

City of Bronson  
Regular Council Meeting  
May 10, 2021

Mayor McConn called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: McConn, Johannes, Watkins, Duke  
Absent: Rinehart

Councilman Johannes moved to excuse Councilman Rinehart from the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Duke. Motion carried.

Public Comment – None

Consent Agenda – Vice-Mayor Watkins moved to approve the consent agenda including payment of invoices totaling \$106,702.73. Seconded by Councilman Johannes. Motion carried.

New Business- Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget Draft – Discussion - Manager Mersman outlined some of the major expenditures in the proposed budget. He said it included the Ruggles/Compton street project, water meters, and a street sweeper/vactor truck. He said the City's match for the Ruggles/Compton Street project would be approximately \$339,543. This coming from water, wastewater and local street. In the budget \$100,000 from both General Fund and Major Street would be transferred to Local Street to make local street solvent for doing the project. After reviewing the proposed budget Council had no further questions or recommendations.

Approve Professional Services Agreement with Prein & Newhof – Drinking Water Asset Management Grant (DWAM) – Manager Mersman told Council since the City has been awarded the DWAM Grant engineering services will be needed. He said Prien & NewHof have submitted a proposal for the scope of services with a proposed fee not to exceed \$316,800. Manager Mersman said he had the City attorney review the proposal and he was recommending accepting the proposal at a fee not to exceed \$316,800. Vice-Mayor Watkins asked if the proposed work was 100% grant funded. Manager Mersman said it was. Councilman Johannes moved to accept the proposal as recommended from Prien & Newhof. Seconded by Vice-Mayor Watkins. Motion carried.

MDOT Grant Resolution of Support -Resolution No. 21-5-7 – Manager Mersman told Council MDOT announced an additional year of Category B Grants for communities with a population of less than 10,000. He said Prien & Newhof updated an estimate they had done previously for Union Street improvements and for the project it would be approximately \$301,971. Of that total \$125,785 plus engineering of \$50,400 would be the City's responsibility and the balance would be grant monies. He said if the Council would like to move forward with applying for the grant funds the amount the City would available for other street maintenance like sealcoating would be limited because of the expending of the City's match for the grant. Mayor McConn said he would like to apply for the grant. Vice-Mayor Watkins questioned if the funds would be available after the Compton/Ruggles Street project. Manager Mersman said there wouldn't be a clear picture where the street funds would be until after that project was done. Councilman Duke asked if there was a possibility the grant would be offered next year. Manager Mersman said there was no way to know if it would be offered next year. Clerk/Treasurer Smith cautioned Council about applying for the grant and if receiving it not having the street funds to meet the City's required match. She said the General Fund is subsidizing the street funds now and may not be able to continue to do that in the future. After further discussion Vice-Mayor Watkins moved to decline the application for the grant. Seconded by Councilman Duke. Motion carried.

Staff Comments – None

City Manager Comments – Manager Mersman said the City's new website should be up and running within a couple of weeks,

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Council Comments – Council thanked staff for the work on the budget. Councilman Johannes thanked the police department and crossing guards for their continued good work. Councilman Duke thanked Bronson Plating for working with the City and the State to correct the PFAS problem in their company’s discharge water. Mayor McConn said a long serving Bronson reserve police officer just resigned from the department and he wanted to thank him for his years of service.

Adjourn – Councilman Johannes moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice-Mayor Watkins. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Smith, City Clerk/Treas.