



Minutes of the December 2nd, 2024 City Council Meeting

Unofficial meeting minutes until approved by Council

The regular meeting of the Robins City Council was called to order at 7:00p.m. on Monday, December 2nd, 2024 at Robins City Hall, 265 S. 2nd St by Mayor Chuck Hinz. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken with the following members present: Councilor Leigh Cook, Councilor Dave Franzman, Councilor Cary Smith and Councilor JD Smith. Councilor Mike Foley joined via telephone. Also present were City Clerk Lisa Goodin, City Attorney Doug Herman, Police Chief Andy Humphrey, and Fire Chief Keith Feldkamp.

J. Smith moved to approve the agenda, Franzman seconded and all voted aye.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Hinz reported that the first snowfall of the season led to 41 traffic incidents reported in Cedar Rapids and that Robins Streets Department staff were able to respond quickly to the unexpected snowfall by sanding/salting intersections and hills.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

PUBLIC SAFETY: Foley reported that the Fire Department had an average number of calls for the month of November, and is gearing up for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting event on December 8th and Santa's Firetruck tour of Robins later in the month. Foley further reported that the Police Department was very busy in November. PD swore in one new Officer, Will Wagner and one Reserve Officer, Larry Joens. Officer Time Payne also submitted his resignation, effective December 15th, 2024.

STREETS: C. Smith that the Streets Department is expecting to take delivery of the new plow truck in the coming week. The E. Main St. crosswalks are scheduled to be painted in the spring of 2025. City Engineer Kelli Smith will report on the results of the W. Main core sampling at the December 16th meeting.

FINANCE: Cook reported that the budget looks good and on track, five months into the fiscal year.

PARKS: Franzman reported that he had been contacted about the installation of a memorial bench in Robins and questioned the need to develop a policy regarding the installation of memorials in Robins. Herman commented on potential need for a policy to establish uniform requirements for such installations.

PUBLIC WORKS: J. Smith reported that the sink holes within the SE Trunk Sewer project limits have been filled and will be monitored for settling to determine their cause.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS: None presented

CITIZENS' COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Greg Neumeyer, 1685 Mackenzie. Mr. Neumeyer provided an update from REDI, stating that a lot of progress has been made on Robins Landing and that he anticipates a large increase in property tax revenue to be generated by the development.

CONSENT AGENDA:

D. Franzman moved to approve the Consent Agenda, which contained the Minutes of the November 18th City Council meeting and the List of Bills Submitted. Cook seconded and all voted aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Presentation of the 2024 AFR – Goodin commented that she would make time to answer Council members' specific questions regarding this filing, given time to research and confer with Teresa Rotschafer, who prepared the report.
- b. Presentation of the 2024 SFR – Goodin commented that the error, an omitted decimal point on the Streets Projects page, has been corrected.
- c. **Resolution No. 1224-1, Approving Alcohol Permit Application for Otter Creek Country Store** Cook moved to approve the Resolution; J. Smith seconded. Roll call votes were as follows: Foley – aye, C. Smith – aye, Cook – aye, Franzman – aye, J. Smith – aye.
- d. **Motion to Approve the City Engineer Job Description** J. Smith moved to approve the job description, Franzman seconded and all votes were aye.
- e. **Resolution No. 1224-2 to Hire Kelli Scott for the Position of City Engineer** Franzman questioned whether the City would continue to contract with Snyder & Associates, Hinz confirmed that the City would continue to work with Snyder & Associates on large projects. S. Smith moved to approve the Resolution; C.

Smith seconded. Roll call votes were as follows: Cook – aye, Franzman – aye, J. Smith – aye, Foley – aye, C. Smith – aye.

- f. **Resolution No. 1224-3 Approving the Sale of the 2013 International Plow Truck to the City of Keystone, IA** Cook moved to approve the Resolution; J. Smith seconded. Roll Call votes were as follows: Franzman – aye, J. Smith – aye, Foley – aye, C. Smith – aye, Cook – aye.
- g. **Accept the resignation of Dean Helander as Planning & Zoning Administrator** Mayor Hinz reported that Helander had agreed to a transition period through January 2025. Franzman moved to accept the resignation, Foley seconded and all votes were aye.
- h. **Discussion Relating to the Inclusion of Citizen Comments at City Council Meetings** Hinz provided background on the issue noting Foley’s request that comments be allowed at all City Council meetings. Franzman stipulated that comments should be heard at all Regular City Council meetings; special meetings and work sessions excepted. Herman noted that the City of Marion has very detailed regulations regarding public comment in response to “First Amendment Auditors” who create public disturbances. Herman proposed adopting similar regulations/guidelines.

ADJOURN: J. Smith moved to adjourn at 7:30 p.m., Franzman seconded and all voted aye.

Chuck Hinz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer