

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 25, 2008 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Randy Pepin attempted to ring the bell to announce the start of the meeting. The rope to the bell appeared to be stuck. Mayor Carl Bates called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Roll call: Mayor Carl Bates, present, Aldermen John Boelkens, present, Nina Cooper, present, Diane Lego, absent, Doug Bergren, present, Bill Sparboe, present, and Doris Bork, present.

RINGING OF BELL  
CALL TO ORDER  
ROLL CALL

Alderman Bork led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reverend Harkness of the Mt. Carroll Methodist Church gave the invocation.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2008 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

MINUTES

Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to authorize the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of November 2008 as approved by the finance committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Mayor Bates reported that the total of the bank account balances as of today was at \$748,825.45. He noted there was a negative balance in the water fund and the finance committee had addressed this matter. Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Cooper seconded to approve the financial report as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

COMMITTEES

Mayor Bates reported of the November 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> license and ordinance committee meetings:

LICENSE & ORDINANCE

1. Mayor Bates reported that the committee discussed the requirements for restricting commercial vehicle parking. Alderman Cooper provided a written overview of the main decisions. He asked the city attorney if this information would present enough to develop an ordinance for the council's consideration. City Attorney Ronald Coplan was in attendance and stated that the listing of requirements was very well done and it appeared there was a lot of thought put into this matter.
2. The committee discussed the progress of the clean up at the Carroll Street property. City Attorney Ronald Coplan reported that he appeared in court on November 19<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Lartz had appeared as well. He stated he had advised the court that there was still more progress that needed to be made. The matter has been set for trial on December 29, 2008 at 11:00 A.M. The city would need to produce someone to testify for this. Since Alderman Cooper had taken the photos of the property and compiled a list of more items to be removed or concealed he asked if she would be available for that date. City Attorney Coplan stated he would like to talk with the Street Superintendent Dauphin whether he would have anything to contribute. Alderman Cooper noted that there had been a great improvement. City Attorney Coplan stated that to this date there no finding by the court, and he noted that he did not feel that the city should ask for any type of monetary penalty. City Attorney Coplan stated that he would follow up with the parties involved before the court appearance on December 29<sup>th</sup>.
3. The committee discussed what publicity could be done to remind residents of the snow removal

COURT HEARING

requirements of sidewalks this winter season.

Alderman Boelkens and Alderman Sparboe reported of and read the WATER, SEWER AND minutes from the November 24, 2008 water, sewer and streets committee STREETS meetings. A copy of these minutes will be added to the record and made a part of these minutes.

Alderman Sparboe reported of the November 25<sup>th</sup> finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Mayor Bates reported that he had been contacted by the individual that wished to move the water reservoir house from the waterworks area. He stated that they were still interested and the issue was to know the time frame for demolition.
3. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation HOLIDAY BONUS to authorize the payment of the holiday bonuses to the city employees and the city aldermen (if the individual wishes) as has been appropriated in the past as follows: a net amount of \$100.00 to the full time employees, \$50.00 to the part time employees and \$25.00 to the aldermen and to authorize the city clerk to check whether the bonus amounts could be paid in "Chamber Bucks" in the above amounts if the fringe benefit tax issues can be clarified by the auditors. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Bergren, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.
4. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to INTERFUND approve the interfund transfer of \$57,304 from the enterprise debt service TRANSFER fund to the enterprise water fund in order to meet expenses for this month. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mr. John Swiech of the CCI committee reported that there was sparse attendance at the last meeting due to other obligations. He noted that he received information about a Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity workshop on data entry into their "Location Information System". Anyone interested in that training could contact him.

Mr. Lou Schau, CDC, reported that the board was continuing work on the drainage of the natural waterway through the property with the Stone House, and the work at the Kraft building was progressing as expected.

Mr. Steve Haring, MSA Professional Services, Inc., was in attendance and MSA provided an updated project report from last night's committee meeting. He noted that he was also here this evening to answer any questions about the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) proposal.

Mrs. Sharon Pepin, Community Funding & Planning Services, was in CIP attendance and addressed the council about her past service with the city completing the CIP in 2002 and updating it in 2006. She stated what she is proposing in this planning process is to add the economic development component. Mayor Bates commented that the council had two proposals to develop the new CIP, Sharon Pepin's at \$3,300.00 and Steve Haring's at \$2,200.00. He expressed that he was conflicted as both are capable and Sharon has a history with the city. He asked the city attorney about the issues that the council need to consider with these types of proposals. City Attorney Coplan stated that the council would need to review whether the city had a proposal that represents what services are required and at what cost. Which proposal best addresses the issues and cost is generally a factor,

however, performance in the past could be a consideration. Which agency is the most compatible? Alderman Cooper asked if the council needed to make the decision tonight as she wished to revisit the past CIP. Alderman Sparboe noted that an issue to consider is the money and he did not feel that there was a lot of grant money out there right now. Mrs. Pepin stated that there were state agencies providing the contrary information and were looking for projects that had the planning completed and were ready to go. Mayor Bates stated that he would also have a conflict with the first meeting that had been set for January 10<sup>th</sup>. Alderman Cooper moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to table the CIP proposals discussion to the next meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates asked the city attorney about the process to waive the bidding and BIDDING approve the proposal from Walker Equipment for the fabricated digester cover. City Attorney Coplan stated that it would take a motion from the council to waive the bidding process and accept the proposal presented and state the reasoning. Mayor Bates stated this matter would be on the agenda for the next meeting to see if the company would consider adjusting the cost.

City Attorney Ronald Coplan reported of the progress with the property WATER PROJECT transfer and easements with the school for the water works improvements project.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to pass ORDINANCE NO. Ordinance No. 2008-11-5, AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES FOR 2008-11-5 ALL CORPORATE PURPOSES FOR THE CITY OF MOUNT CARROLL, CARROLL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2008 AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2009. Total tax levy: \$197,058.00. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. Ordinance No. 2008-11-5 was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Alderman Cooper moved and Alderman Bork seconded to pass the MFT RESOLUTION Supplemental Resolution for Maintenance of Streets for the calendar year January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007 that will appropriate another \$8,000.00 of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the city's general maintenance. Clerk Cuckler reported that this was a catch up to the expenses that ran over even for that year with the extra snowfall in December 2007. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

City Attorney Ronald Coplan stated that he received a copy of the letter from the FIRE SAFETY State Fire Marshall regarding the State's Minimum Fire Safety Standard that STANDARD would require the city to adopt the minimum fire safety standards and make notification to the state. He noted that the regulations are for all occupancies excluding one and two family dwellings and public schools in Illinois. He noted that he would do more checking on this matter and report back to the council with how to respond to this requirement.

City Attorney Coplan reported that he was also contacted by an appraiser that had been hired by the Illinois Department of Transportation that was asking questions about the area around the Shaw's Grocery Store.

Mayor Bates reported of his attendance at the University of Illinois Leadership Symposium in

Springfield, IL the weekend of November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. This session focused on the economy.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m. ADJOURNMENT

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the December 9, 2008 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler  
City Clerk & Collector

Attachment with these minutes is on file in the city hall office.