**CHESTER, ILLINOIS**

**August 19, 2019**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The City Council of Chester, Illinois, met in regular session on **Monday, August 19, 2019,** in the Municipal Building, 1330 Swanwick Street. Mayor Tom Page called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

# ROLL CALL

Present: Alderman Ray Allison Alderman Randy Dudenbostel

Alderman Russ Rader Alderman Scott Stumpe

Alderman Dan Ohlau Alderman Daniel Geisen

Alderman D. Michael Blechle

Absent: Alderman Robert Platt

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

# READING OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Alderman Ohlau moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and to approve them as prepared by the city clerk. Alderman Geisen seconded the motion. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Ohlau, Rader, Stumpe, Allison, Blechle, Dudenbostel, Geisen. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Platt. Motion carried.

# CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was acknowledged:

* Information on Hometown Heroes Banner Program
* Chester Christian Food Pantry Inc. newsletter dated August 14, 2019
* Chester Chamber of Commerce lunch program on September 17th
* Welcome Party for Dr. Margret Guzman at St. Nicholas Landmark
* Community Blood Drive at the American Legion on August 21st

# REPORTS

City Clerk:

The city clerk presented an application for raffle licenses for the Memorial Hospital

Auxiliary. Alderman Geisen moved to issue the raffle license and waive the fidelity bond required of the raffle managers. Alderman Ohlau seconded the motion. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Ohlau, Rader, Stumpe, Allison, Blechle, Dudenbostel, Geisen. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Platt. Motion carried.

The city clerk presented an application for raffle licenses for the Rebecca Young Memorial Scholarship Fund. Alderman Ohlau moved to issue the raffle license and waive the fidelity bond required of the raffle managers. Alderman Rader seconded the motion. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Ohlau, Rader, Stumpe, Allison, Blechle, Dudenbostel, Geisen. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Platt. Motion carried.

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cemetery & Finance Committee (Chairman Platt):

The Cemetery and Finance Committee met this evening at 5:30 p.m. to review city bills, and found them to be in order for payment. Alderman Rader moved to approve payment of bills, subject to audit. Alderman Allison seconded the motion. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Rader, Dudenbostel, Stumpe, Ohlau, Allison, Geisen, Blechle. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Platt. Motion carried.

Economic Development, Chamber & Beautification Committee (Chairman Allison):

Chairman Allison advised that the Beautification/Tourism Commission is requesting the city power wash the retaining wall on the riverfront. Secondly, the street department will be moving the anchor from Smith’s Landing and placing it near the new historical markers on the riverfront. Finally, Chairman Allison advised that the Planning Commission will meet on Thursday.

# PUBLIC DISCUSSION

# OLD BUSINESS

# NEW BUSINESS

Full Time Dispatchers:

The Police Department is currently short two full time dispatchers. Sixteen applicants were interviewed and asked to complete a written test. Chief Bobby Helmers recommends the council approve full time employment for Ashley Walker and Kaley Ludwig. Alderman Dudenbostel moved to approve Ashley Walker and Kaley Ludwig as full time police dispatchers. Alderman Geisen seconded the motion. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Rader, Dudenbostel, Stumpe, Ohlau, Allison, Geisen, Blechle. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Platt. Motion carried.

Natural Gas Futures:

Alderman Ohlau moved to ratify the action of the Natural Gas Committee in purchase of gas futures for September, October and November (September – 7,500 MMBtu @ $2.07; October – 7,500 MMBtu @ $2.09; November – 7500 MMBtu @ $2.17). Alderman Blechle seconded the motion. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Rader, Stumpe, Ohlau, Allison, Geisen, Dudenbostel, Blechle. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Platt. Motion carried.

Stump Removal – Swanwick Street:

Mayor Page presented a $210.00 quote from AmArbor Services, Inc. for a stump removal near Hardees parking lot on Swanwick Street. Alderman Ohlau questioned why the city is paying for a stump removal on property owned by Hardees. Alderman Allison noted that he got permission from the manager of Hardees to remove the stump. Alderman Allison stated the stump is a tripping hazard. Alderman Allison moved to approve the quote from AmArbor Services Inc. for $210.00 and Alderman Dudenbostel seconded the motion. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Rader, Dudenbostel, Stumpe, Allison, Geisen, Blechle. Nays: Alderman Ohlau. Absent: Alderman Platt. Motion carried.

Alderman Allison noted that a stump on the 1500 block of Swanwick Street needs to be removed.

# ADJOURNMENT

At 6:13 p.m., Alderman Ohlau moved to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Dudenbostel seconded the motion. VOTE: Ayes: Aldermen Ohlau, Dudenbostel, Rader, Stumpe, Allison, Geisen, Blechle. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Platt. Motion carried.

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TOM PAGE, MAYOR

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BETHANY BERNER, CITY CLERK