

**CITY OF BYRON  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024, 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, Mittzi Fulrath, Ron Boyer, Jessica Nehring, Michael Gyorkos, Christy Hanlin. Six members present.

**Aldermen Absent:** Emily Gerdes

<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>Public Works Dir.</b> Aaron Vincer <b>Police Chief</b> Todd Murray <b>City Engineer</b> Jason Stoll <b>Citizens</b> Caitlin Vaughan, Bill Pernat, Heriberto Santiago, Charles Van Horn (102.3 The Coyote)
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4. **REVERENCE PERIOD** – Mayor Rickard led the Council in prayer.
5. **APPROVAL/AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA** – Motion by Alderman Fulrath to approve, as presented, the January 3, 2024, agenda. Seconded by Alderman Hanlin. Roll call vote: Fulrath, AYE; Boyer, AYE; Nehring, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Hanlin, AYE; Isaacs, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 6; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.
6. **MINUTES** –
  - a. **December 6, 2023 – City Council Regular Meeting Minutes** – Motion by Alderman Hanlin to approve, as presented, the December 6, 2023, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Alderman Isaacs. Roll call vote: Boyer, AYE; Nehring, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Hanlin, AYE; Isaacs, AYE; Fulrath, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 6; NAY, 0; ABS 0.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – None
8. **TREASURER’S REPORT** – No report.
9. **LIST OF BILLS** –
  - a. **December 20, 2023 (1)** – Alderman Hanlin motioned to approve the List of Bills dated December 20, 2023 (1) in the amount of \$134,882.25. Motion seconded by Alderman Fulrath. Roll call vote: Nehring, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Hanlin, AYE; Isaacs, AYE; Fulrath, AYE; Boyer, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 6; NAY, 0; ABS 0.
  - b. **December 20, 2023 (2)** – Alderman Isaacs motioned to approve the List of Bills dated December 20, 2023 (2) in the amount of \$2,520.00. Motion seconded by

**Alderman Hanlin. Roll call vote: Gyorkos, AYE; Hanlin, AYE; Isaacs, AYE; Fulrath, AYE; Boyer, AYE; Nehring, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 6; NAY, 0; ABS 0.**

**c. January 3, 2024 – Alderman Fulrath motioned to approve the List of Bills dated January 3, 2024, in the amount of \$97,249.18. Motion seconded by Alderman Hanlin. Roll call vote: Hanlin, AYE; Isaacs, AYE; Fulrath, AYE; Boyer, AYE; Nehring, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 6; NAY, 0; ABS 0.**

- 10. MAYOR'S REPORT** – Mayor Rickard reported that the Ogle County Economic Development Corporation is negotiating with a candidate to fill the role of Executive Director. • The city will be recognizing the Byron High School Football team with updated street signs. He plans to invite the team to a council meeting and present a proclamation. • Administrator Brooks updated council members on the search for a new Police Chief. Application deadline is January 15. They have over 20 applications currently. From these applications, eight or nine will be chosen to fill out a questionnaire. From there the selection will narrow, and the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police will do an all-day assessment on February 9. From this assessment, the Association will make a recommendation. Administrator Brooks hopes to hire a candidate prior to Chief Murray leaving to allow for some overlap.
- 11. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT** – No report. All items are on the agenda.
- 12. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT** – No report. All items are on the agenda.
- 13. CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT** – Surveying has begun for the \$2 million watermain replacement project. A grant application has been submitted for a TARP grant for Walnut St. (IL 2 to Mill Rd.). If awarded, this would be a 2025 street project.
- 14. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT** –
  - a. Public Works Building Update – No update.
  - b. Wastewater Treatment Plant – No update.
  - c. Other – Repairs are needed at the Mill Rd. lift station. The repairs are estimated to be \$60,000. Two watermain breaks occurred over the holidays on E. 4<sup>th</sup> St. and Tower Rd. A chlorine cylinder leak was detected at well 4. The Kohler generator at City Hall is wired and ready. A Kohler representative needs to be present for start-up.
- 15. POLICE CHIEF REPORT** – No report.
- 16. COMMITTEE REPORTS** –
  - a. **Community Services** – No report. All items are on the agenda.
  - b. **Public Safety** – No report.
  - c. **Administrative** – No report.
- 17. CONTINUING BUSINESS**
  - a. **221 N. Walnut St. Sidewalk Replacement** – Administrator Brooks stated that discussions are continuing with Mr. Miller to determine the best placement of the lift and ramp. He hopes to finalize in the near future.
  - b. **Ordinance Updating Building Codes** – No update. Item is pending in committee.
- 18. NEW BUSINESS** –
  - a. **Chief of Police Search Budget Adjustment** – Mayor Rickard and Administrator Brooks will present a recommendation to the Administrative Committee for a line-item adjustment for the Police Chief search. This includes fees charged by the IL Association of Chiefs of Police, interviewing costs, travel and possible relocation costs.

b. **Martin Final Pay Estimate-Merchant Street** – Administrator Brooks stated that a final pay estimate for Martin & Co. for the paving of Merchant St. is in Dropbox. **The Community Services Committee recommends council approval to waive first read and make payment to Martin & Co. in the amount of \$62,650 for paving of Merchant St.** Roll call vote: Isaacs, AYE; Fulrath, AYE; Boyer, AYE; Nehring, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Hanlin, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 6; NAY, 0; ABS 0.

c. **Ordinance Amending Water Shut Off Provisions of the Code** – Administrator Brooks stated that this ordinance clarifies language in the water shut off code. **The Community Services Committee recommends council approval of the Ordinance Amending Water Shut Off Provisions of the Code.** Alderman Isaacs motioned to waive first read. Roll call vote: Fulrath, AYE; Boyer, AYE; Nehring, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Hanlin, AYE; Isaacs, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 6; NAY, 0; ABS 0.

d. **Agreement with Byron Schools for Regulation of Traffic** – No update. Chief Murray recommends removing the item from the agenda for now.

**19. COUNCIL TALK** – None

**23. COMMUNICATION** –

a. Regular City Council Meeting – Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 6:30 pm.

**25. ADJOURN** – Alderman Fulrath motioned to adjourn. Motion seconded by Alderman Boyer. Roll call vote: Boyer, AYE; Nehring, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Hanlin, AYE; Isaacs, AYE; Fulrath, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 6; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.

Mayor Rickard adjourned the City Council meeting at 6:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Caryn A. Huber*

City Clerk of Byron IL

<b>MAYOR JOHN RICKARD</b>	<b>CITY CLERK CARYN A. HUBER</b>
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