



City of Nelson
Council Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2022 @ 7:00pm
Nelson City Hall

1. Call to Order

Mayor Sylvia Green called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Attendance

The following persons were present: Mayor Sylvia Green, Councilman James Queen, Councilman David Hamby, Councilman Nathan Hamby, Councilman William Taylor, City Clerk Kelsey Riehl, City Finance Manager Miranda McDowell and City Attorney Jeff Rusbridge.

2. Invocation

Stephen Johnston led the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. James Queen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Agenda Approval

Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to approve the agenda seconded by Mr. James Queen, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

5. Public Appearance

Michael Brown

Stephen Johnston – Community Garden

6. Approval of Minutes

March 7, 2022 - Mr. James Queen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Nathan Hamby, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

7. Department Reports

a. Police Report - Lt. Darrin Downey, Cherokee County Sheriff's Dept., reported there were 0 calls for service in March on the Cherokee side. CCSO assisted with 2 funeral escorts through town, Lt. Downey invited all Nelson residents to attend the Town Hall meeting to be held at the Ball Ground United Methodist Church on April 21 at 6:00 pm.

b. Mayor's Report – Mayor Green asked Mrs. Kim Bare to update the Council on the City Easter Event- Mrs. Bare stated the event was a success and there was a good turnout, although it was colder than expected.

Mayor Green stated the expenses exceeded the expected budget due to increased pricing and difficulty finding some items, she asked the Council to approve the amended expenses for up to \$1500. Mr. James Queen made a motion to amend the Easter Event budget from \$1,000 to \$1,500, seconded by Mr. David Hamby, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

Mayor Green updated the Council on the upcoming Cherokee SPLOST 2024 meeting on April 20th, she will keep everyone informed of the progress. She also updated the status of the Kennesaw Ave. project and a couple of concerns that have been brought to her attention and have been addressed by the contractor. She also addressed some concerns over the new website and how she is working to rectify the issues, if unable to come up with a solution she stated she will revert back to the old website and have a new website built.

c. Finance Report – Mrs. Miranda McDowell went over the current bank balances and upcoming timeline for the FY 2023 budget and millage rates.

8. Unfinished Business

a. Trail Resurfacing Request for Bid Packet- Mrs. Kelsey Riehl reported she and Mayor Green met with the NWGRC who will be working on an upcoming grant for the parks and the trail could potentially be added to this but it would delay the installation until sometime next year if the city is awarded the grant. The Council and Mayor discussed and decided to put the project out for bid now instead of waiting since there are funds available through SPLOST. Mr. William Taylor and Mr. Nathan Hamby looked over the back end of the trail that has been an area of concern due to the narrowness of the path, drainage issues, excessive tree roots and the narrow, steep bridge at the very end and recommended that the trail be rerouted to remove this portion and possibly run back through the power line easement area that runs parallel to the narrow trail area to tie back in to the trail head. They also agreed the path should be bordered and compacted once the Slate Scape material is installed. Mr. William Taylor made a motion to approve the trail resurfacing request for bid, seconded by Mr. David Hamby, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

b. Broadband Resolution – Mrs. Kelsey Riehl stated the City received the Resolution from the NWGRC, it is being sent to all of the cities and once signed by all of the cities the plan will officially be updated making Pickens one step closer to being a Broadband Ready community. Attorney Jeff Rusbridge stated he has reviewed the resolution and it looks fine. Mr. David Hamby made a motion to approve the Broadband Resolution, seconded by Mr. James Queen, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

c. Parking Lease for Sanitation– Mayor Green stated she has been discussing the property with Mr. Howell but due to weather issues it has delayed getting the lot ready to view. He will contact the city as soon as it is ready.

d. Kiddy Park – Mr. William Taylor discussed the park sketch and ideas of what the city could do to utilize the space for the kiddy park, including additional swings, larger play structure and the possibility of slides on the hill instead of a retaining wall. The Council and Mayor discussed different options but all were excited about the proposed ideas and asked Mr. Taylor to look through the equipment catalogs to see what could potentially be done with the area.

9. New Business

Safe Digging Month Proclamation – Mr. John Kemp, representing GA 811, explained the importance of calling 811 before you dig. He stated it is a free call that will locate any underground utility lines before a project is started and will keep you from hitting underground power, gas, water or other lines, some of which can be fatal. Mr. David Hamby made a motion to approve the Safe Digging Month Proclamation, seconded by Mr. James Queen, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

10. Adjourn

Mr. David Hamby made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. James Queen, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

Mayor Sylvia Green adjourned the meeting.

Minutes submitted by Kelsey Riehl

Minutes approved by _____