

## Mayor's Minute September 2020

We had a busy 1st Tuesday council meeting this past week. We started at 5:30 pm with a public hearing on the 2020-2021 budget. With only few people attending we had no questions regarding the proposed budget. There will be more on the final budget later this month, I will do a mayor's minute just on that subject and council's capital improvements for the coming year.

First order of business was to approve the budget and then we approved the tax rate for the coming year. You will see that the actual tax rate went down a bit, but due to the increased value of property appraisals the tax you pay will be a 2.9 % increase. To put it in plain words we will generate about \$30,000.00 more in the general fund than last year. The good news is the sales taxes we receive has increased just about every month, so shop local folks whenever it's possible because it makes a difference!

Other items on the agenda, we heard both sides (pros and cons) of the speed bumps that the council agreed to install last month to slow vehicles down on South Harrison. Both sides of this issue have very valid points and I appreciate citizens coming to the council and giving their opinions. The bumps seem to be working, slowing vehicles on the newly paved street. It is a no-win scenario. Someone is not going to be pleased with the council decision, that is just the facts. We decided to give the issue back to the committee to review new information that was provided. I would have to think council would lean on the side of safety which is of the utmost importance as city council members.

We adopted the 2018 International Building Codes with amendments, removing some portions of the code which a city our size does not need.

We passed a special events ordinance which would apply to all events inside the city limits. This application involves a small fee and various items that must be reviewed by the police, fire department, and health committee.

With school starting please remember to slow down around school zones and take time to stop for school buses.

Stay Safe my friends.