

# City of Casey



101 West Alabama  
P.O. Box 425  
Casey, Illinois 62420  
217.932.2700



**Mayor**  
Nik Groothuis  
**City Clerk**  
Jeremy Mumford  
**City Treasurer**  
Gail Lorton  
**Collector**  
Natasha Hickox  
**Utility Superintendent**  
Shelby Biggs  
**EMA Director**  
DJ Brewer  
**Economic Development Director**  
Bailey Maulding  
**Chief of Police**  
Adam Henderson  
**City Attorney**  
Cara Shoaff  
  
**Aldermen**  
Marcy Mumford  
Carlene Richardson  
Butch Ruffner  
Pete Todd  
Kelsey Washburn  
Jerome Williams

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL MONDAY APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 6:00 P.M

The Regular Meeting of the City Council was held Monday April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020; beginning at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Nik Groothuis was present over Zoom and called the Meeting to Order:

### Roll Call:

Present: Alderman Mumford - Zoom  
Alderman Richardson - Zoom  
Alderman Ruffner - Zoom  
Alderman Todd - Zoom  
Alderman Washburn - Zoom  
Alderman Williams – In City Council Chamber

Absent: None

A quorum was declared.

### Public Forum:

None

### Community Affairs:

1. Jim Bolin and Dave Yocom were present and Jim addressed the Council with some concerns with the City selling off the parking lot next to the Casey Family Medical Center. They believe this will take away needed downtown parking spaces. After some discussion Alderman Mumford thought a downtown parking assessment might be a good thing to do. The Council instructed Attorney Shoaff to not bid out that property at this time.

### Meeting Minutes:

Mayor Groothuis looked for approval of the minutes of the April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 Special City Council Meeting.

Alderman Richardson motioned approval of the minutes of the April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 Special City Council Meeting, seconded by Alderman Mumford. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 6 – Williams, Mumford, Richardson, Ruffner, Todd and Williams

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

### Officers Reports:

Clerk Mumford presented March 2020 Bills Paid for approval.



Alderman Todd motioned approval of the March 2020 Bills Paid in the amount of \$835,419.03 seconded by Alderman Ruffner. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 6 – Mumford, Richardson, Ruffner, Todd, Washburn and Mumford

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Treasurer Lorton presented March 2020 Treasurer's Collection Deposit Report for approval.

Alderman Williams motioned approval of March 2020 Treasurer's Collection Deposit Report in the amount of \$837,845.17, seconded by Alderman Ruffner. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 6 – Richardson, Ruffner, Todd, Washburn, Williams and Mumford

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Attorney Shoaff presented Ordinance #474: Local State of Emergency Ordinance. She explained that this Ordinance grants the Mayor certain powers in the event of an emergency including powers to impose curfews or impose certain restrictions deemed necessary and in the best interests of the public, like the Governor's authority to issue executive orders. We omitted authorities related to weapons sales and alcohol being specifically referenced. It also is required in order to for us to be able to apply for Federal and State aid in the event of emergencies. It is not an actual declaration, but it permits the Mayor to be able to declare one as they arise once we have this ordinance in place.

Alderman Mumford motioned approval of Ordinance #474, seconded by Alderman Todd. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 6 – Ruffner, Todd, Washburn, Williams, Mumford and Richardson

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Attorney Shoaff presented Ordinance #475: Remote Meeting Ordinance. This will set in place the rules needed for the future to be able to have attendance by Council Members remotely to City Council Meeting.

Alderman Richardson motioned approval of Ordinance #475, seconded by Alderman Williams. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 5 – Todd, Williams, Mumford, Richardson and Todd

Nays: 1 – Washburn

Motion declared carried

Superintendent Biggs reported that the Utility workers are working half staff currently to help put in place the social distancing. They are also taking daily temperatures of the workers at the Utility Building. He would like to ask for a Street and Alley Committee Meeting for discussion on brush pickup. They set a meeting for Thursday April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. He then asked for an Executive Session to discuss Personnel.

Alderman Washburn motioned approval to go into Executive Session for discussion on Personnel, seconded by Alderman Ruffner. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 6 – Todd, Washburn, Williams, Mumford, Richardson and Todd

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Executive Session started at 6:32 p.m.

Alderman Mumford motioned approval to resume the regular meeting, seconded by Alderman Ruffner. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 6 – Washburn, Williams, Mumford, Richardson, Ruffner and Todd

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Regular meeting resumed at 7:00 p.m.

Superintendent Biggs recommend the City Council hire Natasha Hickox as the Utilities Secretary starting hourly wage at \$15.00 per hour, which includes current longevity.

Alderman Williams motioned approval to hire Natasha Hickox as the Utilities Secretary, with a starting hourly wage of \$15.00 per hour, which includes current longevity, seconded by

Alderman Mumford. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 5 – Mumford, Ruffner, Todd, Washburn and Williams

Nays: 0 – None

Abstain: 1 - Richardson

Motion declared carried

Economic Development Director Maulding reported on what grants were in progress and what she has been working on. She thanked the Alderman for their recent help with the different projects. The Feast on the Street with the Chamber has been cancelled for this summer due to currently economic conditions.

Chief Henderson brought up animal control issue. He feels like we need to get another part-time animal control officer to be on call for Dogs and Cats. After some discussion there is currently money in our Appropriations to pay an Animal Control Officer. They will continue to offer \$20 per call, but only for Dog and Cats. He also reported the most of the remodel is done but the rest is expected to be completed by the end of next week. He has decided to extend the current UTV/Golf Cart Stickers until June 1<sup>st</sup>.

New Business:

1. Downtown Improvement and Economic Development Committee Chairman Mumford reported on the meeting held on 4/20/2020 where they discussed 3 grant applications and also discussed ways to come up with Incentives for new Businesses. The committee is going to recommend the following Grants:

- Randall and Barb Perry – Revitalization Program Grant for dumpster used for demolition for mobile home. They are requesting \$369.
- Don Finney for the Casey Business Center at 104 S Central. They are requesting a Business Improvement Grant for recovering four custom awnings in the amount of \$777.45.
- Tetzl Prime – Business Improvement Grant for purchase and installation of a pick-up

window on the North Wall of their business. They are requesting \$2,400.00.

They also discussed about a business incentive program in an effort to boost economic development. They are going to continue working on a plan for this and present to council at a later date.

Mayor Groothuis asked if there were any motions regarding the grant applications.

Alderman Ruffner motioned approval to award the Revitalization Program Grant to Randall and Barb Perry in the amount of \$369.00, seconded by Alderman Richardson. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 6 – Washburn, Williams, Mumford, Richardson, Ruffner and Todd

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Mayor Groothuis asked if there were any other motions regarding the grant applications.

Alderman Williams motioned approval to award the Casey Business Center a Business Improvement Grant in the amount of \$777.45, seconded by Alderman Todd. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 6 – Richardson, Ruffner, Todd, Washburn, Williams and Mumford

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Mayor Groothuis asked if there were any other motions regarding the grant applications. Hearing none he moved onto the next Agenda item.

2. Mayor Groothuis and Economic Development Director Maulding reported on the Public Hearing held on 4/20/2020. They reviewed the applications from 4 businesses for the DCEO Downstate Stabilization Grant. There is an Resolution of Support that will need to be passed for each business.

Alderman Williams motioned approval of Resolution #042020A, seconded by Alderman Todd.

Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 6 – Williams, Mumford, Richardson, Ruffner, Todd and Washburn

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Alderman Mumford motioned approval of Resolution #042020B, seconded by Alderman Richardson. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 6 – Mumford, Richardson, Ruffner, Todd, Washburn and Williams

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Alderman Williams motioned approval of Resolution #042020C, seconded by Alderman Washburn. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 6 – Richardson, Ruffner, Todd, Washburn, Williams and Mumford

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Alderman Todd motioned approval of Resolution #042020D, seconded by Alderman Mumford.

Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 5 – Ruffner, Todd, Washburn, Williams and Mumford

Nays: 0 – None

Abstain: 1 – Richardson

Motion declared carried

Alderman Todd left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

3. City Wide Clean Up – discussion was had on hosting a City Wide Clean Up. Advanced Disposal was contacted and they could do it the week of June 20<sup>th</sup> through June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Alderman Richardson motioned approval to have City Wide Clean up the week of June 20<sup>th</sup> through June 27<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Alderman Washburn. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 5 – Washburn, Williams, Mumford, Richardson and Ruffner

Nays: 0 – None

Absent: 1 – Todd

Motion declared carried

4. Summer Park Activities/COVID-19 Discussion – the Council talked about what to do with the summer activities at the Park. After some discussion they decided to wait to make a decision at a later date depending on how COVID-19 plays out. They also talked about the no late fee's/no shut offs on utility bills. They are going to wait through this next month as well and see how it all plays out. They aren't going to charge penalties on the May bill. They also asked the Collector's office to work with everybody on a case to case basis.

Unfinished Business:

None

Alderman Reports:

Alderman Mumford thanked Director Maulding for all the hard work she has been putting in. She also thanked the community for doing their best to follow the stay at home guidelines.

Alderman Williams asked Superintendent Biggs to look at street lighting in a certain Subdivision. He also is wanting to call a Finance Committee Meeting for Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Alderman Ruffner voiced some concerns with not having a grocery store in town anymore.

Mayor Reports:

Mayor Groothuis reported that Bob Janssen has offered to donate the little car play thing they had in their store and Superintendent Biggs was looking into the liability issues.

There was no further Business of the City Council for the April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Council Meeting.

Adjournment:

Alderman Richardson motioned to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Washburn. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 5 – Williams, Mumford, Richardson, Ruffner, and Washburn

Nays: 0 – None

Absent: 1 - Todd

Motion declared carried

Adjournment of the City Council was at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by; Jeremy Mumford, City Clerk