

CITY OF IVANHOE

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

April 18th, 2020

2:00 PM

Special meeting was called to order by Mayor Bennett at 2:00 PM. Quorum established with all Council members except Councilman Herrington present. There were no audience members in attendance.

Communications from the audience

Mayor Bennett noted that the audio recording will be available for anyone interested since the meeting was not being broadcast on Facebook due to lack of appropriate equipment (a matter to be addressed during the meeting under agenda item #3).

Agenda Item #1 – Authorization of checking account and signatories

Councilman Vonderlin made the motion to open a checking account for the bond street work and approve Mayor Bennett to set up the account. Councilman Warren provided the second and the motion passed unanimously. Councilman Morris then made the motion to authorize all Council members as signatories on the account (Mayor-Cathy Bennett, Mayor Pro-tem Tommy Morris, Council Members-Chuck Vonderlin, Will Warren, David Herrington and Skip Blackstone). Councilman Blackstone submitted the second and the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Bennett explained the purpose of the account is to allow checks to be written as a record of all expenditures of bond funds expended on street work.

Agenda Item #2 – Bond street work bids process update

Mayor Bennett informed Council that both standard paper bids and electronic bids will be accepted up to the April 23rd deadline for the bond financed work on Chanticleer and Charmaine South. The engineer with LJA will be at City Hall for the public bid opening and reading. The engineer will then take about a week to review and qualify the bids with the review committee of Councilman Morris, Councilman Herrington, herself and Public Works Supervisor David Marshall and provide a recommendation to Council. In order to expedite the process to award the contract and get construction started as quickly as possible the Mayor called a special meeting of Council for April 30th at 6:30 PM.

Agenda Item #3 – Equipment needs for broadcasting Council meetings on-line

Mayor Bennett turned the floor to Councilman Blackstone for a report on his meeting with Rarity Communications on the equipment needed to meet the requirements of the open meetings act as a result of the social distancing requirements and limitation on gatherings of more than 10 people in a room. Councilman Blackstone noted that he has considerable experience with commercial video. He expressed thanks to Mr. Vance Townsend with Rarity Communications for putting together a quote of quality equipment for a reasonable price. He also expressed thanks to Mr. Brandon Yarbrough for setting up his own equipment volunteering his time for the previous Council meetings that were streamed live on Facebook, and then taking down his personal equipment after the meetings. The equipment bid is \$3,495 for an all in one broadcast suite (Computer, monitor, and software) and \$1416 for a professional grade camera and accessories. The total comes to \$4911. Mayor Bennett noted that Council had authorized to spend up to \$5500 for the equipment during the April 9th Council meeting. There was discussion of how the system would be set up and rearranging the Council meeting space for broadcasting the meetings. Councilman Blackstone explained the camera/camcorder system can be used independently of the on-line broadcasting, which means city events outside of the Civic Hall can be recorded. Councilman Warren observed that the quality of the video is a major concern and that battery power may run down during a broadcast as occurred during a previous council meeting broadcast. Members of the Council expressed amazement at the number of individuals who have viewed the previous on-line meetings as well as those who watched in real time on Facebook. The agenda item was information only, no additional action was taken by Council.

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Agenda Item #4 – Adjourn

Councilman Warren made the motion to adjourn with a second by Councilman Vonderlin and the meeting was concluded at 2:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

C. D. Woodrome, City Secretary