



CITY OF NORMANDY

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Minutes for the Meeting of the Normandy City Council

Tuesday, January 18th, 2022, 6:30pm

BE IT REMEMBERED that the City Council of the City of Normandy held a meeting in person and on Zoom on Tuesday, January 18th, 2022.

Call to order

Mayor Mark Beckmann (present) called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Roll call

Mayor Mark Beckmann took roll call with the following Councilmembers attending:

Councilwoman Lelia Martin- Present

Councilman Walter Moss- Present

Councilman Tony Evans- Present

Councilwoman LaWanda Smith- Absent

Councilman Rick Nelson- Present

Councilman Maurice Hunt- Present

Councilwoman Erma Ratlif- Present

Councilwoman Yolanda Campbell- Present

Mayor Beckmann stated that with 7 councilmembers present there was a quorum, and the meeting could proceed.

Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge was given.

Approval of the January 18th, 2022, agenda

Mayor Beckmann asked for a motion to approve the January 18th Agenda. Councilperson Campbell made the motion with Councilperson Ratlif seconding. Councilperson Hunt asked that all but one set of minutes on the consent agenda be approved. A discussion followed about the previous meeting's minutes not being on the agenda and if any changes to the draft minutes have been submitted.

Councilperson Hunt made a motion to move item XII (Report of Officers) to be the fourth item on the agenda (before citizen comments). Councilwoman Ratlif seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the Council voting as follows:

Councilwoman Martin- Aye

Councilman Moss - Aye

Councilman Evans- Nay

Councilman Nelson- Aye

Councilman Hunt- Aye

Councilwoman Ratlif- Aye

Councilwoman Campbell- Nay

The motion carried.

Councilman Evans made a motion to approve the January 18th agenda as amended. Councilwoman Ratlif seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken with the Council voting as follows:

Councilwoman Martin- Aye

Councilman Moss - Aye

Councilman Evans- Nay

Councilman Nelson- Aye

Councilman Hunt- Aye

Councilwoman Ratlif- Aye

Councilwoman Campbell- Nay

The motion carried.

Report of Officers

Mayor's Report

Mayor Beckmann thanked the Normandy Police Department for their presence at Lee Beels funeral and announced that his widow just passed.

Mayor Beckmann gave an update on the RFP for demolition of two derelict properties in the City.

Mayor Beckmann announced that the federal guidelines for funds available through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) have changed so that the City can claim the entire portion of funds as lost revenue.

Councilman Maurice Hunt

Councilman Hunt expressed that he was upset that the Mayor did not wait longer for Councilmembers to show up to the meeting on January 11th that was canceled due to a lack of quorum. Councilman Hunt also expressed his dissatisfaction with the trash service.

Mayor Beckmann responded by defending his call to cancel the meeting and addressed the trash issue.

Councilwoman Lelia Martin

Councilwoman Martin expressed a concern that trash cans were being left to far out in the street by the trash truck.

Councilman Rick Nelson

Councilman Nelson expressed his frustrations with the zoom meeting on January 11th and the technical difficulties involved in the meeting. Councilman Nelson also expressed his concern with the trash service.

Councilwoman Erma Ratlif

Councilwoman Ratliff stated that citizens are concerned and confused about the billing and new price of the trash service by Waste Management.

Councilman Walter Moss

Councilman Moss gave an update on the state of the trucks at public works and the conversations he has been having with the vendor working on the trucks.

Councilwoman Yolanda Campbell

Councilwoman Campbell made the public aware that free COVID test were available through the postal service. Councilwoman Campbell also explained the schedules for waste and recycling trucks.

Chief of Police Colonel Mark Hall

Colonel Mark Hall stated that the Normandy Police Department in the month of December responded to 514 calls for service and wrote 53 police reports and issued 34 citations. Hall gave an update on the status of COVID in the police department and the diligence to practice social distancing and sanitizing work areas. Hall also thanked the Council for the decision to adjust the budget to allow for raises in the police department and stated that it has boosted morale and recruitment efforts.

IT Administrator Update

Tom Moore gave an update on several informational technology improvements being made in the City.

City Treasure

City Treasurer Charles Ellis updated the council that he had been informed by Angela Dorne that financial statements were still not ready.

Citizen's Comments

Kevin Jackson, 7637 Bermuda Court, expressed frustration with attendance of council meetings. Jackson stated that the City needs to move on from the trash issue and move on. Jackson also expressed general frustrations about how city business has been handled over the past few years.

JB Kelly, 5385 Bermuda, inquired about the sale of the lot on 5401 Bermuda and the Mayor addressed his question stating that the city was interested in selling the lot and that he would be in touch

Consent Agenda A

Mayor Beckmann removed item J from the consent agenda, approval of the Oct. 5th meeting minutes. Councilmember Martin asked to remove Item I, from the consent agenda. Councilmember Evans made a motion to approve Consent Agenda A as amended. A roll call vote was taken with the Council voting as follows:

Councilwoman Martin- Aye

Councilman Moss - Aye

Councilman Evans- Aye

Councilman Nelson- Aye

Councilman Hunt- Aye

Councilwoman Ratliff- Aye

Councilwoman Campbell- Aye

The motion carried.

Councilperson Ratlif made a motion to amend the Oct. 5th minutes to name a an unknown citizen in citizen comment as Terry Gannon, Councilman Moss seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the Council voting as follows:

Councilwoman Martin- Abstain

Councilman Moss - Aye

Councilman Evans- Aye

Councilman Nelson- Aye

Councilman Hunt- Aye

Councilwoman Ratlif- Aye

Councilwoman Campbell- Aye

The motion carried

Councilperson Evans made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Councilwoman Ratlif seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the Council voting as follows:

Councilwoman Martin- Aye

Councilman Moss - Aye

Councilman Evans- Aye

Councilman Nelson- Aye

Councilman Hunt- Aye

Councilwoman Ratlif- Aye

Councilwoman Campbell- Aye

The motion carried.

Consent Agenda B

Following a brief discussion about liquor licenses. Councilman Moss made a motion to approve Consent Agenda B, approving liquor licenses for BP United Mart, Crazy Deals, Glen Echo Country Club, Sodexo Touhill and Millenium Center, and Whalen's Bar and Restaurant, and Councilman Evans seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the Council voting as follows:

Councilwoman Martin- Aye

Councilman Moss - Aye

Councilman Evans- Aye

Councilman Nelson- Aye

Councilman Hunt- Aye

Councilwoman Ratlif- Aye

Councilwoman Campbell- Aye

The motion carries.

Old Business

Spending Oversight

A discussion and debate about spending oversight and the best method of controlling the spending of the Mayor and the administration was had by the Council. The discussion was focused on the two bills brought before the Council, Council Bill 22-01 which establishes a budget oversight committee and Council Bill 09-07-011 which establishes that the Council approve all non-recurring indebtedness of the city before disbursement of funds. Sam Johnson a member of the staff of the City of Normandy spoke briefly on the topic stating that it was the position of staff that Council Bill 09-07-011 would be very cumbersome for the administration of the city and would be cumbersome for council meetings as well. Johnson continued stating that staff would prefer that the Council consider Council Bill 22-01 as an alternative. Treasurer Charles Ellis and City Attorney Anthony Gray also participated in the discussion.

Councilman Walter Moss asked to be dismissed from the meeting due to a prior engagement and was dismissed by the chair.

After the discussion Mayor Beckmann gave a first reading by title of **Council Bill#22-01: An ordinance establishing a budgeting and spending oversight committee.**

Councilman Hunt made a motion to have a second reading of Council Bill 09-07-011 with Councilwoman Ratlif seconding. A roll call vote was taken with the Council voting as follows:

Councilwoman Martin- Aye

Councilwoman Campbell- Nay

Councilman Evans- Nay

Councilman Nelson- Aye

Councilman Hunt- Aye

Councilwoman Ratlif- Aye

The motion carried.

Mayor Beckmann gave a second reading by title of **Council Bill #09-07-011: An ordinance requiring that all non-recurring indebtedness of the City be itemized and compiled into a bills list for review and approval by the City Council before disbursing payment of any such indebtedness for full satisfaction or any portion thereof, except in cases of emergency.**

Councilman Hunt made a motion to approve Council Bill 09-07-011 and Councilman Nelson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the Council voting as follows:

Councilwoman Martin- Nay

Councilwoman Campbell- Nay

Councilman Evans- Nay

Councilman Nelson- Aye

Councilman Hunt- Aye

Councilwoman Ratlif- Aye

Mayor Beckmann voted Nay to break the tie vote.

The motion failed.

New Business

Council Bill #22-02

Mayor Beckmann gave a first reading of **Council Bill #22-02: An ordinance to amend the FY 2022 budget of the City of Normandy to increase line items related to court salaries, benefits, and payroll expenses and to authorize the use of ARPA funds to cover the cost.**

A discussion and debate by the council regarding Council Bill #22-02 followed the first reading. Mayor Beckmann stated that it would be brought for second reading at the February meeting.

Council Bill # 22-03

Mayor Beckmann gave a first reading of **Council Bill #22-03: An ordinance to amend sections of the Personnel Policy of the City of Normandy regarding the length of work periods of Police Officers.**

A discussion and debate by the council regarding Council Bill #22-03 followed the first reading. Mayor Beckmann stated that it would be brought for second reading at the February meeting.

Council Bill #22-04

Mayor Beckmann gave a first reading of **Council Bill #22-04: An ordinance regarding attendance for elected officials at regularly set council board meetings and establishing the penalties for violations there.**

A discussion and debate by the council regarding Council Bill #22-04 followed the first reading. Points of concern by members of the Council were the exceptions clause and whether a Councilperson should be punished for missing a meeting. Councilman Hunt made a motion to adjourn the meeting and go into closed session, the motion lacked a second and died. Mayor Beckmann stated that it would be brought for second reading at the February meeting.

Discussion of a FY2021 Audit

The Council had a discussion about having and funding a FY2021. There was a debate about whether the City should go back for to FY 2020 and FY 2019, who will conduct the audit, why an FY 2020 audit was not conducted, and why financial reports are so far behind. No motions were made, Mayor Beckmann stated that he would bring an ordinance allocating money towards the audit at a future meeting.

Discussion of the future of Public Works

A brief discussion about an investment into public works using ARPA funds was had.

Discussion of Building Maintenance of 7733 Natural Bridge Road

Mayor Beckmann asked the Council for direction on what to do with 7733 Natural Bridge Road and whether it should be winterized or to continue paying the utility bill to heat it. No direction was given by the Council.

Discussion of Dangerous Tree Removal

Mayor Beckmann stated that there was a large dead tree on city property that was leaning on to private property and asked for authority to spend an amount not to exceed \$8,500 to have the tree removed. Councilman Nelson made a motion to give the Mayor the authority to have the tree removed for a cost not to exceed \$8,500, Councilperson Martin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the Council voting as follows:

Councilwoman Martin- Aye

Councilwoman Campbell- Aye

Councilman Evans- Aye

Councilman Nelson- Aye

Councilman Hunt- Abstain

Councilwoman Ratlif- Nay

The motion carried.

Closed Session

Councilman Hunt made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel and legal matters, Councilwoman Ratlif seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the Council voting as follows:

Councilwoman Martin- Aye

Councilwoman Campbell- Aye

Councilman Evans- Aye

Councilman Nelson- Aye

Councilman Hunt- Aye

Councilwoman Ratlif- Aye


The motion carried.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned immediately following the end of the closed session.

Minutes approved by the City Council on this 1st day of **March 2022**.


Honorable Mark Beckmann, Mayor


Acting City Clerk, Samuel Johnson

SEAL: