

**HARRIS CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, July 10, 2023**

- I. **Call to Order:** Mayor Carlson called the meeting to order at 7 pm.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Roll Call:** City Clerk Shannon Geier conducted roll call. Present were Mayor Randy Carlson, Councilmember Diane Miller, Councilmember David Maack, Councilmember Al Siedow, and Councilmember Garret Pearson. City Clerk Geier announced a quorum is present.
- IV. **Consent Agenda:** Siedow made a motion to approve the June 12 Regular Meeting Minutes and Accounts Payable. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Public Comment:** Shari Denny was present to offer a donation of ten road closed barricades to the City of Harris. Pearson made a motion to accept the donation. Siedow seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. See Resolution 2023-20 to accept donation.
- VI. **Regular Agenda:**
  - A. **Fire Department** – Fire Chief Drew Chapeau was present to advise the Council that the water ball fight during Harris Days may not happen because they were not able to locate a “safe spot” to hold the event. It must be on pavement and without any overhead electric lines. Chapeau also reported that the Fire Dept was awarded a FEMA grant for their Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). A 5% match of \$9,491.96 is required. According to the estimates they received for a new SCBA system, funding will still be \$29,000 short, that includes 17 SCBA and 24 masks, one fill station and one compressor. The new SCBA has a 15-year life cycle, and the old fill station will be used as a portable unit for Rescue. Last year’s FEMA grant application for a fire truck was denied. Lastly, a resignation was received from Beau Mysliwec. Siedow made a motion to accept the resignation. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
  - B. **Harris Club** – City clean-up day is scheduled for Wednesday, July 26 at 6 pm.
  - C. **2023-04 Interim Adult Cannabis Ordinance** – Miller made a motion to approve Interim Ordinance 2023-04, an interim ordinance providing for acceptance or consideration of applications for new adult-use cannabis businesses which include cannabis microbusiness with retail operation endorsement, cannabis mezzobusiness with retail operation endorsement, cannabis retailer, medical cannabis retailer, and lower-potency hemp edible retailer. Carlson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
  - D. **Trailer on Johnson Property** – Siedow made a motion to accept the bid from Gustafson Excavating to remove and dispose of the trailer at a cost of \$3,800.

Miller expressed a concern of accepting a bid that was not the lowest price. Siedow felt that Gustafson should be awarded the bid because they do business in the City of Harris. The motion died for lack of a second. Pearson made a motion to accept the low bid of \$3,675 from LeRoux Companies as well as requiring the property owner to clean-up any remaining debris by September 1. Maack seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-1, Siedow opposed. Miller abstained as the property owner is a family member.

- E. **Old PW Mower** – Siedow made a motion to sell the old mower to David Maack for \$100. Pearson seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0, Maack and Miller abstained.
- F. **Review of PW Job description** – Sample public works job descriptions including worker, foreman, director, utility lead worker, and water system intern were provided for Council to review. A discussion ensued as to what position is currently needed. Carlson believes Harris should replace PeopleService with City employees to handle the water and sewer systems. Miller and Maack expressed concerns that Harris is in immediate need of a maintenance worker. Carlson asked that an employment ad for public works include the requirement of CI B Wastewater and CI C Water licenses to see if possible to find a qualified applicant. It would be a full-time position with a salary range of \$80,000 to \$90,000 and benefits negotiable. Siedow made a motion to place a help wanted ad. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- G. **Update on Sale of PID 14.00387.00** – City Clerk Geier, with the assistance of City Attorney Alliegro, provided the forms necessary to move forward with the sale of Property ID #14.00387.00. Also presented were two resolutions requiring Council approval. Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-19, a resolution authorizing the sale of City owned property and dispensing with review of the sale by the Harris Planning Commission. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-18, a resolution authorizing the sale of City owned property to John and Renee Quigly by Quit Claim Deed for the sum of \$400 plus all costs associated with conveyance of the property. Siedow seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- H. **Update on Windows at Legion** – Quotes will be provided at the next Council meeting.
- I. **Road sign update** – City Clerk, Geier and Mayor will work together to order missing signs that need to be ordered.
- J. **Repair electric outlet on streetlight poles** – Carlson made a motion to table. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Geier will contact ECE to see if they will repair the outlets.

- K. **Electric to Railroad Park** – Informal estimate received of \$1,000 for electric box and \$500 annual cost plus the expense of boring under the railroad. The Council felt the cost was too high to justify.
- L. **Moratorium for Mineral Extraction** – Miller made a motion to approve the moratorium as presented and Maack seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- M. **Lead and Copper inventory from MSA for GIS for MDH PWS** – MSA provided an estimate of \$3,500 to add a GIS layer for the lead and copper services inventory. Carlson suggested \$5,000 be added to the 2024 budget for updating the GIS with a lead service line layer and a curb stop layer.
- N. **Adopt HUD-Drug-Free Workplace Certification, the Fair Housing Action Plan, Residential Anti-Displacement Plan, Section 3 Plan, Prohibition of Excessive Force Policy**  
Carlson made a motion to approve the following:
- Certification for a Drug-Free Workplace
  - Fair Housing Plan of Action
  - Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan
  - Section 3 Plan
  - Policy for The Excessive Force Provision
- Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- O. **K’Nyaw Baptist Church Sewer/Water** – The Church is requesting hook-up to City sewer and water. Siedow made a motion to table until more information on specs and costs are received. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- P. **Pond 3 development** – Al Siedow, Chairman of the Park & Rec Committee, discussed the possibility of converting the southern most pond of the decommissioned sewer ponds into an entertainment venue. The Council consensus was to provide a proposal with estimates for consideration.
- Q. **Invoice for crack sealing on Ginger** – Siedow made a motion to approve payment of \$2,200 to Prefer Paving for crack sealing and patching Ginger Ave. Miller seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- R. **Old Antique Shop Clean-up** – The property was partially cleaned-up but more needs to be done. Council directed staff to send letter requesting that the remaining debris be removed by July 19 and move forward with process. Big Daddy’s will also be notified to complete their clean-up.

VII. **Staff/Department Reports:**

- A. **Public Works** – Written report.
- B. **Parks and Rec** - Written report.

- C. **Planning Commission** - Written report.
- D. **PeopleService Report** - Written report.
- E. **Clerk’s report** - Written report.
- F. **Treasurer’s report** - Written report. Action item: request action from the Council to implement raises and adjustments as proposed and approved in the 2023 budget for City of Harris staff, not including Fire Dept since these were addressed and approved at a previous meeting. Siedow made a motion to approve the proposed raises and adjustments for 2023. Miller seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Also discussed was the issue of funding Fire Dept recognition/awards dinners and dress uniforms. The City needs to establish formal policies that include all employees and meet State Auditor guidelines.
- G. **Mayor and Council Reports** – None.

VIII. **Adjourn:** Siedow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. There being no further business, Mayor Carlson adjourned the meeting at 9:17 pm.

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 City Clerk – Shannon Geier

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 Randy Carlson - Mayor

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 Date Approved

