

**CITY OF SHEPHERD
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Regular Called Meeting
28 N. Liberty, Shepherd City Council Chambers
Monday, August 9, 2021 6:30 PM
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

Regular Called Meeting:

Members Present: Charles Minton, Yvonne Cones, Mark Porter, Kurtz Stowers, Curtis Ainsworth

Members Absent: Ray Marrs

City Staff Present: City Secretary Debra Hagler, Larry Foerster

Others Present: City Auditor Mike Brooks

CALLED TO ORDER /INVOCATION

Mayor Minton called the meeting to order. Curtis Ainsworth led in prayer. The pledges were recited.

PUBLIC HEARING for the Tax Rate and Budgets

There were no citizens present. No comments were made.

PUBLIC INPUT:

None

PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA:

NONE

REPORTS:

Deputy Headley: He submitted a written report as well as some photo with brief descriptions. Deputy Headley got started August 23. The Mayor expressed to Deputy Headley that he is "excited to have you as part of the team." The council was very pleased with his presentation and his efforts.

Debra: Submitted a written report showing the revenue for the water department and the permitting department for the month of August. The Mayor asked if bulk water sales could be incorporated into this report.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss and take action to approve the 2019-2020 Audit as presented.

Mark Porter made a motion to approve the audit as presented. Yvonne Cones seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. The City was given the Highest level of assurance which is an unmodified level as determined by the GAGAS (Generally Accepted Governmental Auditing Standards) The General Fund reported an increase in the Fund Balance. Property Tax collection and Franchise fees were lower than reported the previous year, but the Sales Tax had a significant increase. Mr. Brooks explained that the Utility Fund must be self-supporting, and a slight decrease was reported for this fund. The Auditor briefly summarize the finding report and stated most of the deficiencies are a result of the City's environment and that because the City Secretary wears many hats and covers many job duties that some internal controls are weakened. The alternative would be to hire more employees to cover these roles.

Discuss and take action on request from Ms. Hernandez regarding Cochran Street.

Mark Porter made a motion to table this item as Ms. Hernandez was not present to present her request. Yvonne Cones seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Ms. Hernandez had supplied a survey showing the properties and location of Cochran Street.

Discuss and take action on request to extend a water line north on Highway 59 to a 14.803-acre track of property located just north of the creek owned by Shepherd Food Investments, Inc.

Mark Porter made a motion that before any action be taken that the property owner pay for a feasibility Study. Yvonne Cones seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action to adopt Ordinance #334-2021 to deny Entergy's Distribution cost recovery factor rate increase request.

Mark Porter made a motion that Ordinance #334 be approved to deny Entergy's request. Curtis Ainsworth seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action to adopt Ordinance #332-2021 setting the current tax rate of .20140 per/\$100 as the 2021-2022 tax rate.

Curtis Ainsworth made a motion to set the current tax rate at .20140 per \$100 as the City of Shepherd's tax rate for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Mark Porter seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action to adopt Ordinance #333-2021 setting the 2021-2022 Budget.

Mark Porter made a motion to approve the budget with Ordinance #333. Yvonne Cones seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action to approve the 2021-2022 EDC Budget.

Curtis Ainsworth made a motion to approve the EDC Budget as presented. Kurtz Stowers seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Minutes:

Yvonne Cones made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Curtis Ainsworth seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Payment of the Bills:

Mark Porter made a motion to pay the bills. Curtis Ainsworth seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT: 7:06 pm

Yvonne Cones made a motion to adjourn, and Curtis Ainsworth seconded. The motions passed with a unanimous vote.

Charles Minton, Mayor
Prepared by City Secretary, Debra Hagler