

## **MINUTES OF 10/14/2024 REGULAR MEETING**

Irvine City Council met in a regular meeting on October 14, 2024.

Mayor James E. Gross called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. Councilman Lee 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, Councilman Kris Lee and Councilman Aaron Raider.

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

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Cathy Dawes, Steve Anderson, Regina Robertson, Staci York, Connie Allen, and Billy Williams.

### **GUEST(S) ADDRESSING COUNCIL:**

None.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **September 23, 2024 Minutes Approved**

Minutes from the September 23, 2024 regular meeting were presented for review. Councilman Arthur made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilman Lee seconded the motion. All present members voted yes.

#### **September 30, 2024 Minutes Approved**

Minutes from the September 30, 2024 special meeting were presented for review. Councilman Burkhart made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilman Bryant seconded the motion. All present members voted yes, with the exception of Councilman Lee who abstained due to absence.

### **Board of Adjustments**

Councilman Raider made a motion to appoint Staci York and reappoint Stacy Noland to the Board of Adjustments. Councilman Lee seconded the motion, with all present members voting yes.

### **First Reading of Tax Ordinance #25-02**

Tax Ordinance #25-02 was presented for first reading. The ordinance should have been done at the time the tax rates were set, but due to the oversight of the Clerk, the ordinance was not presented. The tax ordinance reflected the tax rate set at the August 12, 2024 meeting as follows:

- Real Property .435 per \$100
- Tangible .550 per \$100
- Inventory .550 per \$100
- Motor Vehicle 34.5 per \$100  
& Watercraft

Councilman Lee made a motion to adopt the tax ordinance as presented. Councilman Burkhart seconded the motion. All present members voted yes.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Bills Approved**

City bills dated September 20 – October 10, 2024, were presented for review. Councilman Lee moved and Councilman Bryant seconded the motion to approve the bills as presented. All present members voted yes.

#### **Sewer Rate Increase**

Billy “Bee” Williams, Director of Irvine Municipal Utilities, addressed the Council regarding sewer rates. I.M.U. had contracted with Salt River Engineering to conduct a cost-of-service study for the sewer utility. Connie Allen, Engineer with Salt River Engineering, presented and explained the completed study. Ms. Allen said she had used July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 as the test period. The study assigned cost to the customer class causing the cost. Ms. Allen said it was imperative to begin funding the sewer utility depreciation. The Ordinance set the rate for the minimum bill (up to 2,000 gallons) at \$35.49, an increase of \$19.06. Cost per 1,000 gallons beyond the minimum would increase from \$9.39 to \$14.99. These are reflected rates for owners inside city limits. Following discussion and debate, Councilman Burkhart made a motion to adopt the Irvine Municipal Utilities Ordinance amending monthly sewer service rates. Councilman Bryant seconded the motion. Motion passed with roll call vote as follows:

|                   |     |                     |     |
|-------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|
| Councilman Abney  | Yes | Councilman Arthur   | No  |
| Councilman Bryant | Yes | Councilman Burkhart | Yes |
| Councilman Lee    | Yes | Councilman Raider   | Yes |

## **REPORTS:**

### **1. Mayor Gross**

- a. Had entered a contract with the Department of Transportation to purchase up to 50 tons of salt at \$5,400.
- b. Had received, signed and returned a contract to Hinkle for the awarded asphalt bid.
- c. Informed the Council that the Shumate Park property had 2024 property taxes that needed to be paid to the City and County totaling \$88.05. Council agreed the City should pay the taxes.
- d. Police Chief Sturniolo will be out another three (3) weeks due to surgery.

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

- a. All Trailer Park briefs have been filed.

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

- a. Asked Council if they had any changes they wanted to make to the Business/Privilege application and fees. Councilman Raider said he did not see the need to have references on the application. Fee schedule was tabled.
- b. Auditors had been at City Hall for two (2) days.

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

- a. Absent.

### **5. Fire Chief Justin Patrick**

- a. Nothing.

### **6. Councilman Abney**

- a. Nothing

### **7. Councilman Arthur**

- a. Shrubs need to be trimmed in front of the flags on River Drive.

### **8. Councilman Bryant**

- a. Suggested using Miranda Marcum to work on the shrubs. Mayor Gross said the street department would look at the shrubs.

### **9. Councilman Burkhart**

- a. Nothing.

### **10. Councilman Lee**

- a. Trailers at the end of Hudson Avenue have extensive garbage and causing rat infestation. Neighbors upset. Mayor will contact the owner.

### **11. Councilman Raider**

- a. Nothing.

### **Adjournment**

Councilman Lee moved and Councilman Burkhart seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 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