

## ***Proposed Minutes***

# **ELKINS COMMON COUNCIL REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

***Virtual meeting***

***May 21, 2020***

***7:00 p.m.***

Elkins Common Council met in regular session in the council chamber of city hall. Present were Mayor Van T. Broughton; Councilpersons R.C. Chenoweth, C.H. Friddle, III, J.A. Guye, G.M. Hinchman, C.C. Lowther, C. L. Metheny, D.C. Parker, L.H. Vest, and K.L. Wilmoth; City Treasurer T. Judy; Fire Chief T. W. Meader; Police Chief T. Bennett; Operations Manager R.P. Pingley; City Attorney G. S. Roberts; City Clerk J.R. Sutton (acting as recording secretary); and Inter-Mountain Reporter H. Gordon.

Councilor M. D. Cuonzo was absent.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Vic White of 114 Evergreen Drive provided the written public comment below via email to City Clerk Jessica Sutton, who read the statement aloud verbatim:

Thank you council members for my non-agenda public comment to be read by proxy (you can drop by proxy if you want). This is a followup to the 3-19-20 e-mail I sent to various city officials concerning the stormwater separation project in the South Elkins area, which, to date I have gotten 1 response back.

I would first like to thank Melody Himes and Bob Pingley who have been patient enough to let me review the plans for the proposed project, and also City Clerk Sutton for the information she has provided to me.

The first thing I noticed on the plans is none of the existing catch basins are going to be utilized. I asked to see the existing stormwater drain plans and was told none exist, that the "old timers" were the only employees who knew where the catch basins drained. Mr. Pingley said most of the existing lines are probably clogged or collapsed. I can fully understand that, but how do you know that they are clogged or collapsed if the catch basins are partially or completely filled with leaves, gravel, etc? I made city officials aware of various D.I.'s, just on South Davis Avenue and Silvester, that were plugged and one that had vines growing out of the basin and attaching to the grate.

I have noticed, on my daily walks in different parts of Elkins, a large number of catch basins that are partially or completely blocked and are in dire need of cleaning, as well as the connecting lines between these basins.

It is ironic that the simple, almost comical, mention of the hiring of a part time tree trimmer can trigger an immediate dispatching of city crews to remove existing landscape timbers, etc., in the downtown area, and you have a situation which has a direct impact on the Elkins infrastructure, and it has, for the most part, been completely ignored for years, SAD!!

I talked to a Professional Engineer, who has years of experience in infrastructure design. He said the determining factors in D.I. location are the crown and grade of said paved road, and the number of curbed interchanges, of which there is just one between Scott Ford Road and 15th

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Street, Robin Hood Lane. There are D.I.'s at the intersection of South Davis and Robin Hood Lane. Why can't a stormwater line run down Robin Hood, if it doesn't already, connecting the north and south ends of Ferndale and Evergreen and tie into the D.I at Silvester?

I looked at the design plans before sheer viral pandemonium set in, and if memory serves me correctly, there are 2 new catch basins proposed for the west side of South Davis between Robin Hood and Blaine, yet none for the east side. The grade and crown of the street are the same and with the very minimal and constant grade of the street, why can't these 2 proposed basins be eliminated and the stormwater drain into the existing catch basins at the Blaine Avenue intersection? Why can't the "crawler cam" be used to check all of the existing stormwater lines and if they are clogged, utilize the truck that is intended to unclog these lines.

I reiterate, if the existing stormwater catch basins and lines are cleaned out and unclogged, this could result in using existing infrastructure, resulting in less cost to the city residents. If a small amount of pavement milling along the curbs were done, the surface water would gravity feed to the 15th street intersection. And, according to the invert elevations of the existing stormwater basins on the design plans, the water will gravity feed.

I have no engineering degree, just over 40 years experience working with and on projects similar to these. There may be underlying issues concerning this project that I am not aware of but I do know, taxpaying residents of the city are getting tired of hearing "Let's raise rates" resonating from newly remodeled council chambers!!

In closing, members of council, if you haven't reviewed these project plans, do so, and, maybe find the time to walk around your ward and check the stormwater catch basins.

Thank you,  
Vic White  
114 Evergreen Drive

**For the purpose of clarity during this audio-only virtual meeting the Clerk was directed to conduct a roll call vote for every matter of business a vote was called for.**

**MINUTES**

**Cm. Metheny, MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 30, 2020 MEETING. The motion carried.**

R. Chenoweth	Yes	M. Hinchman	Yes	L. Vest	Yes
M. Cuonzo	absent	C. Lowther	Yes	K. Wilmoth	Yes
C. Friddle, III	Yes	C. Metheny	Yes	Mayor V. Broughton (in case of tie)	n/a
J. Guye	Yes	D. Parker	Yes		

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Cm. Parker, MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1317: APPROVING “FULL-TIME REGULAR EMPLOYEE” STATUS AND CONFIRMING A COMPENSATION LEVEL FOR S. STOKES. The motion carried.**

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R. Chenoweth	Yes	M. Hinchman	Yes	L. Vest	Yes
M. Cuonzo	absent	C. Lowther	Yes	K. Wilmoth	Yes
C. Friddle, III	Yes	C. Metheny	Yes	Mayor V. Broughton (in case of tie)	n/a
J. Guye	Yes	D. Parker	Yes		

**Cm. Parker, MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1318: APPROVING “FULL-TIME REGULAR EMPLOYEE” STATUS AND CONFIRMING A COMPENSATION LEVEL FOR C. BOGGS. The motion carried.**

R. Chenoweth	Yes	M. Hinchman	Yes	L. Vest	Yes
M. Cuonzo	absent	C. Lowther	Yes	K. Wilmoth	Yes
C. Friddle, III	Yes	C. Metheny	Yes	Mayor V. Broughton (in case of tie)	n/a
J. Guye	Yes	D. Parker	Yes		

**Cm. Friddle, MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1319: APPROVAL OF WATER FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021. The motion carried.**

R. Chenoweth	Yes	M. Hinchman	Yes	L. Vest	Yes
M. Cuonzo	absent	C. Lowther	Yes	K. Wilmoth	Yes
C. Friddle, III	Yes	C. Metheny	Yes	Mayor V. Broughton (in case of tie)	n/a
J. Guye	Yes	D. Parker	Yes		

**Cm. Metheny, MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1320: APPROVAL OF SANITATION FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021. The motion carried.**

R. Chenoweth	Yes	M. Hinchman	Yes	L. Vest	Yes
M. Cuonzo	absent	C. Lowther	Yes	K. Wilmoth	Yes
C. Friddle, III	Yes	C. Metheny	Yes	Mayor V. Broughton (in case of tie)	n/a
J. Guye	Yes	D. Parker	Yes		

**Cm. Metheny, MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1321: AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF THE 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET PROPERTY TO THE RCDA FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT. The motion carried. Cm. C. Friddle recused himself from voting on this matter as he is also a member of the RCDA Board of Directors.**

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R. Chenoweth	Yes	M. Hinchman	Yes	L. Vest	Yes
M. Cuonzo	absent	C. Lowther	Yes	K. Wilmoth	Yes
C. Friddle, III	recused	C. Metheny	Yes	Mayor V. Broughton (in case of tie)	n/a
J. Guye	Yes	D. Parker	Yes		

**Cm. Lowther, MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1322: APPROVING INVOICES RELATED TO THE WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREOF. The motion carried.**

R. Chenoweth	Yes	M. Hinchman	Yes	L. Vest	Yes
M. Cuonzo	absent	C. Lowther	Yes	K. Wilmoth	Yes
C. Friddle, III	Yes	C. Metheny	Yes	Mayor V. Broughton (in case of tie)	n/a
J. Guye	Yes	D. Parker	Yes		

**APPROVAL OF VENDOR INVOICE PAYMENTS**

**Cm. Friddle, MOVED APPROVAL OF THE INVOICES PRESENTED. The motion carried.**

R. Chenoweth	Yes	M. Hinchman	Yes	L. Vest	Yes
M. Cuonzo	absent	C. Lowther	Yes	K. Wilmoth	Yes
C. Friddle, III	Yes	C. Metheny	Yes	Mayor V. Broughton (in case of tie)	n/a
J. Guye	Yes	D. Parker	Yes		

The invoices in question were as specified on the following list, which is attached and made part of this record:

- Accounts Payable check transactions for the period April 20 – May 15, 2020.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTIFICATIONS**

Council received the following correspondence and notifications:

- Treasurer’s report

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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Fire Chief T. Meader reported the passing of Ron Skidmore, Barbour County 911 Director and member of the Randolph County EMS.

Operations Manager R. Pingley advised that the daughter-in-law of Water Department employee Redgie Shreve was killed in a car accident a few days ago.

Both asked that friends and family of these individuals be kept in their thoughts.

Cm. Metheny, **MOVED ADJOURNMENT.** The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

*Approved by council at the meeting  
of MONTH DAY, YEAR*

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Van T. Broughton, Mayor

*Attest:*

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Jessica R. Sutton, City Clerk