

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, July 7, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor John Althoff and Council Members Morris Mattson, Bill Duncan, Derek Lundell (remotely), Mary Jill Bringgold, Matt Montgomery, and Steve Gesme. Also present were Neil Jensen, City Administrator; Jeffrey McCormick, Police Chief; and Greg Anderson, City Engineer (remotely).

Call to Order	Mayor Althoff called the City Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
Roll Call	All members were present.
Pledge of Allegiance	Mayor Althoff led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
Approval of Agenda	A motion was made by Council Member Duncan, seconded by Council Member Gesme and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda.
Public Hearing: Resolution 2487, Certifying Unpaid Utility Charges to be Collected with Taxes	<p>Mayor Althoff provided background information regarding this item.</p> <p>The public hearing was opened at 6:34 p.m. No one came forward to speak. The public hearing was closed at 6:35 p.m.</p> <p>A motion was made by Council Member Bringgold, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2487.</p>
Consent Agenda	<p>A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending July 1, 2020</p> <p>B. Meeting Minutes for June 16, 2020, City Council Meeting</p> <p>C. City Parking Lot Tree Replacement Quote</p> <p>D. Park Board Appointment of Rebecca Youngmark</p> <p>E. Resolution 2488, Adopting Primary and General Election Judges for 2020 and Setting the Hourly Wages</p> <p>F. Resolution 2489, Requesting that Certain Tax-Forfeited Property as Described Herein be Withheld from Public Auction for Conveyance to the City of Cannon Falls</p> <p>G. Disposal of Vehicles</p> <p>H. Resolution 2490, Accepting a Donation of \$100 from Daniel and Valeria Hofius for the Police Department</p> <p>I. Resolution 2491, Adopting the City of Cannon Falls COVID-19 Plan</p> <p>A motion was made by Council Member Gesme, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda.</p>

Council Business:
Resolution 2486,
Approve 2020A
G O Bond Purchase

City Administrator Jensen provided background information. He discussed the sale of \$3.3 million of general obligation refunding bonds. He referenced the City's AA- bond rating. He introduced George Eilertson from Northland Securities, who attended the meeting remotely. Mr. Eilertson provided a detailed explanation of the bond sale and referred to the bond sale summary. He discussed bond market and interest rate trends and noted that this was great timing for this sale. He discussed the savings that resulted from this bond sale. He reviewed the steps that led up to the reaffirmation of the City's AA- bond rating by Standard & Poor's. He expressed appreciation for being allowed to assist the City with the bond sale.

A motion was made by Council Member Mattson, seconded by Council Member Bringgold and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2486, authorizing the bond sale.

Set City Council Work
Sessions

Administrator Jensen commented that he would like to get started on the budget planning process with the City Council during work sessions. He suggested scheduling these sessions on July 21 and August 4. Mayor Althoff noted that these sessions would begin in 5:00 p.m. prior to City Council meetings.

Council Member Duncan asked when the meeting to review the engineering services proposals would be held. Administrator Jensen stated that this meeting is scheduled on July 28. It was suggested to start this meeting at 5:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Member Duncan, seconded by Council Member Bringgold and unanimously carried, to schedule work sessions on July 21 and August 4 at 5:00 p.m., and the RFP review meeting on July 28 at 5:00 p.m.

Reports:

Council
Committees/
Commissions

Kyle Paulson, President of the Cannon Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, expressed appreciation for the flower basket sponsorships. She also expressed appreciation to the Fair Board for their recent efforts. She provided an update regarding requests for the Discover Guides. She discussed upcoming Fun Fests, which are planned on August 13 and September 10. She discussed the Chamber golf tournament. She discussed the new membership management software.

There was no report from the Joint Powers Trail Board.

Mayor Althoff commented that there has been great use of the Cannon Valley Trail.

Council Member Bringgold discussed a recent meeting of the Finance Committee, noting that this group has begun looking at preliminary budget numbers. She stated that Administrator Jensen has been working with department heads on budget planning, adding that this will be a challenging year. Mayor Althoff commented there are a lot of unknowns at this time.

Staff

Police Chief McCormick noted that there has been a recent increase in telephone scams. He issued a reminder that residents should never give out personal information or banking information to anyone on the phone, and they should contact the Police Department if they receive such a call.

Administrator Jensen reported that engineering RFPs closed on July 1st. He noted that nine packets were received. He issued a reminder of the meeting to discuss this issue on July 28 at 5:00 p.m. He noted that applications for the Public Works Director position also closed on July 1st. He stated that interviews will be held on July 22nd. Administrator Jensen noted that \$310,000 in CARES Act funding has been received. He provided updates regarding the mill and overlay project and budget. He provided an update regarding the demolition of the former Cannonball building. He also commented that the City received a thank-you note from the Senior Center for the additional \$2,000 in funding that the City Council approved.

Mayor and Council

Council Member Montgomery commented that the striping project that was approved during the last Council meeting has been completed at Veterans Memorial Park. He noted that there is now better access to the ramp, and the parking lot looks good.

Council Member Gesme commented that Mike Gesme mentioned to him that he videotaped the last 21 Fourth of July celebrations in Cannon Falls, only missing one when he was overseas. He congratulated him on this accomplishment.

Council Member Lundell expressed appreciation to the Fair Board for their efforts relating to the fireworks. Mayor Althoff expressed agreement with Council Member Lundell and also expressed appreciation to the American Legion Color Guard for their participation in the Heroes Cruise.

Public Input

Mayor Althoff reviewed the public input procedure.

Babe O’Gorman, Cannon Falls, noted that he has inquired about the Police Commission’s lack of meetings and has received no feedback. He asked if there are going to be any meetings. He commented that the Police Department is running short on credibility and accountability along with zero transparency. He expressed concerns regarding the performance of the Police Chief.

Timothy Dehmer, Cannon Falls, expressed appreciation to Mr. O’Gorman for bringing issues forward. He asked who the best person is to approach regarding concerns. He stated that he has contacted several people and has not received any responses to his concerns. When asked about his concerns, he stated that he did not wish to voice these in public at this time. He commented that he is still seeking accommodations for advocacy and does not feel he is getting any answers.

No one else came forward to provide public input.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council Member Duncan, seconded by Council Member Montgomery and carried unanimously, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 21st day of July, 2020.

John O. Althoff, Mayor

ATTEST:

Neil L. Jensen, City Administrator