



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD JANUARY 18, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM via remote session by Mayor Dean with council members Dawn Hanafin, Rick Kline, Kyle Merkle, Brad Poindexter, Kelly Lay, Ron Legner, Matt Steffen and Greg Steffen present at roll call.

Staff members present were Chief Williamson, Sergeant Wilkins, Scott Bryant, Perry Mayer, Dan Lush, Samantha Walley and Vicki Moreland. Also present were Sue Bratcher, Joe Poindexter and Keith Moran.

Included on the consent agenda were meeting minutes from January 4, 2021, Invoices from January 18, 2021 in the amount of \$94,309.48, and payroll for the period ending January 15, 2021 in the amount of \$45,262.36. Motion was made by Kyle and seconded by Matt for approval of the consent agenda. Roll call: Dawn Hanafin-yes, Rick Kline-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Brad Poindexter-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Matt Steffen-yes, Greg Steffen-yes. Motion carried 8 yeas, 0 nays.

Dan reported on the status of brush chipping from the ice storm and reported that they had been out plowing and salting streets as needed.

Perry stated that the engineers had contacted the IEPA regarding the permitting process for the new water plant. He stated that the holdup was on the IEPA end, but they were optimistic on going forward with the project soon. Perry also reported that the softener rehabilitation project was waiting on reports from the lab regarding sampling and would then be moving forward.

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Joe Poindexter was present to answer questions from the council regarding his request to buy 3.5 acres of the City-owned farm (PIN 30-28-100-004) for commercial/industrial use. Rick expressed concern that the portion of land that would be left to the North would be hard to market. Joe expressed interest in purchasing that section in the future. Ron expressed that he was receptive to the idea but would like to see more detail and a site plan. Joe had asked for the City's help with initial costs of purchasing and developing the parcel. Dawn stated that she would like to see an approximate cost of what Joe was asking from the City. Greg asked if the expenses would fall within the guidelines to be eligible for Business District funds. Greg asked about adding the stipulation that in 5 years Joe would have to purchase the North portion. Rick stated that if that requirement was added there should also be the addition for Joe to have the right of 1<sup>st</sup> refusal. Motion was made by Rick and seconded by Kelly to table the motion until they received more information and continue discussion at the February 1 meeting. Roll call: Dawn Hanafin-yes, Rick Kline-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Brad Poindexter-abstain, Kelly Lay-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Matt Steffen-yes, Greg Steffen-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstain.

Council entered discussion regarding initiation of statutory process to implement a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District within the City of Le Roy. Rick stated that there was leg work to do before the council could vote on anything. Rick stated that they need a plan and get the taxing bodies on board. Motion was made by Rick as Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, to call a meeting of the taxing bodies to discuss implementation of a TIF district. Roll call: Dawn Hanafin-yes, Rick Kline-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Brad Poindexter-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Matt Steffen-yes, Greg Steffen-yes. Motion carried 8 yeas, 0 nays.

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The Council entered discussion regarding selection of advertising firm to begin production of retail/commercial marketing for City of Le Roy. Rick stated that the City was not ready to move forward at this time, just wanted numbers and information regarding costs. Keith Moran from Moran Economic Development was present and stated that his company was not a real estate firm, but has worked with various companies to identify sights to locate. He stated that he could help organize economic development programs and promotional documents. Rick suggested that an Economic Development Committee meeting should be called to include Keith.

Motion was made by Rick and seconded by Kelly for approval of the Amendment of City of Le Roy Personnel Policy manual, specifically Article E, Section 1 (changes in schedule) with stated changes. Roll call: Dawn Hanafin-yes, Rick Kline-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Brad Poindexter-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Matt Steffen-yes, Greg Steffen-yes. Motion carried 8 yeas, 0 nays.

After Council discussion, motion was made by Greg and seconded by Rick for approval of the Le Roy Police Department patrol vehicle purchase of the 2021 Ford SUV from Hutch's in the amount of \$34,810 to include upfitting from EVT in the amount of \$10,051. Roll call: Dawn Hanafin-yes, Rick Kline-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Brad Poindexter-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Matt Steffen-yes, Greg Steffen-yes. Motion carried 8 yeas, 0 nays.

In Old and New Business Dawn asked about adding City owned properties to Zillow, including the farm property, 607 N. Allen Street and the City-owned parcel in the 100 Block of North Chestnut Street. Sam stated that the North Chestnut Street property would need to be appraised to know the selling price.

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Kelly inquired about updates from the school construction project regarding engineering. Sam stated that she had asked for the information in December and would follow up. Greg stated that he felt they were being mindful of the water shed problem and will be aggressive on directing runoff where it needs to go. Kelly stated that the ditch work that was completed on Meadow Lane had been helpful.

Kelly asked if there were any updates on the dog park. Mayor Dean stated that the approval of the second plan was in the Attorney General's hands and was hopeful the City would get approval soon.

Mayor Dean complimented the Street Department on their work regarding brush and landscape pickup.

Motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Greg to adjourn the regular council meeting at 7:46 PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.



Vicki Moreland  
City Clerk,  
City of Le Roy