TOWN OF BEAUX ARTS VILLAGE

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

November 10, 2020
Remote Meeting via Zoom

PRESENT: Mayor Gillem, Councilmembers Paula Dix, Aletha Howes, Hans Juhle, James McCarthy, and Tom Stowe.
EXCUSED: None.
STAFF: Clerk/Treasurer Sue Ann Spens.
GUESTS: Bob Durr, Water Supervisor; Eileen Keiffer, Madrona Law Group.

MINUTES: Councilmember Dix moved to approve the October 20, 2020 minutes as amended. Councilmember Stowe seconded.
Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Councilmember Howes moved to approve the Final November 10, 2020 Claims Register for check numbers 15606 through 15623 in the amount of $57,333.05. Councilmember Juhle seconded.
Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT:
EMERGENCY SUPPLIES: Clerk/Treasurer Spens reported that all Priority 1 and 2 emergency supplies ordered last month have arrived except for the first aid kit. She has also purchased a key lockbox to mount on the maintenance shed so that Councilmembers can gain access to the emergency supplies if needed. She will notify the Council when the box is installed.

HANDYMAN SERVICES: Clerk/Treasurer Spens reported that she contacted Asari Mohamath, owner of Building Maintenance Services, about his interest in handling the minor handyman tasks that Bill Beck used to perform, e.g. installing name and street signs, cleaning signs, and similar tasks. She reported that Mr. Mohamath is happy to take on this work. His labor rate is currently about $65 per hour for small jobs, and if we want him to handle something larger, he is willing to provide fixed-price estimates on request. She added that the Town of Hunts Point has been very happy with the quality of his firm's work.

SE 27TH STORM SYSTEM PROJECT: Clerk/Treasurer Spens reported that as of 11/1/2020, all eligible expenses have been submitted with matching funds documentation to the State MIL for reimbursement. It is unclear how long it will take for the reimbursement to be processed, but we should receive the full $229,600 from the grant.

ZONING CODE QUESTION: Clerk/Treasurer Spens reported that the question about updating the definitions of reconstruction vs. remodel have been forwarded to the Planning Commission for study.

MARSHAL'S REPORT: Mayor Gillem noted that there were three calls for service related to the power outage last month. He added that the ballot measure to change the Sheriff's position to appointed rather than elected passed, which may mean service impacts to Beaux Arts. Clerk/Treasurer Spens commented that Major Patrick Butschli, the Town's KCSO liaison, is available to attend the December meeting and discuss these issues. She noted that in her brief conversation with Major Butschli, he mentioned that having questions in advance would give him time to prepare complete answers; she suggested that Councilmembers forward questions to her in advance so she can compile them and send a single list.

WATER REPORT: Water Supervisor Bob Durr reported that hydrant flushing is complete and will be repeated in six months to limit the sediment and mineral deposits that collect in the hydrant lines through lack of regular use.

WABA REPORT: No report.

APPEARANCES: None.

PUBLIC HEARING: PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2021: Clerk/Treasurer Spens reminded the Council that this is their second detailed discussion of next year's budget and outlined the few updates she made after last month's meeting.

Mayor Gillem opened the public hearing at 7:29 pm. As there were no comments, he closed the hearing at 7:30 pm.

The Council proceeded with a general discussion at the fund and line-item level that resulted in a few minor revisions. Clerk/Treasurer Spens reminded the Council that they will adopt the Final 2021 Budget by ordinance in December.

Clerk/Treasurer Spens also explained that there will be a minor amendment to the 2020 Budget to account for a slightly larger than budgeted transfer of funds from the Criminal Justice Fund. That amendment, though small, will still require a public hearing.

Councilmember Juhle had to disconnect from the meeting due to problems with his cell-phone connection.

PUBLIC HEARING: PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 446 SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR 2021: Clerk/Treasurer Spens outlined the Council's choices as follows:

1. Keep the levy amount the same as this year's, $177,327.
2. Increase the levy but only by the amount levied at this year's rate on new construction, an additional $763.
3. Increase the levy by the full 1% authorized by state statue, $1,773, and by the amount for new construction, for a total increase of $2,536.
4. Increase the levy by the full 1%, plus new construction, plus the amount of banked capacity from under-levies in previous years, $4,947, for a total increase of $7,483.

Mayor Gillem opened the public hearing at 8:13 pm. As there were no comments, he closed the hearing at 8:14 pm.

The Council spent some time discussing the desire to take a "breather" after completing two big projects in two years. They also discussed the financial strains that the pandemic is creating for families throughout the region. They then decided to increase the levy but only by the amount on new construction. Clerk/Treasurer Spens noted that the proposed Ordinance No. 446 will need to be revised slightly, but the Council can act on its amended form tonight.

MOTION: Councilmember Howes moved to pass Ordinance No. 446 setting the 2021 Property Tax Levy at an amount equal to last year's levy plus a small increase for new construction. Councilmember McCarthy seconded.
Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:
FALL CLEAN UP: Councilmember Dix reminded that the Town's Fall Clean Up is November 13 through 16.

VISION DISCUSSION: Councilmember Dix asked for time on an upcoming agenda for Councilmembers to brainstorm what would be desirable for the Town, determine objectives, and set priorities, including ways in which to use our Parks Levy funding. It was the consensus of the Council that February would work.

SE 27TH STORMWATER PROJECT: Councilmember Stowe reported that the final status report on the project is due, but he does not want to submit it until we receive at least our first reimbursement of grant money.

GREAT SHAKE OUT DRILL: Councilmember Howes reported that the drill went well. She is organizing the emergency supplies into plastic storage containers with lists of contents and will take everything to the storage shed when complete.

COVID-19: Mayor Gillem noted that case numbers are increasing, but there is no increase in hospitalizations at this time. Councilmember Howes offered to collect a brief list of mental health resources for posting on the website.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm on Tuesday December 8, 2020. Based on King County's current restrictions, this is likely to be another remote meeting, and posted agendas will provide information for public participation.

ADJOURN FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Gillem announced that the Council would adjourn the general session at 8:42 pm for about 30 minutes to discuss the potential legal risks of proposed legislative action and to discuss personnel performance. At 9:15 pm, Mayor Gillem adjourned the executive session and reconvened the regular session.

ADJOURN: Councilmember McCarthy moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm. Councilmember Howes seconded.
Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ann Spens
Clerk-Treasurer