

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
Earlham City Council Meeting
August 14, 2023

The Earlham City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 14, 2023, at Earlham City Hall. Mayor Lillie called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and the following answered roll: Baskin, Fredericksen, Mudge, Nelsen, Swalla. Also present: Clerk Hibbs, Chief Stringham, Public Works Superintendent Coffman, Fire Chief Boyle.

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mudge, second by Baskin, to approve agenda.

Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.

2. Public Forum

Amanda Schwantes - Would like to get a TNR (trap, neuter, release) program set up in Earlham for cats. Would like to get cat population under control. Volunteer program, not ran by city. Is looking into getting grants to pay for veterinary services. Currently she takes cats to Panora Pets for spay/neutering. Asks if city could provide traps. Discussion on possibly trapping cats that are pets. No way to prevent that. Mayor said will put on agenda for September 11th meeting. Consensus of council is to go forward with this.

3. Consent Agenda:

- a. Council meeting minutes for 7-10-23, 6-19-23, and 6-19-23 Public Safety Committee
- b. Treasurer's Report for 8-14-23
- c. Claims and Receipts Report for 8-14-23
- d. Consider approval of Class B Retail Alcohol License (LG) for Hometown Market effective 10-1-23

Motion by Baskin, second by Mudge, to approve consent agenda.

Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.

4. Department Reports

a. Public Works - Gary Coffman, Public Works Supervisor

Mow, trimming, spraying. Had pool inspection. He invited council members to come and take a look at the updated pool. Lagoon project is going. Trying to get it up and going my November. We need to make our limits by February. Pot-hole patching, working on alleys. Gendler having problem with muskrats, so will need to take care of that. They are compromising the road between the two ponds. Working on water tower lighting. Working on street bump/patches and sidewalk patching. Tore flowers/weed out behind Library. Water Salesman for bulk at water plant is obsolete and not working. Gary stated a lot of people use this so we need to have it. He can't get parts, so he will look into getting a newer model.

b. Police Department – Chief Matt Stringham

Freedom Fest went well. Spoke at the Bricker-Price summer camp. Has new computer in his car. Attended funeral of the Winterset Chief of Police. Gary is ready for school to start. Few issues in town but they are being taken care of. Swalla asked about junk sitting out on curb on Poplar. Chief aware of it and landlord is aware of it.

c. Fire Department – Chief Shawn Boyle

Increase in number of calls. They have had 92 so far this year. Last year's total 116. Fewer calls out to DeSoto. More accidents on interstate probably due to construction. Spoke at Bricker-Price summer camp. Earlham's Night Out had vehicles outside. There was a good turnout. Attending other town parages. Did Hero's Day at KOA. Baskin asked about building on E 1st that was having electric issues. Chief stated State Fire Marshal came to help. Landlord has taken care of things and they are good to go. Mudge asked about status of new storm siren.

5. Board, Commission, Committee Reports

- a. Public Safety Committee – Committee met just prior to this meeting. Only received one bid for \$376,280.54, from Toyne. They are 2.5 to 3 years out. Payment plans were discussed. Council can decide on that later. Consensus of Committee is to accept the bid from Toyne.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. 28E Agreement with ECSD for water tower property. No update at this time
- b. Update on 28E Agreement with ECSD for shared use of City Librarian.
Waiting to hear from Library Board.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider approval of Resolution No 23-26 Authorizing Transfer of Funds from the Local Option Sales Tax Fund to the Swimming Pool Renovation Project Fund.
Hibbs stated the transfer amount is \$12,111.09 which will cover the final expenses.
Motion by Swalla, second by Baskin, to approve Resolution No 23-26 Authorizing Transfer of Funds from the Local Option Sales Tax Fund to the Swimming Pool Renovation Project Fund.
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.
- b. Consider approval of Resolution No 23-27 Approving the RUT Report for FY 2023.
Motion by Baskin, second by Mudge, to approve Resolution No 23-27 Approving the RUT Report for FY 2023.
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.
- c. Consider motion to approval of Pay Application #9 from Blue Ribbon Builders for the Lagoon Update Project in the amount of \$309,491.98.
Motion by Fredericksen, second by Nelsen, to approve Pay Application #9 from Blue Ribbon Builders for the Lagoon Update Project in the amount of \$309,491.98.
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.
- d. Consider approval of motion to rescind a motion made on May 9, 2022, to place a moratorium on any re-zoning within the city limits of the City of Earlham, until the 2004 Comprehensive Plan is revised.
Motion by Mudge, second by Baskin, to TABLE rescinding May 9, 2022 motion.
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.
- e. Discussion and possible action on new firetruck.
Consensus of Public Safety Committee is to recommend approving the bid from Toyne for \$376,280.54. Chief, Mayor and Mudge will be with Toyne representative to discuss payment plan.
Motion by Baskin, second by Fredericksen, to accept the bid from Toyne for a new fire truck.
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.
- f. Consider approval of motion to approve request from Earlham Christmas Share to have a fall event, including a 5K race, chili contest, bake-off and auction, on Saturday Sept 23rd at the city park.
Lori Zehr, Fundraising Chairperson for Earlham Christmas Share, gave council maps showing park setup and 5K route. She requested Maple on east side of park could be closed off the entire event, and 2nd street next to park closed off after the 5K. Requested Police and EMS availability. Chief Stringham said they would be there. She was told to contact Dio at Madison County Emergency Management. Also requested to dump their trash in city dumpster. She was informed their food trucks would need to obtain permits.
Motion by Swalla, second by Baskin, to approve the request for Earlham Christmas Share on September 23rd.
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.
- g. Consider approval of motion for request from Amy Hopkins for installation of “doggie poo stations” (grant from Chicks with Checks)
She stated she has received a grant from Chicks With Checks for 4 doggie stations. She would like to put one in the Park and one at the Rec Park. Discussion on where the other two should be placed. Coffman expressed concern if they were just placed in ground without concrete. She was told work with Coffman before ordering.
Motion by Swalla, second by Mudge to approve the placed of doggie stations on city property.
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.

- h. Consider approval of motion for request from Sara Slagle for storage shed for park equipment at tennis court (grant from Chicks with Checks)
Council asked who was going to buy the equipment, and who was going to keep it restocked when thing items go missing. Nelsen stated he has played on courts in other cities, and no one supplies the equipment. You bring your own. Someone suggested possibly, if someone wanted to donate equipment, it could be rented out at Library or City Hall? Council believed this needed more thought. No action taken at this time.
 - i. Discussion and possible action on Sewer Credit for 220 NW 8th Street.
Motion by Fredericksen, second by Swalla, to approve Sewer Credit for 220 NW 8th Street
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.
 - j. Discussion and possible action on Sewer Credit for 410 NW 4th Street.
Motion by Fredericksen, second by Baskin, to approve Sewer Credit for 410 NW 4th Street
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.
 - k. Set date and time for Beggar’s Night – Tuesday, October 31, 2023, 6-8 p.m.
8. Mayor’s Report - none
9. Clerk’s Report
- a. Legislative changes. Will prepare ordinances to update our Code.
 - b. Burial ordinance. This was discussed last month, but nothing was decided. Council directs Hibbs to come back to next meeting with ordinance.
 - c. Chicks with checks and city property. Hibbs will talk to them about grants for items on city grounds.
 - d. Replacement of Swalla upon moving. Mayor said we have a couple of good candidates to replace him.
 - e. Noise ordinance time. Ordinance does not state a time, and there is some concern over loud music at the Community Building. Mayor stated let Community Building Board re-word their rental agreement to say noise will stop at a particular time. Council agreed.
10. Council comments/discussion – none.
11. Adjourn
Motion by Fredericksen, second by Swalla, to adjourn.
Roll: Ayes – unanimous. Motion passes.

Being there was no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Jeff Lillie, Mayor

Attest: _____
Mary Sue Hibbs, City Clerk/Treasurer