

**CITY OF POLSON**  
**COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES**

Commission Chambers

September 21, 2020

6:30 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Briney, Commissioners, Howlett, Isbell, Moll, Pardini, Interim City Manager Wade Nash and City Clerk Cora Pritt

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Marchello

**OTHERS PRESENT** (who voluntarily signed in): Cindy Dooley, Rick Ekness, Lita Fonda, and Kyle Roberts

**CALL TO ORDER: (00:01)** Mayor Briney called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken.

**APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA (01:00)** –Commissioner Howlett motion to approve the proposed agenda. Commissioner Moll second. Commission discussion: none Public comment none. **VOTE: Unanimous Motion carried**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON SIGNIFICANT MATTERS TO THE PUBLIC NOT ON THE AGENDA (01:37)** – none

**OPEN PUBLIC HEARING 6:32 p.m. (02:07)** - Mayor Briney opened the Public Hearing

**CITY OF POLSON’S TWO LIGHTING DISTRICTS #19 AND #20 ASSESSMENTS FOR FY21 (02:10)**-City Finance Officer Cindy Dooley presented this agenda item. The City of Polson and Mission Valley Power had discussed changing the lights in the Residential District (#19) to LED. Mission Valley Power went ahead and changed the 208 lights to LED without informing the City that this had been completed. The presumption was that there would be a decrease in the rate. In the Residential District this has not been the case. The Business District (#20) did see a decrease in the rate. Instead there will be a 60% increase in the Residential District. There are 1,382 properties in District #19 and the increase will be from 34 cents on the low end to \$335.11 on the high end with the average increase being \$6.67. Lighting District #20 has 99 properties. The Lighting District #20 fund has a positive cash balance of \$4,321.00 where the Residential District #19 has a deficit cash balance of \$2,495.67. Commissioner Moll asked how this new rate will be paid. City Finance Officer Dooley replied that the Real Estate Tax bill will reflect the increase. Mayor Briney asked why Mission Valley Power went ahead and changed the lights. The lights should have been left alone. Commissioner Isbell asked if there were any options other than the increase. City Finance Officer Dooley answered there were no options at this point. We could possibly speak with Mission Valley Power in the future about the rate. If there are any adjustments, then there would be an adjustment in the increase rate. Mayor Briney stated he was disappointed. City Finance Officer Dooley explained that the City has to pay the assessment. Commissioner Pardini asked why the wide discrepancy. City Finance Officer Dooley answered that the assessment is based on square footage of lot. Commissioner Isbell asked if the City could cover the deficit until there is a conversation with Mission Valley Power regarding the rates. City Finance Officer Dooley answered the General Fund could advance the monies but it would need to be refunded. Commissioner Pardini commented that the City does not have an option. The City needs to pay this bill.

Mayor Briney asked for any Public Comment. There was no Public Comment.

Mayor Briney moved to close the Public Hearing (22:33)

Prior to adjourning Mayor Briney asked the Commission if Action Minutes are agreeable. The Commission stated yes Action Minutes are agreeable.

**Adjourn (22:53) - Commissioner Howlett motion to adjourn Commissioner Isbell second. VOTE: Unanimous Motion carried**

**ADJOURNMENT 6:53 p.m.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor Paul Briney**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cora E. Pritt, City Clerk**

**PUBLIC COMMENT (00:00):**

Gayle Siemers thanked Finance Officer Dooley for doing a great job. The presentation of the Budget was very easy to understand. The salaries for the employees needs to be increased, especially for City Planner Kyle Roberts and Code Enforcement Officer Matthew Ellermann. These salaries need to be re-evaluated.

Larry Ashcraft also thanked Finance Officer Dooley for her work. City Planner Roberts has been the glue that has held The City Manager Search Committee together. Take a look at him, the City doesn't want to lose City Planner Roberts.

Mayor Briney closed the Public Hearing at 7:06 p.m. (36:13)

Prior to adjourning Mayor Briney asked the Commission if Action Minutes are agreeable. The Commission stated yes Action Minutes are agreeable.

**Adjourn (26:25) - Commissioner Howlett motion to adjourn. Commissioner Martin second. VOTE: Unanimous Motion carried.**

**ADJOURN: 7:06p.m.**

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**Mayor Paul Briney**

**ATTEST:**

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**Cora E. Pritt, City Clerk**