

Important Notice

This meeting will be held with Council Members and the Mayor In attendance at the El Paso City Hall at 125 W Front Street. The meeting will be available for your viewing and listening at home via the Internet through the ZOOM application or phone. To use this application, you will need to install ZOOM to your electronic device. The below access code and/or link can be used by anyone in the public to access the meeting in ZOOM. If you would like an official invite or have access questions, you may e-mail your request to cityhall@elpasoil.org by 4:30 PM on Monday to enable us to send you a meeting Invitation.

Pursuant to law, a small amount of public can also still attend the meeting in person at El Paso City Hall. The Governor of Illinois Executive Order for size of groups and social distancing will still be enforced. We would encourage anyone wanting to attend the meeting, to do so electronically. If you are having issues or have questions, please contact us at the number below, prior to the meeting. (309) 527-4005

A Regular Meeting of the El Paso City Council was called to order by Mayor J.W. Price on March 1, 2021 at 7:30 PM.

Council Members Present: Brucker, Moore, Staulcup, Barker, Kearney and Kilpatrick. Absent: None. The Mayor reported the meeting is being recorded.

Present in Person: Director of Public Services Barry Kauther, Treasurer Linda Haas, Attorney James Stoller, Clerk Fever, Maureen Drake, Ty Newark and Kim Kearney as the local press.

Also present by Zoom Application: Administrative Assistant Sandee Kessinger, Public Works Supervisor Casey Jones and Recreation Director Colton Scott. Others names from zoom software Karen, Lisa Hocker, Topsy's Bar and I-phone.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag was recited.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Kearney, seconded by Kilpatrick to approve agenda with two corrections changing Utilities Committee to Water & Sewer Committee. Roll call vote taken of all ayes.

Consent Agenda.

Council Minutes: The minutes of the February 1, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting were presented in written form.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report for the month ending January 31, 2021 showing investments, revenue and expenses was presented in written form.

Register of Bills: The Register of Bills in the amount of \$ 82,975.74 as of February 12th and another in the amount of \$ 43,848.11 as of March 1st were presented.

Judiciary Committee Minutes: The minutes of the February 1, 2021 Judiciary Committee Meeting were presented in written form.

Water & Sewer Committee Minutes: The minutes of the February 1, 2021 Water & Sewer Committee Meeting were presented in written form.

Zoning Board Minutes: The minutes of the February 18, 2021 Zoning Board Meeting were presented in written form.

Audit Committee Minutes: The minutes of the February 18, 2021 Audit Committee Meeting were presented in written form.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion by Brucker, seconded by Kearney to approve items on consent agenda as presented. Roll call vote taken of all ayes.

Public Comments: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Water & Sewer Recommendations: Motion by Brucker, seconded by Kearney to approve the recommendations of Water & Sewer Committee on requirements and cost of installing water and sewer services. Roll call vote taken of all ayes.

Zoning Board Appointments: Mayor Price appointed Ken Faulk and Maureen Drake to vacant positions on the Zoning Board. Motion by Brucker, seconded by Kilpatrick to approve the Mayor's appointments. Roll call vote taken of all ayes.

Clerk Fever then swore Maureen Drake to the Zoning Board.

Insurance Bills: Motion by Kearney, seconded by Moore to authorize payment of monthly insurance bills when due even if prior to inclusion on Bills Payable, and then include for approval after the fact. Roll call vote taken of all ayes.

Zoning Board Variance: After much discussion concerning an approved variance from the Zoning Board concerning 196 S. Elm Street the following motion was made: Motion by Brucker, seconded by Moore to send back to Zoning Board for additional review. Roll call vote taken of all ayes

Zoning Board Variance, 670 N Pine Street: Motion by Brucker, seconded by Barker to approve a rear yard setback for 670 N Pine Street. Roll call vote taken of all ayes.

Ty Nowark was present and spoke of his desire to possibly install stairs to the basement or an ADA ramp on the east side of The Legacy Building. The Council ask a few questions and in theory agreed pending final plans.

Annual Financial Audit: Motion by Kearney, seconded by Kilpatrick to accept the Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Ending April 30, 2021. Roll call vote taken of all ayes.

Director of Public Service: Barry reported he is working on budget, council room updates, cell phone bills, Front Street sidewalk, and the bird watchers want to come back to sewer lagoon. He also spoke of Ameren Station proposed expansion and that Ace Hardware is opening at 17 Westgate Drive. Training for the new council in May is available by Miller and Tiggs.

Mayor's Report: The Mayor reported on his meeting with the Corn Festival Committee and he supports creating of a Dog Park,

City Council Comments: Alderman Kearney ask about moving curb in a foot on Front Street Sidewalk and Water Projects.

Police Chief Report: Chief was not present.

Operations Supervisor: Casey spoke of snow and ice removal. He reported Clean Up Day this spring will be 1st Saturday of June again at South Pointe Park.

Parks and Recreation Department: Colton reported they are getting a lot of registrations for programs including spring soccer. He also has part time employees picking up sticks preparing for several park projects proposed for this summer.

Clerk's Report: Nothing additional to report.

Attorney Stoller had nothing additional to report.

Executive Session: Motion by Kearney, seconded by Brucker, to adjourn into an executive session to discuss the minutes and recordings of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meeting Act, for the purpose semiannual review of the Minutes as mandated by section 2.06. Meeting adjourned into executive session at 8:39 P.M. Staff members to be present are: Barry Kauther, Sandee Kessinger and Clerk Fever. The executive session is anticipated to last 15 minutes and will begin at 8:45 PM and will resume in open session at 9:00 PM, at which time the City Council may move to continue in executive session if additional discussion is warranted. Action is anticipated following the executive session. Roll call vote taken of all ayes

Open session was called back to order at 9:01 PM and the following motion was made.

Executive Minutes: Motion by Kearney, seconded by Moore to approve the unsealing of the Executive Minutes for the following meetings. January 16, 2017, February 20, 2017, June 5, 2017, June 19, 2017, April 30, 2018, June 4, 2018, September 17, 2018, November 5, 2018 and May 20, 2019.

Motion includes the destroying or deleting of sound recordings of all unsealed minutes August 19, 2019 and prior.

Motion continues to leave the Executive Minutes from the following meetings sealed: July 17, 2017, August 21, 2017, August 28, 2017, August 30, 2017, September 18, 2017, October 16, 2017, November 1, 2017, February 5, 2018, February 19, 2018, July 2, 2018, August 21, 2018, April 29, 2019, July 1, 2019, July 15, 2019, August 19, 2019, September 16, 2019, March 2, 2020, May 18, 2020, June 15, 2020, July 6, 2020, July 20, 2020, August 27, 2020, September 21, 2020, October 5, 2020 and October 19, 2020.

Roll call vote taken of all ayes.

Motion by Moore, seconded by Brucker to adjourn. Roll call vote taken of all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

David W. Fever,
City Clerk