

May 3, 2021
COUNCIL MEETING

The Westbrook City Council met on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the City Council Room.

Members present: Mayor Dennis Phelps, Manda Jorgenson, Dennis Jutting, Jan Johnson, and Kelly Brown.

Others present: Street Superintendent Carl Conrad, Chief Hubin

Virtual: Gale Bondhus and David Grev

Board of Review:

Total Market value is \$29,121,700. We will have value on new construction of \$242,400 and state assessed properties which are electrical substations, gas pipelines or transmission lines are unknown at this time and will be added back in July.

Bondhus stated Westbrook had 10 house sales in the look back period. Ratios were at 102.8 which left the values the same. We look at the Market Value to Selling Price which determines a ratio for market value increases. Commercial property is looked at county wide with Sales between relatives and sales of church parsonages are thrown out of the equation set by Minnesota Revenue.

Looking ahead to 2022 there have been 8 sales so far and the ratio is sitting at 90.75%. If this continues Westbrook residents could potentially see a 10% increase in value.

Jimmy Klasse would like council to lower the value on the bare lot across from Klasse Sales. Gale stated that she looked at it herself and the concrete lot is in pretty good shape considering it is classified as low grade. Land value is \$3,700 and Concrete value \$4,300 with current tax payment of \$282.00 a year. Motion by Brown and seconded by Jutting to leave the valuation as is. All voted in favor. Motion carried. County officials states to Klasse that he can go to the county on June 15th to petition.

Motion by Johnson and seconded by Jorgenson to accept the assessments listed. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnson and seconded by Brown to adjourn the Board of Review meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Regular Council Meeting:

Motion by Jorgenson and seconded by Jutting to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2021 council meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Police report was presented. Hubin would like to Hire a part-time officer after losing Cromwell. Motion by Brown and seconded by Jorgenson to start the process of hiring new part-time officer. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Steen and Hubin presented to council an estimate for security cameras to be installed around the city in the amount of \$5,500. This will give the Chief and Clerk access to views all cameras at any time. Motion by Jorgenson and seconded by Johnson to purchase the cameras and have them installed. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Conrad gave council the estimate to have the concrete pile crushed. The price came in at \$150,000.00 for everything to be crushed, however it sounds like the company that will be doing it would buy some back. Conrad stated that the city would use some of the crushed concrete in several places and also sell it to locals. Council tabled the project until we can get more information on what the bottom cost would be after the company crushing it would buy back some. Street crew have been working on the pool and will start filling it soon. Conrad will check with utilities to see when the hydrants will be flushed before they fill.

Motion by Brown and seconded by Jorgenson to approve the 2020 final audit. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Jutting and seconded by Johnson to approve 2021 lifeguard wages. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Brown and seconded by Jorgenson to approve the side-by-side permit for Eric and Margaret Buchholz. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnson and seconded by Jutting to approve the WAV liquor license for fun days. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnson and seconded by Jorgenson to approve the building permits submitted. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Jorgenson and seconded by Johnson to allow the fire department to purchase 1 new pager style they are testing out. The amount would be \$774.36 for one pager. If they decide to go with this style, they will apply for grant dollars. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Jorgenson and seconded by Brown to approve bills in the amount of \$37,064.12. Check #55157-55235. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnson and seconded by Jutting to adjourn. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Katie Steen, City Clerk

Dennis Phelps, Mayor

