

## **Minutes of 04/22/2024 Regular Meeting**

Irvine City Council met in a regularly scheduled meeting on April 22, 2024.

Mayor James E. Gross called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. Councilman Raider led the prayer and City Clerk, Felicia Campbell, led the pledge.

**Present:** Mayor James Gross, Councilman Justin Abney, Councilman Billy Arthur, Councilman Tommy Bryant, Councilman Tim Burkhart, and Councilman Aaron Raider. Councilman Kris Lee was absent.

Also present: Rodney Davis, City Attorney; Felicia Campbell, City Clerk; and John Sturniolo, Police Chief. Justin Patrick, Fire Chief; was absent.

**Visitors Present:** Trena Stocker, Steven Campbell, Glenna Shean, William Neal and Cathy Dawes.

Mayor Gross welcomed former Councilman Justin Abney back. Councilman Abney replaces Karen Hensley who resigned April 3, 2024. *(Mr. Abney was sworn in by the City Clerk prior to the meeting.)*

### **Guest(s) Addressing Council:**

Trena Stocker, President, and Steve Campbell, Facilities Manager, of Mercy Health-Marcum and Wallace Hospital addressed the Council regarding Relay for Life. Ms. Stocker said the hospital was the presenting sponsor for Relay for Life for the second consecutive year. Last year the Relay was held at the Estill County High School complex and the track was used. This year the E.C.H.S. representatives had told them that anything with wheels would not be allowed on the track. That would include strollers, walkers and wheelchairs. This would make it incredibly difficult for cancer survivors. Ms. Stocker asked the Council and Mayor about using downtown for the Relay. Steve Campbell then addressed the Council regarding the logistics. They requested to block and use Broadway from Main to Court Street and Court Street from Broadway to River Drive behind the courthouse. Mr. Campbell had spoken to Donnie Watson, County Judge Executive, who agreed to have the courthouse open for participants' use of restrooms. Mr. Campbell had also spoken to Restoration Church on Broadway. The church is willing to host the Survivor Dinner. Mr. Campbell said they would use the street to set up tents and the laps would be done on the sidewalk around the courthouse. The event is expected to conclude by 10:30 P.M. Hospital employees will take responsibility for cleanup. Ms. Stocker said the hospital would donate \$750 to the City. \$750 is what it would have cost to hold the event at the high school complex. Council members offered various parking areas and the use of barricades. Councilman Raider moved and Councilman Bryant seconded the motion to allow Mercy Health-Marcum and Wallace Hospital, together with the American Cancer Society, to host the Relay for Life, Friday, June 21, 2024, in the City without charge. All present members voted yes.

William Neal addressed the Council regarding the possibility of opening an arcade within city limits. He hopes to have up to 120 electronic games. City Attorney, Rodney Davis, said Ordinance #115 addressed places of amusement with electronic games. It defined the hours of business. Mr. Davis said amusement/gaming business had restrictive zoning limits. Mayor Gross said he would have the Zoning Administrative Officer research and report allowable zoning for this type of business.

### **Old Business:**

Minutes from the April 8, 2024 regular meeting were presented for review. Councilman Raider made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilman Bryant seconded the motion. All present members voted yes, with the exception of Councilman Abney, who abstained due to absence.

### **New Business:**

City bills dated April 4 – April 18, 2024, were presented for review. Councilman Burkhart moved and Councilman Arthur seconded the motion to approve the bills as presented. All present members voted yes.

### **Reports:**

#### **1. Mayor Gross**

- a. Barnes Painting, Powell County, had agreed to do the curb painting and striping. Mayor Gross said the bid was \$500 less than last year's. However, painting had not begun.
- b. Street Department had gotten mulch for street corners and has begun putting it down.
- c. Will check on the green house's (Broadway) lawn before the festival.
- d. Councilman Burkhart said Horizon Day Care's lawn was overgrown and should be cut prior to the festival.

#### **2. City Attorney Rodney Davis**

- a. Nothing.

#### **3. City Clerk/Treasurer Felicia Campbell**

- a. Health insurance rates for the next fiscal year are in. Up by \$12/month per employee. Insurance comparison packets will be handed out at the next meeting.

#### **4. Police Chief John Sturniolo**

- a. Announced that Officer Dalton Campbell had successfully completed and graduated Officer Academy training April 18, 2024. Officer Campbell will now be a certified officer.

- b. Addressed the need for new cruisers. Requested the Council forgive the Alcohol and Beverage fund debt to the City for previous raise, 7<sup>th</sup> officer and ½ of Chief's salary. A lengthy discussion was held with lots of ideas given. Following the debate as to how to solve the need, it was agreed that Chief Sturniolo would get information regarding a fleet lease.

**5. Fire Chief Justin Patrick**

- a. Absent. (Washing streets for Festival.)

**6. Councilman Abney**

Nothing.

**7. Councilman Arthur**

- a. Asked about Shumate Park. Police Chief Sturniolo said the person assigned to do community service, delegated to assist with clean-up, had been a "no-show".

**8. Councilman Bryant**

- a. Relayed a message from Meranda Marcum that the mulch would need to be 3-4" thick.
- b. Asked about housing updates. Mayor Gross said someone was interested in purchasing the lot on Stevens Avenue. Mayor going to introduce the prospective buyer to the owner.

**9. Councilman Burkhart**

- a. Asked the Mayor/Council to do a resolution regarding the death of former long-time Mayor, Tom Williams.
- b. All council members expressed their sympathy.

**10. Councilman Lee**

- a. Absent.

**11. Councilman Raider**

- a. Housing updates that Councilman Bryant had inquired about.
- b. Suggested the possibility of addressing bank-owned abandoned houses.

Councilman Burkhart moved and Councilman Raider seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 P.M. All present members voted yes

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Mayor, James E. Gross

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City Clerk/Treasurer, Felicia F. Campbell

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