

CITY OF ALTOONA, WI
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 26, 2022

(I) Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Brendan Pratt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Regular Council Meeting was held in person in the Council Chambers at Altoona City Hall, 1303 Lynn Avenue, WI.

(II) Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pratt led the Common Council and others in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

(III) Roll Call

City Clerk Cindy Bauer called the roll. Mayor Brendan Pratt, Council Members Dale Stuber, Timothy Lima, Jon Olson, Matthew Biren, and Susan Rowe were present.

Also Present: Attorney Sam Bach Hanson, City Administrator Mike Golat, Finance Director Tina Nelson, and City Clerk Cindy Bauer.

Absent: Council Member Tim Sexton.

(IV) Citizen Participation Period

Motion by Biren/Lima to close Citizen Participation Period. **Motion carried.**

(V) Approval of minutes.

Motion by Rowe/Lima to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2022, 2022 Regular Council Meeting. **Motion carried.**

(VI) City Officers/Department Heads Report

City Administrator Golat noted that Taylor Greenwell accepted the City Planner Position who will be starting his employment with the City of Altoona on July 5, 2022.

City Committee Reports – None.

(VII) Consent Agenda – none.

(VIII) Unfinished Business – None.

(IX) New Business

(1) Discuss/consider proposal from Solar Forma Design for the City to purchase an E-Cacia Tree.

City Administrator Golat noted that this item was discussed at the May 12, 2022 Council Meeting. Council directed staff to obtain more specific costs for purchasing and installing an E-cacia solar tree and to include pricing for the solar pods product. Staff was also asked to explore whether ARPA funds could be used for the purchase of the E-Cacia Tree and/or Solar Pods.

City Administrator Golat explained the proposal from Solar Forma to install an E-Cacia tree in River Prairie Park near the large Riverside Pavilion. The proposal includes the cost of the tree, transportation, installation, footings, electrical interconnection and a tree grate. The total cost of the project is \$81,200. The specific location of the tree was determined through a site visit with representatives from Solar Forma, Mayor Pratt and staff. The E-Cacia Tree could alternatively be placed in the new downtown container park. The Cost would be similar for purchase and installation; however, the electrical interconnection could be paid with grant funds received for that project.

City Administrator Golat mentioned that according to Finance Director Tina Nelson, ARPA Funds may be used to purchase and install the E-Cacia Tree as the City has already documented that the ARPA funds received were related directly to lost revenue during the pandemic. The cost of one of the solar pods is \$15,000 to 18,000.

Brian Graff of Solar Forma was present to answer any questions Council Members had regarding this project.

Motion by Stuber/Biren to approve the proposal from Solar Forma Design for the City to purchase an E-Cacia Tree and direct staff to come back with an amended budget resolution. 2 ayes, Stuber, Biren, 3 nays, Lima, Rowe, Olson. **Motion failed 2-3.**

(IX)(2) Discuss/consider approval of contract for construction management services with Royal Construction to bid and manage Phase 2 of the Veterans Tribute Trail Project.

City Administrator Golat explained AIA Document A-133 - 3019. This document is a contract between the City and Royal construction for Royal to bid and manage the second phase of the Veteran's Tribute Trail Project. The fee for Royal to manage the project is \$0. Golat noted that we have a contract in place with the Veterans Foundation to complete the project consistent with all federal, state and local laws and regulations.

City Administrator Golat mentioned that the contract is not in its final form as at the time we sent out the packets, Royal had not yet completed inserting the details for this project. The contract, in final form will be provided to Council members prior to the Council meeting, likely early in the week of 5/23/22.

Motion by Lima/Rowe to approve the contract for construction management services with Royal Construction to bid and manage Phase 2 of the Veterans Tribute Trail Project. **Motion carried.**

(IX)(3) Discuss/consider receipt of the Petition for Direct Annexation of 19.64 acres located at 257 Bartlett Avenue from the Town of Washington, and refer the petition to the Plan Commission for temporary zoning assignment.

Mayor Pratt recused himself from this agenda item. City Administrator Golat referred to the Petition for Annexation, Michael Schmidt. Golat explained that the City is in receipt of a Petition for Direct Annexation from Michael Schmidt, requesting attachment of 19.64 acres located at 257 Bartlett Avenue to the City of Altoona. Pursuant to Altoona Municipal Code §19.24.030, a temporary zoning assignment is to be applied to newly annexed lands. Per Wis Stats. § 66.0217(8)(a), temporary zoning assignments must be referred to the Plan Commission for their recommendation.

City Administrator Golat mentioned that staff recommends referral to the June 14th Plan Commission consistent with statute. This may result in consideration of action on the annexation ordinance at the June 23rd Council meeting.

Motion by Lima/Olson to refer the Petition for Direct Annexation to the Plan Commission for temporary zoning assignment. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Pratt returned to the meeting.

(IX)(4) Discuss/consider approval of WisDOT Carbon Reduction Grant.

Finance Director Tina Nelson explained that City staff applied for the WisDOT Carbon Reduction grant. The grant is part of the American Recovery Plan. When applied for, it was thought to be an 80% federal grant. This grant was reviewed and scored by the local MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) for Chippewa Falls/Eau Claire Area. The MPO received six applications. The total amount the local MPO will receive is \$281,000. At the May 25, 2022 C-EC MPO TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) meeting, the committee voted to fund the applicants that scored higher at 80% and others at a lower %. The City of Altoona would be awarded \$102,968 or 50%. The Committee did this so more projects can be funded. If the City does not wish to participate in this grant, the \$102,968 would then be divided by the other applicants in the MPO. The City applied for the deployment of four alternative fuel vehicles and four charging stations. A list of the locations for the vehicles and charging stations was presented to Council.

Finance Director Nelson said if purchased, the city will be highlighting the electric vehicles at City Hall and at our newest Parks & Recreation Center known as the Fish House. In addition, one vehicle will be utilized by Parks Maintenance and one for Public Works. Sustainability is listed as a top priority in Altoona's Strategic Plan and by adding electric work vehicles, it will demonstrate to our community our commitment to that plan and our responsibility to investing in the sustainability of our natural resources.

Motion by Rowe/Biren to approve accepting the WisDOT Carbon Reduction grant in the amount of \$102,968 and authorize the mayor to sign any grant applications as needed. **Motion carried.**

(X) Miscellaneous Business and Communication.

None.

(XI) Adjournment.

Motion by Lima/Rowe to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. **Motion carried.**

Minutes submitted by Cindy Bauer, City Clerk