

**CITY OF BYRON  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023, 6:30 PM  
BYRON CITY HALL**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Rickard called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Mayor Rickard
3. **ROLL CALL – Aldermen present:** Todd Isaacs, Emily Gerdes, Mittzi Fulrath, Ron Boyer, Jessica Nehring, Michael Gyorkos. Six members present.

**Aldermen Absent:** Christy Hanlin

<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	John Rickard
	<b>City Administrator</b>	Brian Brooks
	<b>City Clerk</b>	Caryn Huber
	<b>City Attorney</b>	Aaron Szeto
	<b>Police Chief</b>	Todd Murray
	<b>Public Works Dir.</b>	Aaron Vincer
	<b>City Engineer</b>	Jason Stoll
	<b>Citizens</b>	Herberto Santiago

**Alderman Gerdes motioned to allow Aldermen Hanlin to participate by phone. Motion seconded by Alderman Gyorkos. Roll call vote: Gerdes, AYE; Fulrath, AYE; Boyer, AYE; Nehring, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Isaacs, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 6; NAY, 0; ABS, 0. Seven members present.**

4. **REVERENCE PERIOD** – Mayor Rickard led the Council in prayer.
5. **APPROVAL/AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA** – Motion by Alderman Fulrath to approve, as presented, the September 6, 2023, agenda. Seconded by Alderman Isaacs. Roll call vote: Fulrath, AYE; Boyer, AYE; Nehring, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Hanlin, AYE; Isaacs, AYE; Gerdes, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 7; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.
6. **MINUTES** –
  - a. **August 16, 2023 – City Council Regular Meeting Minutes** – Motion by Alderman Fulrath to approve, as presented, the August 16, 2023, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Alderman Gerdes. Roll call vote: Boyer, ABS; Nehring, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Hanlin, AYE; Isaacs, AYE; Gerdes, AYE; Fulrath, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 6; NAY, 0; ABS 1.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – None
8. **TREASURER’S REPORT** – No report.
9. **LIST OF BILLS** – Alderman Gerdes asked about charges for signage. Director Vincer explained these were signs indicating that businesses along Kysor Rd. are accessible

throughout the Route 2 construction. The signs can be reused as needed. Alderman Isaacs had several questions regarding bills. The following were addressed by Director Vincer:

- Core & Main (Eclipse Auto Flusher-\$8,607.32). Water quality concerns at Devil's Lane-allows water to drain into chip bed. There is another at the end of River Road. Public Works will install.
- Ferguson Waterworks (Flushing Sample Station-\$2,737.79) Replacement water sampling station for well 3.
- Hawkins (2 cylinder solar G2-\$3,589.89). Chlorine gas for water system.
- Sensus USA (M2 software - \$1,949.94). Water meter reading software update.
- Steve Benesh and Sons (\$2,500.00). Demolition of house at 412 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St.

In addition, Alderman Isaacs asked about the \$2,560 charge from Civic Plus. Clerk Huber explained this is our annual website fee.

**Alderman Isaacs motioned to approve the List of Bills dated 09.06.23, in the amount of \$162,244.90. Motion seconded by Alderman Boyer. Roll call vote: Nehring, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Hanlin, AYE; Isaacs, AYE Gerdes, AYE; Fulrath, AYE; Boyer, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 7; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.**

- 10. MAYOR'S REPORT** – Mayor Rickard reported that the demo is completed at 412 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. There are two ways to sell the property after declaring it as surplus. Attorney Szeto explained that the first is by sealed bid. A public notice will appear in the paper for three weeks, after which the bids are opened and the property is awarded to the highest bidder. We can set a minimum bid. The second option is to work with a specific buyer. To do this, the property needs to have a MIA Certified Appraisal and the buyer must pay at least 80% of the appraised value. The Mayor recommends selling by sealed bid after calculating our hard costs and setting a minimum bid. Hearing no objection from council, he will ask Attorney Szeto to draft a resolution to start this process. The resolution will be presented at the next council meeting.
- 11. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT** – Administrator Brooks reported that a copy of the draft audit by Sikich has been received. He will put on Dropbox. It will be on the Administrative Committee agenda at the next meeting.
- 12. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT** – Attorney Szeto reported that no dates have been set for mediation yet, therefore, there is no need for Executive Session this evening.
- 13. CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT** – Engineer Stoll reported that work on Tower and Colfax is complete. A final pay estimate will be prepared in the coming weeks. The Mayor relayed that Superintendent Barton has thanked the city for keeping the school informed of the work, particularly as school was starting. Martin has not yet set a date for work to begin on Merchant St., however, the completion date is set as October 15.
- 14. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT** –
  - Public Works Building Update - Director Vincer reported that the Forest Preserve does not want to position the Public Works building closer to River Rd. The original site is still available. Director Vincer is investigating another possible location at Tower and Water Roads, owned by the Byron Fire Department.
  - Wastewater Treatment Plant – Engineer Stoll reported that the WWTP plan is nearing 30% completion.
  - Other – Director Vincer stated the EPA conducted a water inspection this week. They are waiting for the written report. • The department is replacing missing and damaged

street signs. • Public works will be doing street patching next week, including the corner of River Dr. and Lincoln.

- 15. POLICE CHIEF REPORT** – Chief Murray has been in touch with the State’s Attorney and Sheriff’s office to discuss implementation of the Safety Act which goes into effect September 18. • The potential officer candidate that Chief Murray was in discussions with has accepted a position with another department. He will wait until the Police contract is finalized before interviewing other candidates.

**16. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. **Community Services** – Alderman Gerdes reported that Director Vincer has several upcoming water and sewer capital expenses. All are budgeted items. **Water:** Chemical scales at well sites \$10,500 total; three sampling stations at \$3,000/each- \$9,000 total; half of SCADA upgrade - \$30,000 (\$61,150 total for upgrade). Total budget is \$50,000. After these purchases, \$500 left in budget item. **Sewer:** Portable 12’x12’ building at WTPP to house small sampling station and last chemical feed before discharge - \$24,000; half of SCADA upgrade - \$30,000. Total budget is \$65,000. \$10,000 left after purchases. • The committee discussed water and sewer rates. It will need to be determined if council still wants to increase by CPI annually in addition to the new rates. • A scope of work has been started for the congressional \$2 million grant we were awarded. The streets identified tie into the 2024 and 2025 street plans. The projects include upgrading 4” and 6” mains with 8” mains.
- b. **Public Safety** – No report.
- c. **Administrative** – No report.

**17. CONTINUING BUSINESS**

- a. **221 N. Walnut St. Sidewalk Replacement** – Director Vincer reported that he is meeting with a contractor on Monday to discuss options for resetting the ramp.
- b. **Fehr Graham 221 N. Walnut St. Sidewalk Engineering Proposal** – No update.

**18. NEW BUSINESS** – None

**19. COUNCIL TALK** – None

**20. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS120/2(c)(5) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act to discuss Collective Negotiating/Bargaining and 5ILCS120/2(c)(21) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act to Review Closed Session Minutes.** – No Executive Session

**21. RECONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** – No Executive Session

**22. APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES** –

- a. **August 16, 2023-Executive Session Minutes** – No vote

**21. COMMUNICATION** –

- a. Regular City Council Meeting – Wednesday, September 20, 6:30 pm.

**22. ADJOURN** – Alderman Fulrath motioned to adjourn. Motion seconded by Alderman Isaacs. Roll call vote: Gyorkos, AYE; Hanlin, AYE; Isaacs, AYE; Gerdes, AYE; Fulrath, AYE; Boyer, AYE; Nehring, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 7; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.

Mayor Rickard adjourned the City Council meeting at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Caryn A. Huber*

City Clerk of Byron, Illinois <b>MAYOR JOHN RICKARD</b>	<b>CITY CLERK CARYN A. HUBER</b>
---	----------------------------------