

**THE RECORDING IS INAUDIBLE.**  
**THESE MINUTES ARE FROM CLERK NOTES AND MEMORY**

**Town of Pomona Park - Town Council & Public Hearing Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 12, 2021 (6:00 pm) This meeting was held at Town Hall for Council only**  
**and for Public VIA TELECONFERENCE. Call 1-888-204-5987 Access Code is 3674654#**

Mayor Joseph Svingala presided. Council present were Dr. Robert Warren (attended by phone), Lynda Linkswiler, CarrieAnn Evans, Patricia Mead, James Griffin, and Victor Szatkowski were all present. Attorney Sherar, Clerk Donna Fontana and Treasurer Kelly Krupski were present.

Mayor Joseph Svingala led in the pledge to the flag. There was a moment of silence Antonio Almeida, Donald Frazee, and Yvette Maynard.

Clerk read correspondence.

**MATT REYNOLDS, Clerk of Court and CHARLES OVERTURF, Supervisor of Elections** Performed the swearing in ceremony for Mayor Svingala, Council Members Linkswiler, Mead, Griffin and Eckels to the Council.

**Meeting Minutes:**

The Mayor requested approval of the Council Meeting Minutes for 12/8/20. Councilwoman Evans made a Motion to adopt the minutes, and Councilman Griffin seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.

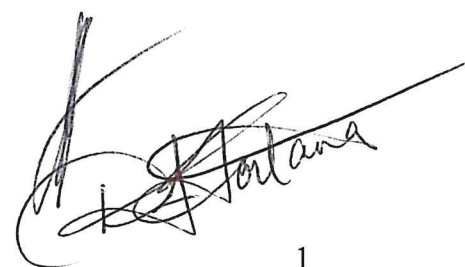
**Unfinished Business:**

Treasurer Krupski gave the financial review. There were no questions.

Councilwoman Linkswiler gave an update from the Beautification Committee Meeting held on January 11, 2021. She announced that Joe Svingala Jr. is the new Chairman of the Beautification Committee, Yvonne Munn is the Co-chair, Becky Filer is the Treasurer and Joyce Svingala is the Secretary. There was discussion about purchasing a live tree to be used as a Town Christmas tree and this tree would be planted at the Community Center. Bruce would need to move the flag pole to near the steps. There was discussion about how much to spend and who would purchase the tree. The Mayor wanted to send out a letter to the Town residents for donations. Council discussed this and thought that the Beautification Committee may want to purchase the tree themselves. Councilwoman Evans wants a big tree. Councilwoman Mead said she would ask the Forester on what type of tree they recommend and then let the Clerk know so she can investigate where to get it and how much.

**Guest Speakers:**

None.



**Public Hearing items:**

Clerk Fontana read Resolution 2021-1 Authorizing the adoption of the Putnam County Local Mitigation Plan. Councilwoman Evans made a Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-1 and Councilman Griffin seconded. Vote passed with 6 yays and Councilman Warren ~~did not vote~~ could not be heard for the vote due to audio problems.

**New Business:**

Clerk Fontana reviewed the two bids that were received for the Nifty Lift. She explained that she, Bruce, Al and the Mayor were all present when the bids were opened. We received a bid from Mower's Inc. for \$30,399.99 and one from Lift Source for \$30,885.00. Clerk explained that we budgeted for \$30,000.00 and both bids were over that amount and the Council would have to approve the overage. Maintenance Supervisor Wolfred explained the differences and recommend the Council go with the cheaper bid. Councilwoman Evans made a Motion to go with Mowers Inc. bid and to allow the 399.99 overage, it was seconded by Councilman Griffin. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Mayor Joe stated that he had to review the committees and said that Doc would remain on Code Enforcement, Lynda would remain liaison for Beautification, Jim would remain as the Zoning Chairman, Pat would remain Tree Board Chairman with CarrieAnn as Co-Chair. The Mayor appointed Councilman Eckels as Chairman for Road & Streets Committee and made a recommendation that Bud ask someone in the room to be on the committee as Co-Chair and that's Vic. Councilman Eckels asked Vic Szatkowski if he would like to be on the committee and he accepted. The Mayor said now we have to choose the new Mayor Pro Tem. Councilman Griffin made a Motion that Councilwoman Evans be the new Mayor Pro Tem and Councilwoman Mead seconded. The vote was unanimous for Councilwoman CarrieAnn Evans to be Mayor Pro Tem.

Clerk Fontana explained that she and Treasurer Krupski wanted to discuss sick time accruals. The Mayor said, you just need to discuss it, Kelly isn't a part of this. The Clerk asked, why wouldn't Kelly be a part of the discussion as she is the one that tracks the sick time accruals and she had the same concerns as the Clerk? The Mayor said, because she's an employee not a Supervisor. The Clerk explained that the 3 of us had met and discussed that since we changed the way that vacation accruals were handled by dumping their vacation earned at the anniversary date of their hire. We thought it would be easier to track if we dumped the 12 days that each fulltime employee gets into their bucket at the beginning of the year and that they would only get 96 hours (12 days) in accord with the Employee Manual. ~~The Mayor said, this is going to cause people to get sick time before they've earned it and then we'd have to pay them if they leave employment. The Mayor thought that employees should be able to roll over unused sick time to the next year and continue to earn the 96 hour accrual for that year.~~ The Clerk said no because the manual states that you will not be paid for unused sick time except for the one employee (Carl Robinson) that has banked sick time that are grandfathered in. The manual states that we can only be paid for 96 hours a year. Dropping the 12 days would make it a lot easier to keep track of how many sick days are used and still available for use throughout the year. The Mayor asked the Clerk to type up the change.



2

The Clerk discussed the clean up that was done on A&B Street by the maintenance team and what a great job they did. At the Mayor's request the Clerk went and started documenting properties that need to receive a courtesy letter to clean up their property. In doing so the Clerk found a possible solution to the drainage issues that the Council puts \$50,000 into the budget each to address but hasn't been able to. The Clerk found that there are 6 parcels that are 25 feet wide between these streets that used to be owned by the Town. This is a prime example of why the Attorney and the Clerk tried to explain why you should never give away Town property. This property was deeded by the Council to landowners in the area back in 2014. These lots go in the direction that could be used for drainage to 308B and then over to the ditch at May and through the culvert that drains to the other side of 308B. The Clerk said that she would like permission to begin a feasibility study to meet with the County regarding 308B and what their requirements would be for us to do this. At this time, it would just be to determine what needs to be done and approximately what the cost would be to do it. Attorney Sherar explained that we would need the maintenance crew to find the right of way boundary pins before we clean up and cut right of ways. Councilman Warren made a Motion for the Clerk to begin a feasibility study and it was seconded by Councilman Griffin. The Motion was approved unanimously.

Clerk brought up concerns at the Middleton Beach restrooms. They have been vandalized several times recently and they were just vandalized again. The vandals smash the toilet tank lids, toilet seats and soak toilet paper and then throw it all over the doors, walls, ceiling and the Town Maintenance team have to spend a lot of time fixing and scraping the mess up. The Clerk asked if we could close the park to make a statement regarding the vandalism. The Mayor said, no we can't close that park because of the agreement in place. The Clerk said, we could close for maintenance due to the vandalism. There was further discussion. Councilwoman Mead made a Motion to close the park for 1 month and reopen on February 9<sup>th</sup>, Councilwoman Evans seconded. The Motion passed with 4 yays and Councilwoman Linkswiler, Councilman Griffin and the Mayor voting no.

There was discussion about changing the Beautification meetings to 2:30 in the afternoon. It was also brought up that if they get more working members that they may want to have the meetings in the evenings. The Clerk asked, how would that work because either the Mayor, Clerk or Treasurer would have to come in to open it up and start the recording. The Mayor said, no you two are not coming in for that. We can just give them a key to Town Hall. The Clerk disagreed with that for 2 reasons, one is that all official records are kept here and the other is that no one should have access to the Clerk's pc except the Clerk and the Treasurer. The Mayor asked that I modify the Ordinance regarding the day and time of the meetings.

Upcoming events: Were reviewed from the packet.

Councilman Griffin made a Motion to adjourn.  
Adjourned at 7:47 pm.

