

February 9, 2024

The Rock Port Board of Aldermen met on Friday, February 9, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. with Mayor Amy Thomas presiding. Board members present were Lisa Farmer, Kelley Herron, Kory Paris, and Raechel Schoonover. Also present were City Clerk Emily Schulte, Lead Laborer Jarod Hudson, and Laborer Dennis Sherlock.

Mayor Amy Thomas called the meeting to order.

### **Approval of Meeting Agenda**

Paris moved to approve the meeting agenda. Herron seconded. All votes aye.

### **Park Board – ARPA Fund Request**

A quote for a piece of playground equipment was presented on behalf of the Park Board in the amount of \$29,455.00. They are requesting the use of ARPA funds to purchase the item. They are also still interested in purchasing picnic tables and trash cans with the funds.

Several alternative pieces of playground equipment were discussed by board members and staff present that were considerably cheaper and were thought to offer more features. They were given to Paris as the Park Board liaison to suggest board's members consideration.

Herron moved to approve up to \$30,000.00 of ARPA funds to be allocated by the Park Board within the next 60 days for playground equipment, picnic tables, and trash can purchases. Paris seconded. All votes aye.

Board members stated any purchases will be the Park Board's responsibility to ensure are compliant with MIRMA as well as ARPA and spending is to be coordinated with the City Clerk.

### **FBLA – Proclamation Request**

Paris moved to approve the Mayor signing the 2024 FBLA Week Proclamation. Herron seconded. All votes aye.

### **Liquor License Application – River Rock Lanes**

The application for an additional liquor license was received by River Rock Lanes for *Sunday by Drink*. Their State license accompanied the application.

Farmer moved to approve the liquor license application for River Rock Lanes. Paris seconded. Farmer, Herron, & Paris aye. Schoonover abstained.

### **Establishment of Hiring Committee**

Mayor Thomas believes Alderman Herron should spearhead the committee which should bring a recommendation back for the board's approval. The committee cannot contain more than two board members, as that would constitute a quorum.

Farmer moved to approve the establishment of a hiring committee and naming Herron and Schoonover as the Board of Aldermen representatives. Paris seconded. All votes aye.

### **Lead Service Line Inventory**

Hudson relayed that DNR requires the city choose the lowest bid, unless we choose to opt for attorney involvement. He relayed staff finds the lowest bidder to be capable of performing the work.

Paris moved to approve the bid from Total H2O Solutions for the Lead Service Line Inventory project. Herron seconded. All votes aye.

### **Bucket Truck**

It was discovered the bid process for a new bucket truck had previously been started when staff received a call last week informing them of the timeline for a truck build. This expenditure hadn't previously been considered within the current budget.

The utility can cancel this build at no cost, however if the same process were to be restarted now, we would be 3 years out from the delivery of a new truck. There are concerns the current truck does not have the remaining life expectancy to withstand that timeframe. With this build, early 2025 is the estimated delivery date.

It was requested that the board consider moving forward with this purchase from Altec for \$213,707.00. Staff recommends using the combination of the scrap fund, potential sales of items no longer utilized within the light plant, and the reallocation of 2024 budgeted funds for a metering project and equipment purchases to fund the unbudgeted expenditure.

Boards members agreed truck replacement should be a priority for our electrical system. The quote did not seem out of line, and it was recognized that prices for new trucks will only go up.

Paris moved to approve moving forward with executing the Altec Industries quote of \$213,707.00 for a new bucket truck. Herron seconded. All votes aye.

### **Adjourn**

Herron moved to adjourn. Schoonover seconded. All votes aye.