**CITY OF COLBERT**

**COUNCIL MEETING 7:00 PM**

**SEPTEMBER 7, 2021**

**Present: Mayor Chris Peck, Council Members: Evelyn Power, Roger Fortson, Jonathan Pou, Ray Thomas, Anita Peck, Vicky Smith, Attorney Dale Perry, Tony Mattox, Ellyn Trinrud, Carl Trinrud, Cynthia Fortson, Bruce Scogin, Michael Bledsoe**

**Call to Order and Prayer – Mayor Peck**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adoption of September Agenda – Motion made by Evelyn Power to adopt Agenda, motion seconded by Ray Thomas. All approved**

**Approval of August Minutes – Approved as typed.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Cynthia Fortson addressed the Mayor and Council of her concerns of the process of the election and the meaning of “at large.” Ellyn Trinrud addressed the subject as well. Attorney Dale Perry read the Code 21-2-32 from the State Election Code further explained the meaning of “At Large”, which means the City of Colbert council members and mayor serve the city as a whole and do not have assigned districts or posts. Attorney Perry has consulted with State Elections Superintendent as well as the County to get more clarification. The consensus is that due to five (5) people qualifying for two (2) council seats, it was necessary to name the person you would succeed. Attorney Perry stated this was the first time this had happened. He would continue to do research on the matter and clarify wording in codes/ordinances.

Bruce Scogin, qualifying officer, made a statement of explanation on his part and stated there was no intention of anyone to mislead or misinterpret the proper way to handle the election. He apologized to the candidates, Mrs. Fortson and Mrs. Trinrud, if he had offended them. They assured him they were not offended and wanted to only abide by the proper way to handle the qualifying.

Report on Sheriff’s Department Funding – Mayor Peck explained that the County had failed to bill the City for March and we would need to pay the invoice in the amount of $7821.22. That leaves a balance of $33,956.42 for use on upgrading the park. Jonathan Pou made a motion to pay the invoice and Evelyn Power seconded it. All approved.

Fund Report was read.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Drain and Water Projects Third Street and Fifth Avenue - Mr. Michael Bledsoe with The Engineering Group presented maps for defining water lines, sizes, fire hydrants, valves, etc. He also presented a proposed plan for the Third Street drain problem together with a map and a project cost of approximately $104,109.50. There were questions and discussion concerning the water flow and how these bids would be handled. Mr. Bledsoe stated he would put the project up for bids with different contractors and would share those with the city. Ray Thomas asked if the project could be bid in two bids, one complete bid for all the work and another for part of the work to be completed later. Mr. Bledsoe said he could do that. A motion was made by Jonathan Pou to move forward with the project plan and motion was seconded by Ray Thomas. All approved.

Park Gate – The charge for moving the park gate to the entrance of the park and adding a gate at the side entrance of the cemetery was $1,286.30 by Southland Fence Company. A motion was made by Ray Thomas and seconded by Jonathan Pou to go ahead and move the gate and install a new gate. All approved.

Caboose – Certa-Pro – The proposal was received from Certa-Pro on painting the Caboose in the amount of $6856.34. After discussion, no decision was made to proceed.

LMIG Street Repair – Three bids were received on paving 4th Street north, 715 feet Asphalt, including striping. Stratton & Sons Construction ($31,300.00); Garrett Paving ($32,170.00); All About Asphalt ($39,753.75). After discussion and the amount of costs, Roger Fortson made a motion to roll this project over to next year when we receive more funding. The motion was seconded by Jonathan Pou. All approved.

Tree-Trimming Needs – A list was compiled by Tony of sections of town where trees needed to be trimmed. Mayor Peck asked for permission to proceed with caution to get this work done. Evelyn Power made a motion to give that permission and motion seconded by Jonathan Pou. All approved.

Mr. Jim Meadows asked for speed humps on 8th Avenue due to so many speeders. No action taken.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Jonathan Pou stated the grass looked good. He also stated there were some places where citizens are placing personal property on the city-right-of-way and hindering the grass cutters from cutting. Mayor Peck will call.

Tony Mattox reported he had put down two speed humps on 5th Avenue.

PUBLIC INPUT – Ellyn Trinrud stated she had raked sticks and piled them up in a pile at the back of the old fire hall. Tony agreed to pick them up for disposal.

**MAYOR COMMENTS**

Mayor Peck spoke of the qualifying for November election. Ray Thomas, Incumbent and Cynthia Fortson qualified to succeed Ray Thomas; Josh Tiller, Greg Magrum, and Ellyn Trinrud qualified to succeed Evelyn Power.

Mayor Peck read a proposal by Tom Jackson for the cover for the grease pit and coverings for the two doors and metal covering for the windows in the amount of $4600.00. A motion was made by Ray Thomas to accept his proposal and seconded by Jonathan Pou. All approved.

Christmas in Colbert will be discussed at next meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Mayor and Council went into Executive Session with Attorney Dale Perry concerning possible litigation.

Meeting was adjourned. Motion was made by Jonathan Pou to adjourn and seconded by Evelyn Power.

All approved.