

# City of Casey



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**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 MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 6:00 P.M

The Regular Meeting of the City Council was held Monday May 4<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 – present at 6:03 p.m.  
Alderman Richardson - Zoom  
Alderman Ruffner - Zoom  
Alderman Todd – In City Council Chambers  
Alderman Washburn - Zoom  
Alderman Williams – In City Council Chamber

Absent: None

A quorum was declared.

### Public Forum:

Mike Nichols was present and wanted to address the Council about his thoughts on allowing businesses to reopen and allow them to do business as normal. Mayor Groothuis said that we had that on the agenda to discuss later on in the meeting.

Marsha Lee was present and wanted to let the Council know that they are continuing to raise money for the Central Park idea and will still be trying to get that done as soon as possible.

### Community Affairs:

1. Ash Shah from Greenup and Jerry Jansen and the Martins were present and talked about the Shah's possible purchase of the Martin IGA property to reopen as a grocery store. Mr. Shah is looking for any type of help the City can provide, either with the Utilities or the property taxes. He would also like the Council to consider allowing that property to have a pour liquor license so they could have Video Gaming as well. Mr. Jansen talked about how much the Martin's would like to see this store open back up as a grocery store. Mayor Groothuis said that the Economic Development Committee is currently working on different business incentives that could possibly help them out.

Meeting Minutes:



Mayor Groothuis looked for approval of the minutes of the April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Public Hearing. Alderman Washburn motioned approval of the minutes of the April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Public Hearing, seconded by Alderman Ruffner. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Mayor Groothuis looked for approval of the minutes of the April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 City Council Meeting.

Alderman Mumford motioned approval of the minutes of the April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 City Council Meeting, seconded by Alderman Washburn. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

#### Officers Reports:

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

Alderman Richardson motioned approval of April 2020 Treasurer's Collection Deposit Report in the amount of \$708,731.94, 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

Superintendent Biggs reported that Pat Traneburg has approached Alderman Mumford about the possibility of the city vacating the alley next to his property. The City has a Sewer main and Electric Primary running down that alley so his recommendation would be the City hold onto the Alley. The new Electric Bucket Truck has been delivered today. He has been notified that the City will be received a grant from IDOT in the amount of bi-annual payments for 30,414.67 for 3 years. He will be receiving more information on this and what they City can spend it on soon. He is also going to be redoing the parking area on Main Street to get a different parking angle. He recommends the City do an energy audit of the IGA building and that the IMEA offers grants to help offset the costs of upgrading energy efficient equipment.

Collector Hickox reported that she has had a lot of people catch up their utilities this past month so that was a good sign.

Economic Development Director Maulding reported that she has submitted 2 Mary Heath Grants, one for the PD and one for EMA. She also presented the yearly agreement with Coles County Regional Planning that the City will need to approve. To receive any State Grants we must go through one of the regional planning offices. This agreement allows that.

Alderman Mumford motioned approval of the Technical Assistance Agreement between the City of Casey, IL and the Coles County Regional Planning and Development Commission, seconded by Alderman Richardson. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

New Business:

1. Street and Alley Committee Meeting report: Chairman Williams reported on the meeting held on 4/23/2020 where they discussed a new brush pickup policy. They are recommending a change which includes set days for pickup, certain size piles that will be allowed and other guidelines.

Alderman Williams motioned approval of the new Brush Pickup Policy, seconded by Alderman Ruffner. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

Nays: 0 – None

Abstain: 1 – Washburn

Motion declared carried

2. Finance Committee – Chairman Williams reported on the meeting held on 4/30/2020 where they started the Appropriations process. They have a guideline they would like the department heads to follow, and they are looking to cut 10% from the overall budget.
3. Downtown Improvement and Economic Development Committee Meeting – Chairman Mumford reported on the meeting held on 5/4/2020. They reviewed two grant applications. One of them they are going to recommend, the second from Casey Family Medical Center doesn't meeting the grant application requirements.

Alderman Mumford motioned approval of a \$500 Community Grant to Open Range to help offset the cost of a new Produce Stand, seconded by Alderman Williams. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

The Committee also discussed redoing the different City Grants and also talked about different Business Incentives they could offer. They are going to continue working on this. They are going to take their revised City Business grant process to the Finance Committee to work out the total cost of these grants.

Unfinished Business:

1. Downtown Parking discussion is tabled until they can do a parking study.
2. Tetzl Prime Grant Application – Mayor Groothuis has met with Rick Athey and they wanted to bring this application back to the Council since it wasn't voted on at the last meeting. One of the Alderman questioned the integrity of the wall at the last meeting. Since then Rick provided a letter to the Mayor regarding the integrity of the wall. Rick was present over Zoom and stated that the wall is structurally sound as certified by the contractor he used to put in the new window. After some more discussion Mayor Groothuis asked if there were any motions on this grant application.

Alderman Mumford motioned approval to award Tetzal Prime a Business Improvement Grant in the amount of \$2,400, seconded by Alderman Richardson. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

Nays: 1 – Williams

Motion declared carried

3. Summer Park Activities/COVID-19 Discussion – Mayor Groothuis brought up the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. The fireworks company is wanting to know whether or not they can plan on still firing off the fireworks in Casey on the 4<sup>th</sup>. We are able to postpone if needed per our contract with them. After some discussion the Council will like to go ahead and keep the Fourth of July activities going but may change that closer to time. They also talked about the possibility of trying to open the City up sooner than what the State of Illinois Governor's Office is allowing. After some discussion, for now the Mayor's recommendation is to follow the Governor's Order at this time, but he will consult with the Clark County Health Department and County Board as well.

#### Alderman Reports:

Alderman Mumford requested that the Zoom Meeting information be posted to our Website and Facebook Page. She also requested we advertise the Brush pile location more as well.

Alderman Richardson had a couple of addresses for abate issues she wanted to give to the Chief and Attorney.

Alderman Ruffner reported that he had seen a few towns around us start working full staff again. He also questioned and would to be able to have the City Council Meetings at City Hall as soon as possible again.

#### Mayor Reports:

Mayor Groothuis requested executive session for discussion on Personnel.

Alderman Mumford motioned approval to go in Executive Session for discussion on personnel, seconded by Alderman Washburn. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Executive Session started at 8:15 p.m.

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

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

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Regular Meeting resumed at 8:26 p.m.

Mayor Groothuis let the Council know that he was going to appoint Kelly Murray as a Temporary City Collector with a salary of \$31,200.00, seconded by Alderman Williams. Upon

roll call the vote was:

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

Nays: 1 – Ruffner

Motion declared carried

There was no further Business of the City Council for the May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Council Meeting.

Adjournment:

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

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

Nays: 0 – None

Motion declared carried

Adjournment of the City Council was at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by; Jeremy Mumford, City Clerk