

## **Council Work Session Minutes**

**VIA Zoom**

**City of Trenton**

**February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Mayor Calvin Woodrey called the Council work session to order. All members of Council and necessary administration were present. Mayor Woodrey asked for City Manager Nichols to begin. City Manager Nichols asked for City Treasurer Mike Engel to begin with his reports. Mr. Engel began by explaining that having our fund balances look a little mixed is normal for January, there are transfers in and out of funds to prepare for the year but they will even out. He then explained that he would like to create the police levy fund, he would like to hold it to a five month fund balance policy and bring the proper legislation to Council on March 4th to add the fund, as it has held a good balance for a long enough period of time that he feels comfortable moving it to its own fund. The two motion's on the agenda this evening are Then and Now's just allowing us to pay an invoice that was received before a proper P.O. had been created for it keeping us in compliance. Finally he explained that he is presenting an ordinance for it first reading as the first supplemental appropriation for the year, this is a small amount that was found.

Next Planning and Zoning Administrator Bill Jones discussed the Sign Code Ordinance. He began by apologizing for missing the first reading but feels Marcos did a very nice job putting it together. He stated he understood there were some questions regarding the wording for the electronic signage is easy for someone to make issues of. Sign Makers can make these signs pretty remarkable. He opinion if we do electronic with non-animation with no restrictions. Arguments for these signs will be based on opinions if we don't either completely restrict or go with no real restrictions. The choices are either prohibit animation completely, or prohibit some of it, or go ahead and allow all. Showing contents from the code, he stated he would like to remove flashing from being permissible. This could be distracting to drivers. Signs are electronic for a reason, businesses pay very highly for these signs, and the sign builders will push whatever the limitations are. He stated he always tries to look at both sides subsequently this code would be for newly constructed signs. A discussion persisted mostly around the words whirling and

flashing images on these signs. He and CM Nichols stated that they could make some changes to the wording before the next reading. He asked if there were any more questions, when there were none, he gave a hat's off to Marcos on the working of this Ordinance, it should be a very nice addition to our code.

City Manager Marcos Nichols discussed the resolution authorizing release of deed restriction for real property located in the City of Trenton. He explained that this is a parcel of land leading to an alley which a garage is situated on. He stated he had no issue releasing the restriction at this point. Next he discussed the Ordinance authoring the annexation of 199.858 acres of land owned by the City of Trenton. He explained that this would simply annex land the 199.858 acres into the City that is situated currently in Madison Township just south of Kennel Rd. He asked if there were any questions so far. There were none. He then requested Council call an executive session. Vice Mayor Perry made a motion to go into executive session to consider confidential information related to marketing plans, specific business strategy, production techniques, trade secrets, or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development assistance. Followed by a second by Councilman Agee. Roll call was taken; 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

Mayor Woodrey announced that Council will adjourn immediately following the executive session and we will then begin the regular Council meeting. Council went into executive session at 7:17pm.

Vice Mayor Perry made a motion that Council come out of executive session and adjourn the Council work session at 7:36pm, followed by a second by Councilman Agee. Roll call was taken; 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.