

City of Erin
Regular Board Meeting
May 4, 2021

The City of Erin Board of Mayor and Alderman met in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 beginning at 6:00 pm at the Erin City Hall. Those present included: Alderman Wesley Mitchum, Lisa Moore, Betsy Ligon, Jackie Parchman, Paul Gooden, and Ted Carson. Others present included: Angela Neilson- Recorder, Chief Mark Moore, Liz Buttermore- Houston County Herald, Jackie Wyatt, Jamie Mandrell.

Mayor Paul Bailey was present and presiding.

Reminder: We are still recording the City meetings until we have a few things in writing.

Jamie Mandrell with Erin United Methodist Church (Resident St. Patrick) offered to give the opening prayer.

Mayor thanks St. Patrick for coming.

St. Patrick thanks everyone for everything they do and the time they give to our City.

Mayor Paul Bailey called the meeting to order.

Motion to approve April 2021 minutes made by Gooden, second by Parchman. All said yes.

Communications from the Mayor:

- Irish Celebration
 - Celebration was moved from March to May due to covid
 - Kick-off Breakfast was last Friday
 - Events are going on all this week
 - Chamber Banquet is Friday
 - Parade is Saturday
 - We hope that everyone will come out and enjoy what the county and civic groups do for this event. They work hard to make sure this is a success. We greatly appreciate all the people that help make this happen.
- National Day of Prayer is always the 1st Thursday in May. That is this Thursday at 1:00 pm in the square.
- City guys are out working in the rain on a water leak on Kizer Ridge.
- Covid count in Houston County is down to 5 active cases.
- Health Department informed us that they are now taking walk-ins for covid vaccinations Monday-Friday from 1:30-4:00 pm at the old Dollar General building.
- Updates for City of Erin provided:
 - Water line project at Buckeye Road & Old Scott's Chapel Road has been advertised for bidding. The bid opening will be mid-May.
 - WWTP notice to proceed was issued on April 19th. W&O Construction has begun the dirt work. We did get the grant funding in the amount of \$3,468,000 from Rural Development to be used to complete this project.
 - Clay Wright Tank was taken down, repaired, sandblasted, and painted. It has since been refilled and samples have been sent in. Water tank has been entered back into service.

- 850,000 gallons was removed from the sludge pond. Project is complete.
- Wells Creek water line crossing, which was an emergency repair, should be completed this week.
- Grices Creek water line crossing is complete.
- We are still working on the Salmons Branch water line crossing. Plans are to repair it this week. We are waiting to get some emergency repair money from Wayne Coates' office because they do streambank stabilization. Even if we don't get the money from them, we still have to repair it.
- The field review meeting for the servicing at Magnum Manufacturing on Mobley Lane was held on April 13th. TDOT will review the comments and decide the next steps.

Committee Meetings:

- Planning Commission
 - There was a meeting held last month regarding Mr. Randy Wood wanting to put in a mobile home on Heitt Street.
 - The Planning Commission agreed to send it to a public hearing and zoning appeals on May 20th. The ad came out in today's paper.

New Business:

- We have an opportunity to apply for an Infrastructure Planning Grant which would map our water lines and shut offs. This would be really helpful to the newer employees that aren't sure exactly where everything is. It would be a grant amount of \$50,000 with the City portion being \$41,260 for a total project cost of \$91,260.

Motion to approve the IP Grant Application made by Ligon, second by Gooden. All said yes.

- Water Rate Changes- Ordinance 631
 - This ordinance would put into place some minimal amounts in making changes so that we can move forward.
 - We are in the process of doing a water rate study, but we don't have the results back. This will help us take a step forward and make sure we're more in line. We don't have to make money, but we can't lose money.
 - No questions asked

Motion to approve Ordinance 631 for Budget Year 2021-2022 on first reading made by Moore, second by Carson. Roll call vote as follows: YES- Mitchum, Moore, Ligon, Parchman, Gooden, Carson. Motion carries.

- Sewer Rate Changes- Ordinance 632
 - We feel like we done some minimal amounts.
 - We did not change the minimum.
 - We did change it a little bit for the all over minimum, and we did change it a little for the industrial. Still a nominal increase.
 - No questions asked

Motion to approve Ordinance 632 for Budget Year 2021-2022 on first reading made by Gooden, second by Parchman. Roll call vote as follows: YES- Mitchum, Moore, Ligon, Parchman, Gooden, Carson. Motion carries.

- Water Reconnect, Connection, and Deposit Fee Rate Changes- Ordinance 633
 - For deposits, Residential Home Owner went from \$75 to \$100 and Residential Rental went from \$150 to \$250. Commercial Property went from \$150 to \$300.
 - Water Reconnect went from \$35 to \$50 during regular working hours; after hours went from \$75 to \$100.
 - No questions asked.

Motion to approve Ordinance 633 for Budget Year 2021-2022 on first reading made by Moore, second by Ligon. Roll call vote as follows: YES- Mitchum, Moore, Ligon, Parchman, Gooden, Carson. Motion carries.

- Water and Sewer Tap Fee Changes- Ordinance 634
 - We looked at what it actually costs to do a tap versus what we have been charging.
 - We had been charging \$800 for inside the City limits; the proposal is to do \$1,500 for inside and outside the City limits. Sewer would be \$1,500 for residential, \$4,000 for 4", and \$6,000 for 6". The 4" and 6" are industrial.
 - No questions asked.

Motion to approve Ordinance 634 for Budget Year 2021-2022 on first reading made by Ligon, second by Moore. Roll call vote as follows: YES- Mitchum, Moore, Ligon, Parchman, Gooden, Carson. Motion carries.

- Budget Amendment- Ordinance 635
 - This is just where we had to move a few things around. The money is there, but since we moved it, we have to amend the ordinance.
 - No questions asked.

Motion to approve Ordinance 635 for Budget Year 2020-2021 on first reading made by Gooden, second by Carson. Roll call vote as follows: YES- Mitchum, Moore, Ligon, Parchman, Gooden, Carson. Motion carries.

- Budget- Ordinance 636
 - A new copy was provided today because we discovered there was a couple numbers that needed fixed. Our main issue was in the Sewer Department; we did not put a number in there for the CDBG grant. The difference in the numbers is \$7,200. The bottom line changed; the one given last week was \$182,500 and the revised one is \$175,500.
 - Other than that, the budget ordinance is the same as the one given with the agenda.
 - There is the nominal water/sewer rate increase. There is not an increase on the minimum; just the amount after the minimum is going up.
 - No increase on tax rate. Property taxes will not go up.
 - We are allowing for another police officer that has been budgeted in.
 - We have a fairly conservative budget; not as much for paving this year, but we are going to do some work on the playgrounds. There has been \$50,000 allotted for the playgrounds, and we're going to split that between the two.
 - There is a \$1 flat increase in the wages for each employee.
 - We did get covid money in the amount of \$340,000 that is included in the budget. That's what is going to be used for equipment upgrades at the Water Plant.
 - No questions asked.
 - Betsy says it's a good budget.
 - Lisa is excited about the playgrounds and a new police officer.

Motion to pass Ordinance 636, which is an ordinance of the City of Erin, Tennessee adopting the annual budget and tax rate for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 made by Gooden, second by Parchman. Roll call vote as follows: YES- Mitchum, Moore, Ligon, Parchman, Gooden, Carson. Motion carries.

Police Report:

Chief Mark Moore did not have a typed report ready to hand out today due to having meetings all day. He provided the report for the month of April verbally as follows:

- Total call answered-320
- Citations-69
- Arrests-39
- Citations in Lieu of Arrest-11
- Accidents-2 (1 with injuries)

It was a very busy month for the City of Erin Police Department. Chief Moore apologized for not having a copy of the report to hand out, and said he would get it to Angie. If anyone wants a copy, she can email it to them.

Fire Report:

Chief Danny Warren provided the fire report for the month of April as follows:

- Responded to 1 landing zone set-ups
- Responded to 2 fire alarms
- Responded to 1 car fire
- Responded to 1 water rescue
- Responded to 2 reports of smoke
- Responded to 2 wrecks
- 3 firefighters attended the Fort Campbell Fire Light & Flight training.

We're hoping the rain holds off. Mayor thanks the alderman for serving.

Irish Potato Bar is Wednesday from 10-2.

Motion to adjourn made by Parchman, second by Moore. All said yes.

Approved: 
Paul Bailey, Mayor

Attest: 
Angela Neilson, Recorder