and authorizing the execution of an agreement with Morrow Brothers Ford, Inc. for the purchase of a 2024 Ford F-550 on the "State Bid", as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Ayres

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Councilman Dettmers stated that he understands that this is being purchased under the No-Bid Obligation because the state program automatically puts out bids.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the state puts out bids often on many different things from vehicles to office supplies through their central management purchasing service. The City has always purchased vehicles and pickup trucks through the state bid. They competitively bid and are open for anyone to bid. The price is usually set for a year or two, and their bid can be used because of their purchasing power. It is unlikely that an individual dealership would beat a state bid. Most communities do it this way. It is an open bid process and anyone local can bid on it. Prices are set and the City can find options that fit their needs.

Councilman Dettmers asked if the F-550 truck was one of the items that was specifically out for bid through the state bid process.

Director of Public Services Micheal Velloff stated that before he reached out to the Morrow Brothers, he reached out to Canaan who outfits trucks like Woody's. They said they could get the City the truck sooner, and Morrow Brothers would not take an order for a truck at the time. Director Velloff contacted Victory Ford out of Litchfield who said they could get a truck and Canaan could outfit it, but they could not compete with the state bid. He then contacted Morrow Brothers again and they suggested submitting the order, and they could get the City a truck in four to six months.

Discussion ensued regarding how the state bid process works and whether the purchase of the truck was in the budget. Discussion also ensued regarding how the state bid price would be the same for anyone who purchases items using the state bid process.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2059: IMPROVEMENT UNDER THE ILLINOIS HIGHWAY CODE APPROPRIATING \$600,000 IN MFT FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING FOR THE WOOD RIVER AVENUE PHASE 1 AND PHASE 2 PROJECT:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a resolution for Improvement Under the Illinois Highway Code appropriating \$600,000 in MFT funds for construction and engineering for the Wood River Avenue Phase 1 and Phase 2 Project, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Ayres

Councilman Dettmers asked if the \$600,000 was the cost of all the professional services, labor, and materials.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the \$600,000 will cover the cost of the design engineering and what is left of that will also help cover the cost of construction engineering. When the City submitted the paperwork to get the grants, the City had a certain amount of federal funding. The County has agreed to pay 25% of the total project. This project has been put off for a while so the money that was appropriated through federal funding and the County is most likely not going to be enough. He then stated that the bid for Wood River Avenue will be higher. There is plenty of room in MFT to be able to make up for the cost difference. The bidding process has not been completed for this project.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2062: AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR FEDERALLY FUNDED CONSTRUCTION FOR THE WOOD RIVER AVENUE PHASE 1 AND PHASE 2 PROJECT:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Joint Funding Agreement for Federally Funded Construction for the Wood River Avenue Phase 1 and Phase 2 Project, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2063: AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A LOCAL AGENCY ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT, SUPPLEMENT 2 FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING FOR THE WOOD RIVER AVENUE PHASE 1 AND PHASE 2 PROJECT:

Councilman Plank moved to approve a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Local Agency Engineering Services Agreement Supplement 2 for the design and construction engineering for the Wood River Avenue Phase 1 and Phase 2 Project, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Ayres

Councilman Dettmers asked what the anticipated cost is or if it is going to be bid hourly.

Director Velloff stated the estimated cost for construction is \$158,362.

Discussion ensued regarding the contract started in 2017 about additional services and wage increases. The City has the same contract and are adding construction services to the contract. Discussion ensued regarding professional service contracts going out for bid every three to five years.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2064: ADOPTING THE AFFIRMATION OF SHARED PRINCIPLES ADOPTED BY THE ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE BOARD OF OFFICERS ON JANUARY 31, 2018:

Councilman Plank moved to approve a resolution adopting the Affirmation of Shared Principles adopted by the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police Board of Officers on January 31, 2018, as submitted by the Chief of Police, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED – ACCEPT BID FROM STUTZ EXCAVATING, INC.:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a request to accept the bid from Stutz Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$85,635.00 to replace the concrete rolled curb and gutter along Colonial Drive, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Ayres

Councilman Dettmers stated that he had someone contact him about the flooding in that area. He asked where the water is going to go with the improvements to the road.

Director Velloff explained that the water is going to go to the same place that it has been going. He has met with the owners and the flooding issue is on their property. The water is supposed to make its way to Route 111 but there are issues on their property that is preventing that from happening. The issue is not in the City's right of way. The owners of the property will be responsible for the issues and there are not any storm sewers in that area.

Discussion ensued regarding a detention pond being built in that area, but Director Velloff stated that the owners stated that would be a secondary option.

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED: RECOMMENDATION FROM MAYOR STALCUP TO RE-APPOINT BRADY TRASK OF 650 N. 9TH STREET TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE MAY 2029:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a recommendation from Mayor Stalcup to re-appoint Brady Trask of 650 N. 9th Street to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission with a term to expire May 2029, seconded by Councilman Plank, and approved by the following vote:

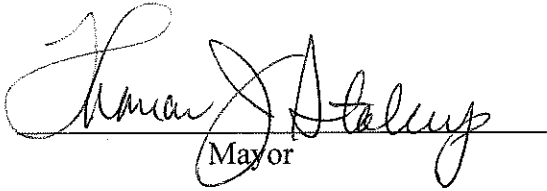
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AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk