

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 28, 2010 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Ms. Brooke green rang the bell to announce the start of the meeting. RINGING OF BELL  
Mayor Carl Bates called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. CALL TO ORDER  
Roll call: Mayor Carl Bates, present, Aldermen John Boelkens, present, ROLL CALL  
Nina Cooper, present, Diane Lego, present, Doug Bergren, present, Mike Risko, present, and Doris Bork, present.  
Alderman Risko led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Alderman Boelkens gave the invocation.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Bork seconded to approve the MINUTES minutes of the December 14, 2010 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to authorize ACCOUNTS PAYABLE the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of December 2010 as approved by the finance committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, and Boelkens, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported the bank account balances totaled \$659,969.85 FINANCIAL REPORT as of today. Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Risko seconded to approve the financial report as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, and Cooper, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Bergren reported of the December 27<sup>th</sup> license & ordinance COMMITTEES committee meeting: LICENSE & ORDINANCE

1. Some of the snow removal problems and issues were discussed.
2. To ask the clerk to have a reminder placed in the newspaper about sidewalk snow removal to the residents. To provide a list to the clerk for any residents that would need to be notified to clear their sidewalks. It was noted that the sidewalk on the IL Route 78 bridge was the city's responsibility to clean.
3. Alderman Bergren presented the license and ordinance committee SPEED LIMIT CHANGE recommendation to authorize the city attorney to draft an ordinance to change the speed limits to 20 miles per hour on Market Street from Mill Street to Clay Street and on Main Street from Market Street to Broadway Street. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Lego, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
4. The committee asked the mayor or clerk to contact the city attorney about any regulations from other communities regarding the placement of digital signs.

Alderman Bergren reported of the December 27<sup>th</sup> streets committee meeting: STREETS

1. Supt. Dauphin reported that they would be moving snow the remainder of this week in preparation of the rain that was predicted for this upcoming weekend.
2. The committee discussed the snow removal in the downtown this year.

Alderman Boelkens reported of the December 27<sup>th</sup> water and sewer committee WATER & SEWER meeting:

1. Supt. Handel reported that the crew would be working on the repairs and maintenance needed at the sewer plant this winter.
2. Reviewed the sewer plant capacity and flows during rain events.
3. Discussed the purchase of a new or used truck for the public works department to replace the S-10 vehicle. To consider this in next year's budget.

Alderman Bergren reported of the December 27<sup>th</sup> police committee meeting: POLICE

1. Chief Cass provided information to the council to consider adding a fourth full time officer to the city's roster. The current part time officers' costs are about \$29,000. To add another full time officer this would add about \$15,000 overall to that amount, which would include the costs for benefits, such as, health insurance, IMRF, social security, Medicare, worker's compensation, and unemployment insurance. No action taken at this meeting.
2. To add to next year's budget a new squad car. Depending on whether to replace the Crown Vic or the Expedition the costs would range from \$20,000 to \$25,000. Chief Cass noted that some of the equipment such as the light bars and radios would need to be replaced as well.
3. Chief Cass noted that he was working on job descriptions for the department.
4. Discussed some of the possible FCC regulations that might require our departments to use narrow band radios in the future. A complete upgrade of the police department radios could cost up to \$5,000. There is no indication from the FCC or any other agency whether this would be a mandate or not, and whether there might be any funding to help the communities pay for this.

Alderman Boelkens reported of the December 28<sup>th</sup> finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Clerk Cuckler provided a TIF expense report.
3. Clerk Cuckler noted the Walgreen's stock account statement for the year. A total of \$131.46 in dividends was reinvested.
4. Discussed the eave and downspouts on the west side of the City Hall building. The ice jams are pretty serious this year. To ask Herrell Electric to check on what it would cost to install a heating line here to melt the ice in the winter.
5. Mrs. Anna Gray, 913 N. Washington Avenue, was in attendance. Mayor Bates reported that he had talked with Superintendent Handel again about Mrs. Gray's water issue. He stated that the crew was going to check this water service connection in the spring as it appeared that there might be a 90 degree turn in this location. They would be digging this up and looking at whether this service connection might be the root of the problems the Grays are experiencing.

Mr. Lou Schau was in attendance and reported of the progress at the Kraft Building.

Mayor Bates reported he had talked with Howard Herrell of Herrell Electric. STREET LIGHTS  
They were almost finished with the installation of the new bulbs and fixtures in the downtown street lights. This should provide a noticeable decrease in the electricity bill for these lights.

Mr. Gary Prins and Jim Wiersema of the F.A.S.T. Trax Snowmobile Club and SNOWMOBILE  
Mr. Wayne Knight, 311 W. Benton Street, were in attendance and addressed TRAIL  
the council about the new snowmobile trail in town and discussed some of the issues. Mr. Knight noted that he lived along Benton Street with the trail going in front of his property. There have been snowmobile drivers that have come up onto his property and this was an issue. Mr. Prins and Mr. Wiersema stated that they could install a rope along this area to keep any of the drivers from

encroaching onto his property and that they would get to that as soon as possible. Mr. Prins noted that they would be contacting the property owners in another area to the west of Mr. Knight to see if they could bring the trail down to Mill Street from the fields and Mr. Law's property versus the route along West Benton Street. He stated though that he did not think that he would have that clarified until next year. Mayor Bates stated he had received some phone calls and he was not recommending changing the time limits when the snowmobiles could travel through town. That should remain the same at no later than 11:00 p.m. during the week and no later than midnight on the weekends. Alderman Bork and Mr. Knight expressed their concerns about the liability issues with this additional traffic. To ask the city attorney if there are other questions to be considered regarding the liability before the trail is added to the city code. Mr. Prins and Mr. Wiersema thanked the council for their consideration of this and allowing this to this point. They provided copies of a map of the snowmobile trails in northwest Illinois for the city police department and the council to have available for their use.

Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to pass **RESOLUTION**  
Resolution No. R12-2010-11, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MOUNT CARROLL, CARROLL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, APPROVING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE CITY'S REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA SPECIAL TAX ALLOCATION FUND FOR THE PAYMENT OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE EXPENDITURES. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, and Risko, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Resolution No. R12-2010-11 was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Risko seconded to pass **ORDINANCE**  
Ordinance No. 2010-12-10, AN ORDINANCE INCREASING THE NUMBER OF LICENSES FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Bork, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Ordinance No. 2010-12-10 was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Mrs. Anna Gray reported that she had helped to work on another grant **FARMERS MARKET** to the Dept. of Agriculture to expand the Farmers Market success this next year. Their goal is to provide more marketing, have more umbrellas for the booth participants and partner with the Learn Great Foods business to provide some workshops on these Saturdays throughout the summer. She expressed her appreciation to the council for approving the speed limit change along the downtown streets.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Cooper seconded to adjourn **ADJOURNMENT** the meeting. Roll call vote: Alderman Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, and Boelkens, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the January 11, 2011 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler  
City Clerk & Collector