

City of Blooming Grove  
Council Minutes  
12-2-24

The City Council of the City of Blooming Grove held a regular called meeting on Monday, December 2, 2024 at City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Mayor Ashley Mahone.

Members present were Mayor Ashley Mahone, Council Members Bill Carroll, Renee Watson, James Jones, Haley Ehly, Sarah Southard, Interim City Secretary Deena Smith, Police Chief T.C. Lawhon and Utility Superintendent Rory Evans and Assistant Utility Superintendent Chris Bird.

Minutes-

Renee Watson made a motion and Haley Ehly seconded to approve the minutes of the November meetings. Motion carried.

Visitors-

Kent & Marlene Ferrell and Chad Marshall.

Open Forum-

There were no speakers during the Open Forum.

Department Reports-

Administration-

The Interim City Secretary Deena Smith said there was not much to report. She stated that water bills were mailed out today and everything was running smoothly.

Public Safety-

Police Chief T.C. Lawhon reported that he is trying to make contact with a resident that lives in the Lions Club Apartments because there have been several complaints about a dog there. He said the First Annual Turkey Trott went well. He spoke with Jessica Davis about preparing for the upcoming Christmas Parade.

Public Works-

Water Superintendent Rory Evans said the city had two sewage pumps go down, one being at the sewer plant and one on Clark Street. He told the council that there was not much difference in price for repairing them or buying a new one. He stated that we need to just buy two new ones.

New Business-

Bill Carroll made a motion and Renee Watson seconded to approve the city to pay for the BGVFD graphics on the city engine with a price not to exceed \$2, 650.00. Motion carried.

Renee Watson made a motion and Sarah Southard seconded to approve a \$200.00 a month fee for fire hydrant meters and add this to the current ordinance. Motion Carried.

Renee Watson made a motion and Haley Ehly seconded to approve amending the Personnel Handbook to remove the Part Time II position from the Employee Handbook.

#### Discussion Items-

Mayor Ashley Mahone updated the Council about the Blooming Grove Housing Authority Board. Robert Phipps is currently on the board and we will extend his for two years and Hardy Watson agreed to serve for two years. She stated that she has to appoint one more person that actually lives in the apartments and that will be done by the end of the month.

Mayor Ashley Mahone stated that Haley Ehly wanted to put on the agenda about an update on a time frame for having the Tahoe SUV striped. Police Chief T.C. Lawhon said that it has not been priority for him. He stated that this is not a state law. Haley Ehly said she felt it was sense of pride for the city and would like to this done.

Mayor Ashley Mahone updated the council about general liability insurance for the building inspector. She stated that John Conger is checking on rates and that she is checking with TML Legal on options the city has. She stated that we could hire him as contract labor and add the insurance to his rate.

Mayor Ashley Mahone updated the council on the email sent to the City Attorney about the patio at the café'. She told the council that she and Interim City Secretary Deena Smith received two different responses from TML Legal and that we were waiting on the City Attorney to respond to our email.

Mayor Ashley Mahone said that she emailed TML Legal about forming a Beautification Committee that works hand and hand with the city to do some fundraising and TML said that we could and she will be working on getting bylaws for this.

Ashley said that the Christmas Parade line up will be at the school at 5:00 p.m. on December 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be vendors at the BG 101 Room and at the park and food trucks.

#### Executive Session-

Mayor Mahone called the Council into Executive Session to discuss the City Secretary position at 7:20 p.m. The mayor called the Council back into open session at 7:32 p.m.

#### Open Session-

Haley Ehly made a motion and Renee Watson seconded to accept Carrie Sweeney's offer for the City Secretary position from \$25.00 an hour to \$29.00 an hour with benefits. Motion carried.

Haley Ehly made a motion and Renee Watson seconded to adjourn. Motion Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

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Mayor Ashley Mahone

Attest:

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Interim City Secretary Deena Smith