

REGULAR MEETING
Litchfield City Council - City Council Room
September 15, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.
FREE PHONE CONFERENCE CALL

Mayor O.R. Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present – Mayor Smith, Councilpersons – Don Bannick, Rick Siebert, Dan Efstathiou, Kevin Collins and Jessica Bills.

Absent: None: Andy Reynolds

Also Present – City Manager - Douglas Terry, Treasurer/Finance Director - Jill Barrett, Clerk – Susan Ballinger, Police Chief –Dan Roberts, DPW Supervisor- Tony Langhann, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – Lauren Skelly.

Consent Agenda – Councilman Siebert moved to approve the consent agenda and place on file, seconded by Councilwoman Bills. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea’s 0 Nay’s 1 Absent Motion carried.

Call to the Public – None

Waste Water Permit Testing Proposals – After discussion amongst the board, Councilman Bannick moved to approve the quote from Keck Consulting Services for Data Analysis and Preparation of Final Report for an amount of \$700.00, supported by Councilman Collins. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea’s 0 Nay’s 1 Absent Motion carried.

Concerts in the Park (Ken & Teresa Bonifield) – After discussion amongst the board, Councilman Bannick moved to allow 3 to 4 concerts in the park without funding contributions from the city and all in attendance must follow state guidelines for social distancing and masks, support by Mayor, Smith. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea’s 0 Nay’s 1 Absent Motion carried.

Update Michigan Department of Treasury Grants (CRLGG Program & CRF)– Jill Barrett -Treasurer Barrett updated the board members on the new grant procedures/process and after a lengthy discussion amongst the board Treasurer Barrett asked the board to approve the city administration to accept the grant and move forward with recouping city Covid-19 expenses as allowed per state guidelines. Councilman Collins moved to accept the Coronavirus Relief Local Government Grant and authorizes the manager to sign the grant certification, support by Council Bannick. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea’s 0 Nay’s 1 Absent Motion carried.

Bills for Approval – Councilman Bannick moved to approve the bills in amount of \$134,616.62 and charge to the proper accounts, supported by Councilwoman Bills. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea’s 0 Nay’s 1 Absent Motion carried.

Police Report – Councilman Siebert moved to approve the police report as presented and place on file, supported by Councilman Collins. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea’s 0 Nay’s 1 Absent Motion carried.

Public Works Report – Councilman Siebert moved to accept the public works report as presented and place on file, supported by Councilman Collins. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea’s 1 Nay’s 0 Absent Motion carried.

Treasurers Update –Treasurer Barrett informed the board that tax bills due date was Monday and she only has a few personal property taxes still to collect. Treasurer Barrett stated she is still working on closing the books and she can’t finish that process until the end of this month when she finds out what the state is doing on the funding on expenses that where applied for in a grant for last year.

City Manager's Update – Manager Terry informed board members that Highway Maintenance has finished with their chip and seal. Tony and his staff have been working with a professional tree trimmer the city has some trees that need taken down. Manager Terry stated that the majority of his time has been sent on TIFA issues.

Correspondence – Treasurer Barrett stated that it's just informational for now, but the county will be required to be designating an assessor as the county designated assessor. The city could use the county assessor if the board chooses or we can continue doing what we are doing. It's just information at this time and if the board had any comments about the agreement because all units of government will be asked to sign, now would be the time to ask your questions. Signing the document will not require the city to make payments for their service.

Committee Reports – None

Councilpersons Concerns – Councilman Siebert asked about an in-person council meeting and when the city can have one. Manager Terry stated that are region is only allowed for 10 people for indoor meetings and the only way we could meet would be to have board members, manager, treasurer and city clerk inside everyone else would have to call in. Councilman Siebert asked about dogs in the city and is the police department able to address the issue. Chief Roberts stated yes, but a lot of the dogs are coming from outside city limits.

Adjournment – Councilman Bannick moved to adjourn at 7:40 p.m., supported by Councilman Siebert.
Roll Call Vote: 6 Yea's 0 Nay's 1 Absent Motion carried.