

**REGULAR COUNCIL SESSION**  
**609 29<sup>th</sup> Street, Vienna, WV 26105**  
**April 22, 2021**  
**6:00 P.M.**

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Invocation was given by Rick Brookens. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Mike Elam.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Vienna City Council met in Regular Session on April 22, 2021. Mayor Randy Rapp called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Brenda Powell (1409 31<sup>st</sup> Street): Does not believe we need an Economic Director/Civic Promoter. Suggested that Friends of Vienna could help with promotion and digital marketing through an online magazine and other social media outlets. WV Community Development Hub is a statewide nonprofit organization that engages communities in intentional alignment and continuous systems of community development. She thinks the city should reach out to them. She would like to know if we can contract out the digital strategy needs instead of hiring.

**ROLL CALL:**

Attendance was taken by Recorder Melissa Elam with the following Council members present: Kim Williams, Tom Azinger, Jim Leach (via phone), Mike Elam, City Attorney Russell Skogstad, Recorder Melissa Elam, and Mayor Randy Rapp. Absent: Roger Bibbee.

**REPORT OF THE MINUTES:**

The minutes of the Special Council Session scheduled on 4/20/2021 will be approved at the next Council meeting.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **None.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. DISCUSSION: Master Plan for Parks**

Presenter: Tim Roberts, President of Vienna Park Board. He provided an update on the Master Plan for the parks for the city. Jim Christie, Civil and Environmental Consultants (CEC), prepared a draft proposal after meeting with a subcommittee of the Park Board. The consultation will identify priorities, look at current and future needs, consider public input, and will consider existing land utilized by parks and land that is not currently included in parks. The end game is we will have a plan and it will help us pursue grants.

Mayor Randy Rapp hopes Council will endorse this plan so we can get some professional help to take a look at all areas.

Councilman Mike Elam is looking forward to getting costs for the projects we want to pursue.

Recorder Melissa Elam likes that an outside group is coming in with fresh perspective that is not limited by tradition. She thinks having a comprehensive plan will help get buy in from the citizens. She asked about the timing and how the Master Plan will affect the plan for the pool renovations. Mr. Roberts believes they can get us on the schedule in 30 days from the time we say we are ready.

Councilman Jim Leach expressed that we are moving in the right direction.

Councilwoman Kim Williams is encouraged that it is all going into a Master Plan.

At the next Council meeting we will vote on moving forward.

Final thoughts from Mr. Roberts: We need a plan and priorities and the Park Board is providing those. We also need to be prepared to act and he hopes the citizens and Council will be ready to do that.

**2. PROCLAMATION: Arbor Day**

Mayor Rapp read the Proclamation.

**3. RESOLUTION: Supporting the WV Municipal League 2021 Federal Advocacy Agenda**

**WHEREAS** the City of Vienna supports and requests that its congressional delegation support the 2021 WVML Federal advocacy agenda; and,

**WHEREAS**, West Virginia cities are the building blocks of good government, and centers of commerce, culture, and education in the Mountain State; and,

**WHEREAS** The City of Vienna alongside the West Virginia Municipal League and its 230 member cities , towns and villages will be active in advocacy to the U.S. Congress, the White House, federal agencies, and key stakeholders on important federal legislation, regulation, policy, and resource issues in 2021: and,

**WHEREAS** Rebuilding West Virginia cities from the impacts of COVID-19 and other challenges must be a top federal priority in the Biden/Harris Administration and 117th Congress. We call for robust national investment and innovative, non-partisan and common-sense solutions in Washington DC in 2021; and

**WHEREAS** the WVML has gathered input from its member Cities and identified key priorities that were developed, drafted, and passed by its Legislative committee to form the 2021 West Virginia Municipal League Federal Advocacy Agenda that is summarized below; and,

**WHEREAS** the 2021 Federal Advocacy Agenda supports **Solid Funding for Key Domestic Appropriations** that support local communities including: the Appalachian Regional Commission POWER grant program, HUD Community Development Block Grants, EPA Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, Various U.S. Department of Transportation grant programs (BUILD Grants, TAP Program, TCSP Program), EPA Brownfield grants, USDA Rural Development Program, FEMA Assistance to Firefighters grants, SAFER Firefighter grants, Department of Justice COPS Hiring grants, The Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Historic Preservation Fund; and,

WHEREAS the 2021 Federal Advocacy Agenda also identified several other federal priorities including: **Bold Infrastructure Authorization, Support for Appalachian Innovation & Economic Diversification** including Support for the 'Marshall Plan for Middle America', **Support for Appalachian Innovation & Economic Diversification** also includes supporting funds appropriated for substance abuse, treatment, prevention and recovery programs, **Tax Incentives for Revitalization of Downtowns** and **Support for Anchor Institutions in Communities**.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Vienna, WV supports the West Virginia Municipal League 2021 Federal Advocacy Agenda and believes that support of the above is critical to cities of the Mountain State. Rebuilding West Virginia cities from the impacts of COVID-19 and other challenges must be a top federal priority in the Biden/Harris Administration and 117th Congress. Again, we call for robust national investment and innovative, non-partisan and common-sense solutions in Washington DC in 2021.

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED** that the City of Vienna supports and will aggressively advocate this Federal Advocacy alongside its neighbors across the State and the West Virginia Municipal League.

**Councilman Tom Azinger moved to approve the Resolution Supporting the WV Municipal League 2021 Federal Advocacy Agenda. Motion seconded by Councilman Mike Elam.**

There was no discussion.

**Roll call vote taken by Recorder Melissa Elam. Councilman Mike Elam, Councilwoman Kim Williams, Councilman Tom Azinger, Councilman Jim Leach, Recorder Melissa Elam, and Mayor Randy Rapp voting "yes". Vote: 6-0.**

**Council Comments:**

Councilman Mike Elam would like the Code Enforcement/Building Inspector situation to be on the agenda for the next Council meeting. He wants to understand where we stand with Mr. Parrish getting the certifications he needs so that Mr. Fluty's services are not be needed as the plan had been.

Councilwoman Kim Williams is concerned still about the camera coverage issue and expressed frustration over having difficulty getting answers.

Mayor Randy Rapp responded to Ms. Williams. The software for our cameras is outdated and we can no longer access it. We will have to have a patch created to turn them on to access all of the old cameras. He has asked for a price to do it. There is risk involved with the patch because a backdoor could be created in our cyber security. He has also given Councilman Jim Leach the information IT has given him because of his expertise and resourceful associations. Ms. Williams was thankful for the mayor working on this issue.

Councilman Jim Leach believes we can prioritize camera coverage in the city and can preserve our investment in the cameras we have. He would like the camera issues to be added as a discussion item on the next agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Elam, Recorder

\_\_\_\_\_  
Randall C. Rapp, Mayor

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
                  Initials                    Date