

City of Melbourne
Regular City Council Meeting
October 11, 2021

Melbourne City Council met in regular session on October 11, 2021 at 7 pm. Members and Clerk were all seated a minimum of 6' apart per social distancing protocol. Council members present were David Gibbs, Vickie Stahl, Lucas Hauser, Carrie White and Beth Smith. Also present were Mayor John White, Clerk Mary Pothast and Gary Fricke. Mayor White led the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion to approve agenda, minutes and bills made by Gibbs, 2nd by C. White. Vote was all ayes.

In building permits, first is 12 Railroad Street to repair and replace deck. According to the drawing, no size change is being made to the structure, so no permit is needed. At 106 3rd Avenue, permit to extend deck on the west side of the house was presented. PW said measurements were within boundaries, motion to approve Hauser, 2nd by C. White. Vote was all ayes. Third permit was to put up a building at 511 Butler. PW ok'd measurements within boundaries. Motion to approve by C. White, 2nd by Hauser. Vote was 4 ayes with Gibbs abstaining due to it being his property.

Motion to accept the Annual Finance Report for FY 20/21 as presented made by Gibbs, 2nd by Smith. Roll call vote was all ayes. Clerk is directed to publish the report as required and submit to the state. Clerk presented information regarding accepting e-checks for payments in addition to credit and debit cards and putting the golf cart permitting process online as an option. The e-checks do not have an interest percentage, so are a flat \$1.50 each. There is no cost to the city. As soon as they are set up by the company, they will be available at melbourneiowa.com. Motion to approve by StAHL, 2nd by Smith. Vote was all ayes.

Mayor and Clerk gave the information with the possibility of televising select sewer lines to try to find the water leak. The city received a quote from Visu-Sewer for \$1.70 per foot and \$295 per hour for mobilization. If they do 2 blocks it would be approximately 900 feet for \$1530. The entire area discussed by Pfantz and Moen of Visu-Sewer was 3800 feet. That would be \$6460 plus the mobilization fees per hour. The leak detector system the city rented from Bedford hasn't uncovered anything to date. Since PW was busy with installing a new water main this past month, they did not utilize the machine. Bedford will not be charging us for the month of September. It will be returned sometime this week.

Discussion about the expansion of Slaughterhouse Meats and the possibility of needing to adjust the manhole in the alley to better accommodate trailers was the next topic. Fricke gave input that since the alley is gravel, that it would likely only take 2-3 hours with the right equipment to remove one of the rings and lower the manhole. There is no building permit submitted yet, but Stahl asked that it be sent to the council members as soon as city hall receives it so they have time to review and ask questions. Clerk agreed.

The city had been approached by Beau Hansen regarding the purchase or donation of the ice skating rink that the city owns. It would be put up in State Center. The rink was purchased with a donation and was used 3 years. We had problems with the freeze/thaw cycle in the past and finding volunteers to build and maintain it. Park & Rec Board recommended to the Council that it be loaned for one year with the following stipulations: 1) It be returned in the same condition it is loaned in, and 2) There would not be any fees charged for its use so Melbourne residents could still use it if they wished. It would be

revisited after that one year period. Council thought it was a good idea. Motion by Hauser, 2nd by Smith to loan the rink. Vote was all ayes.

Since Fricke is retiring at the end of the month, and Jim Pfantz will be the new Public Works Superintendent, his wages need to be addressed. Personnel committee recommended a \$4 increase. After much discussion and questions about insurance (which will be addressed in the future), motion by Gibbs for a \$4.00 raise with 2nd by Stahl. Roll call vote was all ayes. Raise will take effect upon Fricke's retirement.

In old business, clerk stated she had called regarding setting up a hazardous waste date for next June. They took down the information and will get back with us. In public comment, clerk showed the bill for handheld radios from Racom for the fire department. The total of \$32,775 is split in half for 50% down by November 23, 2021 and the remainder upon delivery, likely in the spring. The amount of \$16,387.50 will be split among the city and the townships as follows: Melbourne \$5,899.50; Logan Township \$6,014.21; Washington Township \$4,473.78. The City will pay the bill from the Emergency Radio savings fund and send out bills to the townships for reimbursement.

Motion to adjourn made by Hauser, 2nd by Stahl. Vote was all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:46.

REVENUES: GENERAL \$16,182.25, ROAD USE \$13,095.78, EMP BENEFITS \$329.42, EMERGENCY \$56.36, LOST FIRE \$1049.72, LOST 1ST RESPONDERS \$1049.72, POOL \$1055.11, LOST REC CENTER \$1058.45, ARPA REVENUE TOTAL \$59,162.40, WATER \$15,853.09, SEWER \$17,906.27: TOTAL \$126,798.57.

EXPENSES: \$54,761.05, ROAD USE \$1905.31, EMP BENEFITS \$1588.86, LOST FIRE \$264.12, LOST 1ST RESP \$15.00, WATER \$13,100.74, SEWER \$7772.26: TOTAL \$79,407.34.

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