

The President called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. after the Invocation, given by Wes Poole, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners responded: Wes Poole, Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington. Commissioners Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine and Mike Meinzer were in attendance via teleconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Dennis Murray, the commission voted to approve the Minutes of the April 27, 2020, meeting and suspend the formal reading. The President declared the motion passed.

City staff present: Stuart Hamilton – IT Manager and Jason Werling – Recreation Supervisor.

City staff via teleconference: Trevor Hayberger – Law Director, Michelle Reeder – Finance Director, Eric Wobser – City Manager, Angela Byington – Director of Planning & Development, Matt Lasko – Chief Development Officer, Aaron Klein - Director of Public Works, Rick Wilcox – Fire Chief, John Orzech – Police Chief & Assistant City Manager and Kelly Kresser – Commission Clerk.

#### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Sharon Johnson, via email [rolliejohnson@buckeye-express.com](mailto:rolliejohnson@buckeye-express.com), asked why the city is transferring \$192,000 worth of grants from Issue 8 to the Chesapeake Tax Incremental Finance (TIF) fund after it was certified the money would be in the Issue 8 economic development fund. She asked how many grants are expected to be transferred into the TIF and said she is not in favor of this just so grants can be issued.

#### **CURRENT BUSINESS**

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Dennis Murray, the commission voted to accept all communications. The President declared the motion passed.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The President asked if the commissioners wished to remove any of the items on the Consent Agenda. Wes Poole requested Items C and D be removed (new Regular Items #1 and #2 below).

##### **A. Submitted by Jane Cullen, Assistant City Engineer**

##### **CHANGE ORDER #1 WITH ABC PIPING FOR VENICE ROAD PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (DEDUCT)**

**Budgetary Information:** The original contract with ABC Piping Company per Ordinance 18-027 was \$950,461.00. Change Order #1 and final, a deduct in the amount of -\$67,486.00 will revise the contract amount to \$882,975.00 which is funded by sewer funds. Attached is a Change Order summary itemizing final quantities.

**ORDINANCE NO. 20-074:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to approve the first and final Change Order for work performed by ABC Piping Co., of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio, for the Venice Road pump station improvements project; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

##### **B. Submitted by Kelly Kresser, Commission Clerk**

##### **APPROVING 2019 REPLACEMENT PAGES FOR CODIFIED ORDINANCES**

**Budgetary Information:** The cost of the revisions for the codification supplements will be taken from the contractual services line item in the Commission's budget (50%), sewer funds (25%) and water funds (25%). This item is appropriated each year.

**ORDINANCE NO. 20-075:** It is requested an ordinance be passed approving current replacement pages to the Sandusky Codified Ordinances for the period of January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to accept the Consent Agenda and declare all ordinances as drafted and presented to the City Commission under the Consent Agenda shall take effect in full accordance with the Section reflected in the ordinances whether they be in accordance with Section 13 or Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Wes Poole, Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 7. Roll call on the ordinances: Yeas: Wes Poole, Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the ordinances contained in the Consent Agenda passed in full accordance with the city charter.

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

**ITEM #1 - Submitted by Matt Lasko, Chief Development Officer**

**AMENDMENT TO GRANT AGREEMENT WITH RENAISSANCE TOO, LLC FOR 125 EAST WATER STREET (CHANGE OF FUNDING SOURCE ONLY)**

**Budgetary Information:** The city will be responsible for providing a total of \$90,000 in grant proceeds from the capital projects fund which will be financed through the issuance of urban renewal notes or bonds. These notes or bonds will use the proceeds from the Chesapeake Tax Incremental Finance fund to pay such debt service.

**ORDINANCE NO. 20-076:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and approving a first amendment to the grant agreement with Renaissance Too, LLC, in relation to the property located at 125 East Water Street; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* Matt Lasko said the City Commission passed a grant agreement in 2018 and another in 2019 which, collectively, were for \$192,500 to fund substantial renovations to 125 and 131 East Water Street. These projects are still under construction and slated for completion by the end of this year. One of the things we do is look for flexibility in our funding sources given the budget deficit and the issues we are facing. The original funding source was the economic development capital fund which is less restrictive and can be used throughout the entire geography of the city by swapping these out with Chesapeake TIF funds. TIF funds are restrictive both where they can be used geographically and by what types of things they can fund, namely subsidizing private development and secondarily, public infrastructure and public utilities. Additionally, the commission had previously approved a total of \$1.8 million in Chesapeake TIF funds for private, subsidized development (\$1.3 million for the Feick Building and \$500,000 for the Cooke and Huntley Buildings). We subsequently still committed this for the Feick Building, but have paid out only \$150,000 for Cooke; the other \$150,000 for the project has been rescinded by the commission. With this \$350,000 freed up, we are looking to move some of these funds for the Renaissance Too, LLC projects. This will allow the economic fund to be replenished by \$192,500 which could alternately be used city-wide for economic development functions or to assist with the budget deficit which we did not know we would be facing. Dennis Murray said every institution in America is looking to conserve cash and he was delighted when he saw staff take this position to reserve cash while still maintaining commitments made so we have options later in the year as things unfold. If the deficit is as large as we fear it may be, they will have the ability to spend money on police and fire services and other necessary things we need to keep the city running. Wes Poole said the two projects where money was freed up are still ongoing and we still are going to pay this money; the Cooke Building has not gone away so we are spending this money twice. It is not necessary to do this today because Renaissance Too will not need this money until the project is completed at the end of the year. It is foolish to commit today to paying interest (which this amounts to) on money we are supposedly investing for development. Until we identify what we are going to do or have a projection of expenditures for the entire year, the idea of freeing up money cannot be done as we have not yet prioritized projects and we do not know how much money we are going to have. He suggests leaving this alone. One month ago, we changed a project where we are supposedly going to review getting

bonds for road projects. It is now 30 days out and not one word has been said about this. He is not interested in all of this flexibility since we do not necessarily know what our situation is and this is reckless and unnecessary. We could do this in November when this project is about to be over. Dick Brady said we do not have the ability to look into a crystal ball and answer the question as to how many additional projects will apply for TIF dollars. Matt Lasko said there would be roughly about \$160,000 of funding no longer committed with the rescinding of the Cooke Building agreement, but ultimately, the commission decides what to do with these funds.

**Roll call on the motion: Yays: Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 6. Nays: Wes Poole, 1. Roll call on the ordinance: Yays: Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 6. Nays: Wes Poole, 1. The President declared the motion passed.**

**ITEM #2 - Submitted by Matt Lasko, Chief Development Officer**

**AMENDMENT TO GRANT AGREEMENT WITH RENAISSANCE TOO, LLC FOR 131 EAST WATER STREET (CHANGE OF FUNDING SOURCE ONLY)**

**Budgetary Information:** The city will be responsible for providing a total of \$102,500 in grant proceeds from the capital projects fund which will be financed through the issuance of urban renewal notes or bonds. These notes or bonds will use the proceeds from the Chesapeake Tax Incremental Finance fund to pay such debt service.

**ORDINANCE NO. 20-077:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and approving a first amendment to the grant agreement with Renaissance Too, LLC in relation to the property located at 131 East Water Street; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Mike Meinzer and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* Wes Poole asked how much money is currently in this fund. Matt Lasko said he does not believe there are any funds left in this account which are *uncommitted* for projects, but we do have funds in the account which are committed. Michelle Reeder said the exact balance in this account as of the end of April was \$147,205. Wes Poole said we talked during the presentation about doing this because it would free up funds from the Cooke and Feick projects. The money for this project is already sequestered or set aside so the funds which this will “free up” are already accounted for. The wording sounds like we are spending this money twice and is why it does not work for him. He recognizes the money is already there and we have talked about funds we have released and made available for past projects which did not go through, but these are two separate pots of money which already exist. Dennis Murray said instead of spending the money right now out of an operating fund, we are going to preserve the money to use later on and will use bond funding instead. We will sell bonds when we have record-low general obligation debt and with record-low interest rates.

**Roll call on the motion: Yays: Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 6. Nays: Wes Poole, 1. Roll call on the ordinance: Yays: Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 6. Nays: Wes Poole, 1. The President declared the motion passed.**

**ITEM #3 - Submitted by Jane Cullen, Assistant City Engineer**

**PERMISSION TO BID JAYCEE PARK RESTROOM PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** The estimated cost of \$124,060.00 will be broken down as described below:

Water fund	\$8,760.00
Sewer fund (sanitary)	14,000.00
Capital fund (Sandusky Neighborhood Initiative)	\$89,900.00
Capital fund (Parks & Recreation)	<u>11,400.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$124,060.00</b>

Private funding in the amount of \$60,000 was secured from the Randolph J. & Estelle M. Dorn Foundation with the request that the restroom structure be completed this year. These donated funds are included with the Sandusky Neighborhood Initiative funds.

**RESOLUTION NO. 016-20R:** It is requested a resolution be passed declaring the necessity for the city to proceed with the proposed Jaycee Park restroom project; approving the specifications and engineer's estimate of cost thereof; and directing the City Manager to advertise for and receive bids in relation thereto; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Mike Meinzer, the Commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* Wes Poole said five minutes ago we were saving money and now we are spending \$124,000 on a bathroom for a park; this really does not work for him.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 6. Nays: Wes Poole, 1. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 6. Nays: Wes Poole, 1. The President declared the resolution passed under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

**ITEM #4 - Submitted by Jane Cullen, Assistant City Engineer**

**PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CARPENTER MARTY TRANSPORTATION, INC. FOR HEALTHY HAYES CORRIDOR PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** The not to exceed cost for professional design services is \$306,833.27. The funding split is 10% City of Sandusky and 90% Ohio Department of Transportation through the highway safety improvement program.

ODOT Highway Safety Improvement program	\$276,149.94
Community Development Block Grant funding	\$30,683.33

**ORDINANCE NO. 20-078:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for professional design services with Carpenter Marty Transportation, Inc., of Columbus, Ohio for the Healthy Hayes safety improvements project; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Blake Harris and second of Wes Poole, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Wes Poole, Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

**ITEM #5 – Submitted by Matt Lasko, Chief Development Officer**

**ISSUANCE & SALE OF BONDS TO CIVISTA BANK FOR CEDAR POINT SPORTS PARK PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** The city will borrow, through the issuance/sale of economic development revenue bonds, \$2,310,000. Semi-annually, the city is to make debt service payments to Civista from the bond fund utilizing non-tax revenues (in this case, minimum service payment revenues received from Cedar Point Park, LLC).

**ORDINANCE NO. 20-079:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing the issuance and sale of economic development revenue bonds of the city under Section 14, Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and Chapter 165 of the Ohio Revised Code to pay costs of a "project" as defined in Section 165.01 of the Ohio Revised Code, for the purpose of creating or preserving jobs and employment opportunities and improving the economic welfare of the city and its residents and the State of Ohio; providing for the pledge for that purpose of certain non-tax revenues; establishing certain funds of the city; approving related documents; and declaring an emergency.

**Upon motion of Mike Meinzer and second of Naomi Twine, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* Trevor Hayberger said he would like to confirm this is being done under Section 13 of the U.S. Constitution and Section 14 of the City of Sandusky's Charter. Dave Waddington said he asked the Law Director and is able to vote on this item. Dennis Murray said he will abstain from voting due to his relationship with Civista Bank.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Blake Harris, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 6. Abstain: Dennis Murray, 1. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Wes Poole, Blake Harris, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 6. Abstain: Dennis Murray, 1. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to accept an in-kind donation of two sets of flags (U.S. Air Force, POW, U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard and United States) for Veterans Park received from the Erie County Veterans Memorial Park Committee (\$347 in-kind value). The President declared the motion passed.**
- **Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to accept a \$1,000 donation from an Anonymous donor for the purchase of personal protective equipment. The President declared the motion passed.**
- **Eric Wobser said Talon Flohr has been appointed as the City of Sandusky's representative to the Erie Metropolitan Housing Authority Board. This appointment is for the remainder of a term which expires on December 8, 2021.**
- **Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Dennis Murray, the commission voted to authorize the City Manager to file a joint technology grant through the Office of Criminal Justice Services for Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding.**

*Discussion:* Eric Wobser said the grant request is to purchase various technology including tablets, cameras, hardware and software to conduct meetings and interviews and training to avoid personal contact when appropriate and to do so virtually.

**The President declared the motion passed.**

- **The Fire Department continues to join OHgo on Sunday evenings for their parade through the city. They are also continuing to join in "drive by birthday parades" for all ages which has been well received by all.**
- **Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to allow the Fire Department to apply for a 2020 Assistance to Fire Fighter COVID-19 grant.**

*Discussion:* Eric Wobser said this grant will be in the amount of \$19,645.34 which has a two percent match, or a cost of \$650. This money will be used for already-purchased items for COVID-19. We will return with legislation to ratify this application.

**The President declared the motion passed.**

- **Through the 2020 CARES Act, Health & Human services provided a relief fund of \$38,851.49 which was deposited on April 10. These funds can be used for any COVID-**

19 related expenses including hazard pay and overtime pay. This is for the first round of funds given out and it is possible we could receive additional funds in the next round.

- The next **Audit/Finance Committee meeting** is May 15 at 8 a.m. and can be viewed live on the [City of Sandusky's YouTube](#) channel.
- The **municipal income tax filing deadline has been extended** to July 15, 2020. The city will no longer have an employee available to assist with filing municipal income taxes. For income tax assistance, residents can contact the Regional Income Tax Agency at 1.800.860.7482 or visit their website, [www.ritaohio.com](http://www.ritaohio.com). Tax payments can also be made at the Customer Accounting Office at City Hall located at 240 Columbus Avenue.
- On May 20, **the intersection of Wayne and Neil Streets will transition to a four-way stop**. Additionally, in the coming weeks, the Division of Streets and Traffic will be re-installing Yield to Pedestrian signage in crosswalks along various intersections on Hancock and Wayne Streets and at the Sandusky Transit hub. These upgrades are meant to improve pedestrian safety and traffic flow and build on a pilot project which took place last year.
- The **2019 Water Quality Report** has been distributed and Big Island Water Works continues to meet and exceed all established drinking water standards. Please refer to the city's website for more information.
- The May 12 **Economic Development Incentive Committee (EDIC) meeting** is canceled as are all future EDIC meetings until further notice.
- Phase I of the **Water Street Lofts 13-unit townhome project** is near completion which includes the first of two, five-unit townhome buildings. The first residents will move in during late May and carry on into June. The developer is tentatively planning to begin foundation work on Phase II in late June or early July, which will include the second of the two, five-unit townhome buildings.
- The city recently took part in a conference call with representatives of the **Cooke Building regarding the upcoming demolition**. The purpose of the call was to review the proposed timeline of activities and begin to understand potential logistical needs of the contractors and impacts on traffic and adjacent property owners. Contractors are currently finishing up work to shore up the shared walls between the main Cooke building and those buildings to the north and east. Once completed, the contractors will begin strategically separating the Cooke Building from the attached structures and mass demolition and site clearance will occur. Mass demolition is currently anticipated to occur in early June and will take one week to complete. After demolition, contractors will need approximately three to four weeks to move all debris from the site. The city, contractors and owners will be working on a press release in the near future along with logistical maps showing staging areas, ingress and egress to the site and street closures. The owners, along with their architectural team, are continuing to put the final touches on proposed plans and drawings for the eventual new building that will be developed on-site.
- Due to COVID-19, the **CDBG 2020 Annual Action Plan** approval and submittal process was extended. Our CDBG 2020 allocation is \$743,396.
- The **city has been awarded \$437,328 of CDBG-CV funding** to help prevent and combat the effects of COVID-19. This new money will be part of the 2020 Plan.
- **Upon motion of Dennis Murray and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to set a Public Hearing on May 26 regarding the CDBG FY20 Annual Action Plan Amendment with the Citizen Participation Plan and the five-year Consolidated Plan.**

*Discussion:* Eric Wobser said a draft will be made available on May 12 and comments will be taken through May 18 via e-mail: [abyington@ci.sandusky.oh.us](mailto:abyington@ci.sandusky.oh.us), or by regular mail to City Hall/CDBG, 240 Columbus Avenue Sandusky, Ohio 44870.

**The President declared the motion passed.**

- Eric Wobser said to allow for social distancing as required by the COVID-19 pandemic, staff would like to give **businesses an opportunity to utilize expanded dining in public/private areas**. This includes researching whether it would be prudent for the city to temporarily close streets to vehicular traffic for expanded outdoor dining. Establishments will potentially be able to close streets and utilize sidewalks, park space and adjacent parking spaces. In the interest of businesses within the community over the next few days, outdoor dining is permitted by the Governor as of Friday, May 15 and restaurants will be able to open indoors to the public, with restrictions, on May 21. Many cities throughout the state have been looking to restrict access to enclose streets so they can use some additional right-of-way space in order to expand patios. This will allow restaurants to serve a larger number of people while still meeting social distancing guidelines. Our goal is to get something in place and we want to reach out to impacted stakeholders in the community. We want to be able to move quickly as the governor's announcement gave a relatively short amount of time. We are trying to have as much flexibility as possible for small businesses who are struggling during these last few months and get them to serve as many customers as possible. Blake Harris said he would like to show support for the idea of expanding outdoor dining areas for many of our small local businesses. This will certainly help with the bottom line for many of our small businesses and also get people out and about. Many people are trying to find some sense of normalcy and thinks this would certainly provide a step in the right direction to help achieve this. Dick Brady said the city wants to encourage our local restauranteurs and we will bend over backwards to make any system they put into place work. Dennis Murray said this will also be up to the Erie County Health Department to decide and this is not really, as an initial matter, the city's responsibility to make this determination. This is not just focused on businesses; he is reading in various municipal publications it is a time for cities to be flexible in supporting businesses in different ways. He remembers there were all sorts of neighborhood restaurants and bakeries while growing up and thinks we are likely to see a decentralization and may see some people setting up some shops in our neighborhoods and we want to support that. Staff should be thinking about how it is we can make temporary changes which might transition into making our neighborhoods more vibrant and to purchase what they need in a much smaller and less congested setting. He thinks the virus will be with us for quite some time and we may end up having a big surge again and we will be right back where we were.
- The **Planning Commission** meeting for May 27 is scheduled for 4:30 p.m.
- The **Board of Zoning Appeals** meeting for May 21 has been canceled.
- The **Landmark Commission** meeting for May 20 is scheduled for 4:30 p.m.
- The **Public Arts and Culture Commission** meeting for May 19 has been canceled.
- The Sandusky **Recreation Department purchased chess boards** at a deep discount to give to city residents to learn and play the game during the COVID-19 pandemic. Over 70 boards were distributed through the drive-thru meal program at 222 Meigs Street. Sandusky Recreation provided five instructional videos throughout the week on their Facebook page. Several chess sets are still available and residents interested in obtaining one can call Recreation Superintendent Jason Werling at 419.627.833, or via email: [jwerling@ci.sandusky.oh.us](mailto:jwerling@ci.sandusky.oh.us).

- The Sandusky **Recreation Department has opened an online survey** for city residents during the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey asks residents what their likelihood of participating in interest-based programming and/or a revised summer park program would be during the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey can be found at <https://arcg.is/ODPnaO> and on the Recreation Department's Facebook and Twitter pages through the end of the week.
- Dave Waddington confirmed there will be a **City Commission Work Session on May 18** at 6 p.m. Eric Wobser said he is planning to host the meeting to discuss the city's financials with the commissioners.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Dave Waddington said we have had **three litter clean-ups** so far and have averaged about eight residents at each one to help in our park areas. He thanked them and said we got off to a good start already this year and have a couple more scheduled.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Dave Waddington said the **world faces a unique and complex challenge with the COVID-19 pandemic** which is disrupting our lives and confidence. We have all faced setbacks and we all know what it is like to feel hopeless, but tonight he challenges everyone to remain positive and optimistic. We will rise above this monster virus and our eyes will clear. He cannot wait to get back to our pace of normal life. Without optimism or hope, he asked what we really have.

Dave Waddington said after reading several publications with our Governor, he is confused with Ohio's **cuts to Medicare**. We have close to two years in a Rainy Day fund in Ohio and he (Governor DeWine) could not even squeeze out 20% to help with public schools in Ohio. He will be sending a letter about this and is not happy with how this vital funding was chopped, especially if we are going to be in this situation for a year or two; our schools need to get up and running.

**Upon motion of Dennis Murray and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to hold an Executive Session regarding employment of personnel, Commission Clerk. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the motion passed.**

**At 5:48 p.m., the President announced a recess of the regular session.**

**At 6:13 p.m., upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to return to open session. The President declared the motion passed.**

**Upon motion of Blake Harris and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to hire McKenzie Spriggs as the new Commission Clerk with four weeks of vacation and an annual salary of \$56,000, starting as early as tomorrow (May 12) and/or when Kelly Kresser would consider the best start date.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said Kelly Kresser has served the city very well and McKenzie Spriggs, who we know, brings a very high level of intelligence and energy to the position. He is confident she will grow in the job and continue to represent the city and this commission very well. It is gratuitous she is here and available and with the cutbacks we had to make, but she will be a great Clerk going forward. Wes Poole said he is certain McKenzie will be a good employee, but believes jobs should be bid and we should not just be giving them out. This is an important job and the city is an equal opportunity employer with much of our funding coming from state and federal grants which requires we do this; this process has eroded over time. The job needs to be filled and as soon as the commission was notified, we could have opened it up for bids so it would be a fair practice. Mike Meinzer said it would be fair to say Wes Poole left the Executive Session where much of this discussion took place. Wes Poole said he was very clear that hiring people because they fit in is not criteria for filling a position.

**Roll call on the motion: Yays: Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington, 6. Nays: Wes Poole, 1.**

**Dick Brady welcomed McKenzie Spriggs as our new Commission Clerk and said she will start as early as tomorrow or perhaps as late as Monday depending on Kelly Kresser's thoughts as to a start date.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Upon motion of Mike Meinzer and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to adjourn at 6:17 p.m. The President declared the motion passed.**

Kelly L. Kresser, CMC  
Commission Clerk

Richard R. Brady  
Vice President of the City Commission