

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor John Althoff and Council Members Bill Duncan, Derek Lundell, Mary Jill Bringgold, Matt Montgomery, Laura Kronenberger, and Steve Gesme. Also present were Neil Jensen, City Administrator; Jeffrey McCormick, Police Chief; and Laura Qualey, Community and Economic Business Specialist.

Call to Order	Mayor Althoff called the City Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
Roll Call	Roll call was conducted. All members were in attendance.
Pledge of Allegiance	Mayor Althoff led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
Approval of Agenda	A motion was made by Council Member Duncan, seconded by Council Member Lundell and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as presented.
Presentation: John Burch Park Presentation	<p>Mayor Althoff introduced Bucky Lindow, Keith Meyers, and Luke Winchell, who have compiled a proposal for John Burch Park renovations and improvements. Mr. Meyers spoke on behalf of the group. He provided an overview of the history of the park and discussed its benefits to the community. He noted that it has been approximately 18 years since any major improvements were completed. He reviewed photos and a list of priority issues to be addressed along with other potential improvements. He discussed the need for long-term solutions to address the iconic limestone wall and the dugouts, along with future plans relating to Cannon Falls High School football games. More permanent seating was discussed.</p> <p>Mayor Althoff and Council Member Montgomery summarized discussion during a recent Park Board meeting, during which it was suggested to research cost estimates for the various project components. Council Member Duncan suggested involving the community in this project in terms of engagement and fundraising activities. Partnership opportunities were discussed.</p> <p>It was suggested to work with the City Engineer to research cost estimates, as a starting point. City Administrator Jensen stated that WHKS will be putting together information relating to the limestone wall, for planning purposes.</p> <p>Mr. Lindow noted that there is a balance of approximately \$1,300 available in a John Burch Park Memorial Fund account, which could be allocated toward developing a plan for the wall.</p> <p>Next steps in the process were discussed.</p>

Consent Agenda

- A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending December 31, 2020
- B. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending January 14, 2021
- C. Meeting Minutes for January 5, 2021, City Council Meeting
- D. Public Works Director Position
- E. Internal Promotion to Fill Police Officer Position
- F. Memorandum of Understanding for Officer Althoff to Temporary Full Time
- G. Water Access Fee Reduction for Paradise Products, Inc.
- H. Police Officer Positions

A motion was made by Council Member Montgomery, seconded by Council Member Gesme and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Council Business:
Resolution 2535,
Relating to Markid
Properties II, LLC,
and the Option to
Purchase Land
Agreement

Community and Economic Business Specialist Qualey provided background information and summarized discussions between the parties. She noted that the EDA recommends approval of the option to purchase land agreement. The agreement language was reviewed.

A motion was made by Council Member Gesme, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2535.

Resolution 2534, Set
Public Hearing for
Hayes Annexation

Administrator Jensen provided background information. He stated that the applicant has submitted an application to annex 12.4 acres of property on the north end of Cannon Falls, for the purposes of future medium-density residential development. He stated that the Planning Commission reviewed the application and recommends the scheduling of a Public Hearing on March 2 for discussion of the proposed annexation.

A motion was made by Council Member Duncan, seconded by Council Member Lundell and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2534.

Reports:
Council
Committees/
Commissions

Kyle Paulson, President of the Cannon Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, thanked those who assisted with installing and taking down the holiday decorations.

Ms. Paulson discussed the 2021 Discover Cannon Falls guide, flower basket sponsorship opportunities, and planning for the Easter Egg Hunt.

Council Member Duncan discussed a recent Planning Commission meeting, during which the Hayes annexation application was discussed.

Council Member Bringgold stated that she had nothing new to report from the Library Board.

Community and Economic Business Specialist Qualey discussed EDA activities and welcomed new EDA Board members. She discussed a change in the EDA meeting schedule. She noted that an annual report will be presented to the City Council in February. She discussed the submission of a grant application toward a project to connect the Mill Towns State Trail and the Cannon Valley Trail with the City's trail system. She discussed the Goodhue County Business Relief Program. She welcomed Markid Properties, doing business as Paradise Products. An update was provided regarding the former Cannonball property.

Council Member Lundell discussed a recent Public Works Commission meeting, during which an interview process for the Public Works Director position was discussed. He also referenced discussion of a potential policy change, with property owners being responsible for utility lines from the curb stop to the home, as opposed to from the water main to the home.

Staff

Police Chief McCormick expressed appreciation for the Council's approval relating to staffing. He discussed Police Commission membership.

Administrator Jensen discussed recent hydrant flushing activities by Public Works and suggested that the Public Works Commission look into ways to address the issues. The source of the problem was discussed, relating to the presence of old cast iron pipe in some areas.

Mayor and Council

Council Member Lundell thanked Officers Larson and Good for their service.

Council Member Montgomery congratulated public safety employees on a recent award and wished Officers Larson and Good well. He

discussed the challenges of Police Department staffing and asked whether exit interview information will be shared with the City Council.

Council Member Gesme stated that he had the opportunity to observe the Cannon Falls Fire Department's response to a recent car fire and commented regarding the excellent response time.

Mayor Althoff reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule.

Public Input Mayor Althoff reviewed the public input procedure. There was no public input.

Adjournment A motion was made by Council Member Gesme, seconded by Council Member Lundell and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 2nd day of February, 2021.

John O. Althoff, Mayor

ATTEST:

Neil L. Jensen, City Administrator