

Regular Council Meeting of December 19, 2023

Present were: Mayor Naillon, Councilmembers Shaw, Marthaller, Werner, Hart and Moser.
Absent: None.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Naillon. Pledge of Allegiance given.
Copies of the December 5th council meeting minutes were read and approved.

Mayor Naillon, Councilwoman Shaw, Councilman Werner, Councilman Hart and Councilman Moser all individually gave their Oath of Office before Deputy Clerk Finsen, swearing them into position for their next length of terms.

Mayor Naillon opened the motion to pass and adopt the 2023 Budget Amendment Ordinance #938 which increases the Street Fund TIB Seal Coat project on Ironwood 12th – 17th by \$65,500.00. Motion by Werner, seconded by Moser that the ordinance be approved; motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Naillon opened the motion to pass the 2024 Budget Adoption Ordinance #939. Motion by Moser, seconded by Hart that the ordinance be approved; motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Naillon explained the new language for the delinquency penalty date change that will make utility bills due on or before the 25th of the month, resulting in a penalty being applied on the 26th given that the date does not fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or Holiday and therefore will be included in the new monthly bill cycle penalizing only the outstanding due balance. He was shocked to see that the language had changed from where a customer who had their services shut off due to non-payment must present a request to the City Council to turn their services back on to being a decision the Clerk's office made. Councilman Moser inquired as to why the change. Superintendent Thompson spoke stating that if they had to wait for a City Council Meeting to request their services back on, they could potentially wait up to three weeks with their water off whereas if they discussed arrangements with City Hall Staff, they could get their utilities back more quickly. Mayor Naillon expressed his concern about the sense of higher responsibility and the difficulty of making such a decision that would befall the Clerk's office without Council's review. Councilman Hart then said that in the past the Council has given the City Clerk permission to make such decisions. Mayor Naillon entertained the motion to pass the Delinquency Date Change Ordinance #940. Motion by Werner, seconded by Marthaller that the ordinance be approved; motion carried unanimously. Deputy Clerk Finsen asked if the new change would be effective January or February 1, 2024. Mayor Naillon expressed his previous discussion with Finsen that he would recommend that the change be made effective February 1, 2024 to give the Clerk's Office proper time to make the necessary changes with their software provider. Motion by Moser, seconded by Hart to make Ordinance #940 effective February 1, 2024; motion carried unanimously.

The .09 Funds Final Results were discussed. Mayor Naillon stated that the .09 Funds will be to expand Well #4 out from City Limits to the North End to which the City has been approved for. The City was ranked #11 out of those who were approved.

The Official Ballot for Lake Management District #1 to eradicate milfoil was open for discussion. Mayor Naillon said the annual fee is \$160.00 per parcel for a period of 5 years for purposes of treating milfoil and other invasive species in Lake Osoyoos. Mayor Naillon inquired how many parcels are City owned. Deputy Clerk Finsen said the City has 12 parcels. Councilman Moser asked what the treatment process is. Councilman Werner said it is treated chemically with herbicides and each year they assess the areas they treated previously to move around the lake in attempt to spread out the treatment efforts evenly around the lake. Motion by Werner, seconded by Moser that the City authorize Mayor Naillon to vote yes on each City owned parcel; motion carried unanimously.

Department Head Updates

Police Chief Langford shared that their Christmas with a Cop was a great success in that they helped 24 children and thanked the American Legion in all the effort that they put into hosting the event this year.

Superintendent Thompson shared that the Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement with the OTID was signed and being sent for further review and submission. He then stated that the TOI got their grant request from LTAC about installing pickleball courts in the City has been approved and that they are working on a possible timeline for that project. Discussion is tabled for a later time.

Motion by Werner and second by Moser the vouchers \$43,239.32, #32953-32975, DOR-EFT11, be paid, the December 15, 2023 payroll of \$48,650.24, #32937-32949, Direct Deposit Run, EFT #202348-202349, be approved and the meeting be adjourned at 7:30 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes approved _____

Mayor

Clerk