

**CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, November 23, 2020**  
**6:30 PM**

Invocation given by Pastor Tom Elbert, Divine Savior Lutheran Church and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Hockenbury called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Councilwomen Carter, Cline, Enlow, Huffman, and Councilman Newton were present. Councilman Hatfield was absent.

Mayor Hockenbury asked for a motion to approve the 11/9/2020 regular meeting minutes. Motion made by Kenny Newton. Deb Huffman 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent (LH).

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Cheri Martin addressed the Council regarding closure of an alleyway. My husband, Tom and I own two pieces of property that are on Highway 44 West. The first piece of property which is about .7 acres was rezoned to be to commercial. We also bought a piece of property, .6 acres, which is on Highway 44 West and they neighbor each other, however, there's an alleyway that is between both of them and we would like to be able to take both pieces of property and have them complete into one survey. To do that, we need that alleyway closed, which basically goes right through both pieces of property. The next part of it is at the back of the property and neighbors Quiet Woods, there is an alleyway there as well. Both Quiet Woods owners, Kurtis and Ashlee Payne, and my husband and I signed off on an agreement, notarized saying that we all agree that the alleyway would be closed so that we can proceed forward. Mayor Hockenbury asked if she wanted action from the council? Mrs. Martin: Yes, the two alleyways that go between both of the pieces of property on Highway 44 West. City Attorney Tammy Baker: They are both on that plat that I picked up the other day, to ask the Council to direct me to draft an ordinance. Kenny Newton made motion to direct Tammy Baker to draft an Ordinance closing alleys. Bonnie Enlow 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

Finance Officer Stephanie Kellerman addressed the Council on financing the playground equipment in First Street Park. She stated we found the money; she just needs your approval. Tom LaFollette, Public Works Foreman said he would consider \$50,000 out of his department budget; you all gave us \$30,000; Faith said she would take \$30,000 out of her budget and that would give us \$110,000 out of the \$112,000 we need. I am sure that I can get an additional \$2000 budget line item 5350. And I do not have a line item for it in the Admin Budget it is under Beautification non-restrictive. We still need \$2000. Can we go ahead and move that out of the 7650 Other Purchased Assets? There's new building equipment, \$25,000 and they have only spent \$20,387. We need to get this done. After some discussion Bonnie Enlow made motion to take an additional \$2000 out of Council Attorney Fees. Stacey Cline 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 3-2-1.

Mayor Hockenbury asked the Council if they had any questions for Stephanie about the budget format. When Stephanie first came up, she skipped down to item E on the Agenda. So now we are talking about budget format. I am proposing that we just do it by Section. I

know it is going to cost us more money to do line item and I have never been deceitful to any of your requests at my job. I always try to be straightforward, and never lose anything or put anything in there that I do not agree with. I would always let you all know beforehand if something came up. This is going to cost more money to do the line item because things have already come out that I did not foresee when we were doing the budget. And I'm just trying to make it economical for the citizens is what you all want to do so I was wondering if we could do it by Section the way that we did it last year. I also want to say that the Budget that was given to me was identical to last year's budget. And I was told that last year's budget was not line item it was by section. That is why I thought this budget was a section budget. I just wanted to clarify that. Councilwoman Lisa Carter: I thought we discussed at all the budget meetings we had, and if I'm mistaken, please correct me, I thought we spoke of a line item budget every meeting we had except for the last one we voted. As a Council we wanted a line item budget. That was to restrict the money from spending it so freely like we have moving money in the one. We had a bill that had to be put on the financials because it was due, and we could not get ahold of the vendor to ask them what line item it needed to go on. It was a long drawn out process. Here is the question if this would help shape the discussion, the question going forward we have a line item budget 100% that is what was passed. If you wanted to do something different, you would have to pass a new one amending the whole thing. What you have right now is a line item budget. I think the question really is how do we fix these expenditures that have been made? That is what we should be talking about? Where do we move money to cover what has been taken out of it, that makes sense? That is really what we should be looking at. Stephanie Kellerman: And that's why I thought that the section would be better because it would be cheaper than having to do an amendment at the end of the year, we try to keep it with, we try to, if we go over a little bit on one line, then we try to pick a line in that section that we can take money away from, to keep the main budget on track. We are not trying to pull one over, things just come up that I cannot foresee. So, when I got the budget, and it looked like the same one as last year, I thought that you changed your mind. It is very, very hard to foresee everything; it is much easier to do in sections and the Council still has a lot of control. There would be no expenditure or no buying that the Council does not know of. You are given financial details. Councilwoman Bonnie Enlow: We did do a line item budget. And I know it is really hard. But you did not do anything wrong. I realized you did not know. And I would stand there and say I have never felt like you have done anything wrong or took anything or miss appropriated anything. The Council all feel the same way; you do a good job. It is just history that affects all this. It is nothing that you have done. But history has proven this many times over and over again that money gets spent and we cannot do anything about this. That is why we have the line item; so it is stopped. When I was on the Council a long time ago, we had a Department Head that spent \$500,000 over budget. because there was not a line item budget because they were not reporting all those things to the Council. This is one of the reasons why all this control is so tight. We can't afford to let that happen to the citizens again and if we have to spend more money on ads, then that is what we have to do for the line item than I would for somebody to overspend in the amount of \$500,000. Stephanie Kellerman: I want to say just as long as you understand that I get the information after it is already spent. We do not have the software in place yet that we can encumber the line items when a purchase order is placed. We will have that control. Department Heads need to be held responsible for spending more than their budget. They need to know what they are spending. They should not be spending anything that goes over their budget. Department Heads should know what their budget is and not go over on a line

item. We will have better control under the new software. It will be much easier to do a line item budget. Councilwoman Lisa Carter: What we are describing now, though, is consistently going over budget. We cannot go over that is why we have to hold Department Heads accountable for what they are doing. We have got to make sure those people are held accountable. S.K. :We do have things that come out that we do not foresee. I try to tell you all as soon as we know. The new software will show you only have this much left in your account. Right now, it is, honestly difficult for the Department Heads to because they have to take a look at what I have given out, and it is already three weeks late. Department Heads need to know each line item if they had a spreadsheet or something and they are tracking what they are spending. Right now, the Department Head gets a PO before they go out to get what they are supposed to? We have had several departments say they need a purchase order after the purchase and that defeats the purpose of the purchase order. It happens more than I would like it too. You have to have consequences for actions if they are not following the rules and they know what the rules are. You have to have consequences. You cannot tell a child not to do something and expect them to never do it again unless they know the consequences. Same thing for adults.

Agenda Item Number C. further discussion on new sewer rates set by Ordinance 020-019 and Louisville Water's cost to implement into their billing system and/or whether it should be repealed or not. So, Arthur, I guess Water Company is waiting on us, or are we waiting on them. City Engineer Arthur Jones: Right now she's (Tonya Taylor, Louisville Water Company) asked if we want to move forward with the conversion or if we want them to continue our billing as they are then that price we spoke about at the last meeting is applicable. What's the Council's thoughts? Q—Stephanie, how long would it be before we could do the billing ourselves? I think at the moment we need to come up with an agreement with Louisville Water on how to get the information here. How we are going to cut off and turn back on. We would have to hire another person in the office, we have got to get the software quoted and people trained on it. We are talking about a lot of time; it is not going to be a quick conversion. Council Comment--We can prioritize this in my opinion. We just hired a new clerk so put her up front. This takes precedent in my opinion over anything else. City Clerk Richmond: When we implemented Property Taxes, she was going up front, I have to find a place for Louisville Water, which I think I have done. But if you all want the utilities to be billed first that is fine with me, we can let the Sheriff's Department continue to do what they are doing. That is what I am saying, if we had to let the Sheriff bill for another year, then that is fine. We've got to set another meeting to get a Memorandum of Understanding on what they're going to charge us for the information, how we're going to get the information here, how we're going to print it, mail it, what our software can do, get the girls trained on it. I need another cash drawer. We are in discussions right now where to put Louisville Water, but I told them I wanted it done by the end of the year. They are planning on coming out next week to look at where the water is going; and see what configurations they have to have to move. So do we have a memorandum of understanding? Yes. Did we have them sign a lease for \$600 a month for one year? 10 years? They should have a contract with the City. I do not know that it had an ending because we were under the impression we were never going to do utilities again. We have not billed sewers since 2003 when the merger took place. Well, they wanted to raise the citizens billing because they had not kept up over the years. So, are we saying that over the years we have not kept up with raising their rent as well? And having the contract, I do not think there was any other plan. Can we get a copy of that document for all the Council to look at? So, looks like

now we will work on the sewer billing along to get implemented. Lisa Carter made motion to amend the Sewer Budget \$49,570 for software purchase to do utility and tax billing. Kenny Newton 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

Further discussion followed on the Conestoga/Adam Shepherd road project. We put the roundabout information on the website and Facebook page. Bonnie Enlow: I have gotten out; a lot of people have asked a lot of questions. The comments on Facebook are a mixture of both in favor and against, but we do not know where from. So, I cannot really trust that number. We really do not know who is from the City and who is not. I think I agree with Tom LaFollette when he said people are afraid of it. The first time I went through one it freaked me out because I did not know what to do. We can keep educating. I have debated back and forth. Yes, no, but I just started talking to a lot of people about other options. The unfortunate thing is when it was first put in that was poor planning on the part of the builders. They did not think about the 20 years later and when we were going to have all this traffic. I honestly found no solution. That is what I have asked so many people, and they told me what their solutions were, and I would show them why they would not work. So, I am ready to make a motion to put the roundabout in. Deb Huffman 2<sup>nd</sup>. Stacey Cline: I am against it. I am back and forth on it. It is a question of whether either do it or deal with traffic. And that's kind of like where we are at with it. Lisa Carter: I have talked to several people that live in Fairdale and they say all they have is wreck after wreck. A light in Fairdale would probably been better there. But I am just not for it. Why can't we take baby steps to get the medians removed off of 44 to get traffic into those medians? And possibly do some restriping? Two million dollars is what a lot of people want to spend on a roundabout that may or may not work. I would like to see baby steps and try to correct it. I have talked to several people and nobody wants it. I have not had one person that wants it. I have been around the roundabout in Bardstown numerous times, and I have never had any issues. But I will tell you sitting on this Council for a long time this is the one thing that I have heard people be very vocal about. And I really think we need to think about it before we do it. Because as a citizen and being on this Council, there is a lot of people that do not want it. This is something we need to think about. I cannot vote for it. I think we need to table it and get more people educated about it. So I would like to table it. City Attorney Tammy Baker: We have a motion and second on the floor. If you want to table it Deb and Bonnie will have to rescind their motions. They both rescinded their motion. Mayor Hockenbury: We canceled the meeting we had scheduled for public discussion on November 4<sup>th</sup> due to COVID. I definitely think we need to have a meeting. I want to bring it back up sometime in January so we will need a motion to table. Stacey Cline made motion to table and hold a Public Meeting after the first of the year. Lisa Carter 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

City Engineer Arthur Jones addressed the Council again on the list of items the Sewer Department would like to surplus. He asked Councilman Kenny Newton what he thought the minimum bid should be changed to on the CAT 330C excavator w/hoe ram, extra bucket, shoring box, concrete curb marker. Councilman Newton stated he thought \$55,000 was a good price because of the time is low and the number of items included with it. City Engineer Jones stated he would make the change. Lisa Carter made motion to surplus items on list. Stacey Cline 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

These two items will remain on the Agenda until they are completed. 1. Remove \$100,000 from Sewer Budget Line Item 7031, Office Updates and 2. Move Line Item 5773, MS4 Contracting Services out of the Sewer Budget and place in Public Works Budget. (*Will be completed when Audit is finalized.*)

Mayor Hockenbury stated he had spoken with Bob Akin today and he said he has not yet talked to Lisa, Kenny, and Stacey. His wife had surgery and he has been unavailable but will contact them this week. (*Must be brought off table to discuss.*)

**Planning & Zoning Update** None

**Board of Adjustments Update** None

**SIGN IN SPEAKERS** None

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS** None

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Bonnie Enlow: A question on our computers that we got. If we have passwords on our computers which is good; but we also need to supply Tammy with a copy of the password. I just think that we should give her a copy. Also, I want to wish everybody a happy Thanksgiving. When pilgrims came over years ago, they were here they were coming to be Christians here in this Country. This started this whole Country of Christianity. This was them. And Thanksgiving is not just thankful for this Country but thankful for everything that God has done for us each and every day. So, when we are with our families or what family we are allowed to this time remember thank God for everything that we have. Next, I have a letter to read expressing a "Vote of No Confidence" in the Mayor and his ability to run our city.

Stacey Cline: I would like to thank Ray Page. I am not sure if anyone knows this, but we had several complaints on a house. Somebody contacted me that wanted to help this elderly man clean up his property. So, there are good people out there. The four gentlemen got his property cleaned up, and worked with us and I would like to thank him for doing that because a lot of times people don't have the money or the patience or the time, and a neighbor reached out to him and they contacted me and I worked with Ray and I really appreciate it because this man needed it. And his house looks a lot better; the church that worked with him cleaned it and done a lot of work for this gentleman Appreciate that a lot.

Lisa Carter: Asked Chief McCubbin if he had heard anything on his new vehicles. Chief McCubbin stated they are still probably a month out. I have not heard anything on delivery. Ms. Carter: I just wanted to check on that roadway at the end of Conestoga. You go down the hill, back up the hill and down the hill that road before you get on Preston. Does that belong to the City? There are mattresses there that need to be picked up. Comment: The road belongs to the County.

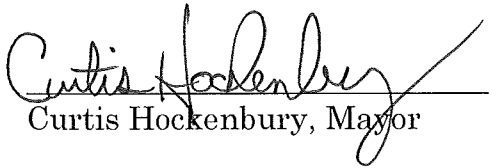
Deb Huffman: I would also like to wish everybody Happy Thanksgiving and please be safe. And you know, be careful out there.

Kenny Newton: I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Hockenbury: December 28<sup>th</sup> is the last meeting of the year. I would like to cancel that meeting and have the new Council Swearing In Ceremony at 6:30 that night. Judge Burrell has agreed to do the oath. Deb Huffman made motion to cancel the December 28<sup>th</sup> meeting and have the Swearing In Ceremony. Lisa Carter 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

**ADJOURN**

Kenny Newton made motion to adjourn. Lisa Carter 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

  
Curtis Hockenbury, Mayor

  
Tammy Richmond, City Clerk