

City of Pomona
Regular City Council Minutes
Monday, April 5, 2021
7:00 p.m., City Hall

Attendance: Mayor Seneca **Council Members:** Richard Adler, Rick Smith, Joe Zamora, Timi Howard

Others in attendance: Maiyee Lor, Tonya Simms, Bobby Simms, Frank Downing, Stan Lantis, Kevin Prouty, Bret Carey

Meeting to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Amend Agenda

Mayor Seneca proposed an amendment to the agenda as follows: immediately after Tonya Simms, add Linda Wagoner, after condemnation add change job description, and then community reopening. Council member Adler approved the motion. Seconded by Council member Howard. The vote carried 5/0.

Consent Agenda

- Review Utility Accounts 30+ Days Delinquent
- Review Employee Vacation, Discretionary, and Comp Time Accruals
- Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - March 1, 2021
- Financial Reports/Action on bills
 - Current bills and prepaid bills

Council member Adler motioned to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Council member Howard. The vote carried 5/0.

Items of Business to Discuss:

Tonya Simms

Tonya Simms and Bobby Sims resided at 409 East Franklin and since they moved in, did some improvement to the home and takes pride in their yard. One sewer project took care of their back yard: 20 feet east to west. They've reached out twice and they came out twice, each time is an improvement, still a lot of water and areas where there is no grass and now still have flat dirt. Asking the city to consider getting a landscape company to get yard back to what it was before the sewer crew came in. Meter in yard was flush and now has a 2" drop around the main, a hazard, over by their play area. Grass is dead there as well. Opposite side, neighbor's yard has a dead area as well, just dirt area. The Simms are requesting help with their yard.

Council in discussion about the easement on the property and concerns of the yard. Council member Smith noticed Houston Thornton's yard started to have little sink holes where they dug. Council feels it is the responsibility of the contractor. Mayor Seneca explain other issues, such as the soil is not prepare and readily admit they are not landscaper and Mayor Seneca feels a lawn that is maintain and left in this condition, needs a remedy. Mayor Seneca proposed meeting with Sam Johnson, BG [Consultant], and an estimate to get back to normal. The council discuss to get estimate to make situation right.

Council discuss other concerns and possibly handling it in small claims court. Mayor Seneca wants to contact them and get it resolved and will get them those estimates. Mayor Seneca will stay in touch with the Simms.

Linda Wagoner

Not present. Moving on to next item.

Utility Poles on Franklin Street

Council member Giffin explained that he did some research on putting up light pole and shared it with the council about replacing those on Main Street, about 20. Council member Giffin shares pricing of cost on poles and options to council. If boarding is underground will need an estimate. May be between \$80,000 to \$100,000. Council member Giffin wanted to see if Planning and Zoning committee can tackle this. Council in discussion and an engineer needs to be involved. Council understand it is a difficult time at the moment.

Condemnation

What are thoughts on condemnation? COVID-19 concerns, full steam ahead, put on brakes, how to pursued? Council discussed to start the process again. Council member Smith motioned to moved forward with the code enforcement officer and attorney to move forward on condemnation. Seconded by Council member Adler. The vote carried 5/0.

Change of Job Description

Council review job duties [cemetery] and discussed agreement to read council member and/or the Mayor. Council member Smith motion to eliminate Public Works director and have the council person in charge of cemetery on. Seconded by Council member Howard. The vote carried 5/0.

Community Building

Council discussed thoughts on opening up the community building. We have ability to sanitize it. Mayor Seneca is concern. Council discuss options and sanitation concerns. Mayor Seneca stated that if we open, than open to all. Council suggested that maybe consider opening when the meals program does. Council member Adler motioned to mirror the nutrition program. Seconded by Council member Howard. The vote carried 5/0.

Items of Business to Consider Action

Sewer Project Update

No one here to provide updates. Moving on to next item.

Lot Splits

Planning commission have approved lot splits. Council member Adler motioned. Seconded by Council member Howard. The vote carried 5/0. Council in discussion about the lot split and footage of the property with Kevin Prouty.

203 Jefferson

How far to go with the clean up? Mayor Seneca suggest to clean up what's on the ground but not cut all the trees. Council discussed suggestions of what may go there. Council member Adler motion to just clean up with what's down there, if need to trim some trees, can do that and make it look presentable, a nice lot. Seconded by Council member Howard. The vote carried 5/0.

Spring Clean up

Council discussed to extend and pay more or stick with the clean-up schedule. Mayor Seneca shared that Mr. Yanez will work the times, who is also the animal control officer and Mayor Seneca is willing to go over and take over, if need to. Council member Smith is in favor of what we have done in the past. Seconded by Council member Adler. The vote carried 5/0.

Executive Session

Council member Smith motion for the Discussion of Personnel Matters for Non-Elected Personnel, Pursuant K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) for a Period of 15 Minutes with the Open Meeting to Resume in the Community Building of City Hall. Seconded by Council member Adler. The vote carried 5/0.

The City Council entered into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m.

The City Council exited Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

Action:

Council member Adler motioned to hire Mr. Charles Beuttel, issue personnel policy, and at \$17 an hour, supervisor by Mayor and council person. To raise Mike Higbie to \$18 an hour. That is 30-35 hours a week as determined by their supervisor, cemetery council or Mayor. Seconded by Council member Giffin. The vote carried 5/0.

Discussion of street resurfacing plan

Council discuss they would like to see some new bids other than Killough, there is the same complaint every year. Council discussed different companies. Mayor Seneca stated that bids need to be different from the past. Mayor Seneca discussed concerns with the council: seal and open at a certain date and time. Council discussed the streets they want to do. Last year, it was east and west of Colorado. North and South of the Highway, south of highway were done two years ago. Mayor Seneca said they have a three year rotation. Council discussed to do west side of whole city: Colorado to Madison in town. There is the 7th street drainage problem.

Council member Adler made a motion to suspend the rules. Seconded by Council member Adler. The vote carried 5/0.

Electric Rates

Council discussed concerns of electric rates and where the city falls now. Council member Smith made a motion to transfer \$100,000.00 from general fund to electric fund so back in compliance, and not in violation of ordinance. Seconded by Council member Adler. The vote carried 5/0. Council in discussion about the city not raising rates and the recent energy crisis.

Meeting Adjourn

Council member Smith moved to adjourn. This was seconded by Council member Adler and the vote carried 5/0. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. **ML**



Mayor Seneca