

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 11, 2008 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Jim Rose 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, Bill Sparboe, present, and Doris Bork, present.
Alderman Cooper led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Pastor Bob Ziebarth, First Baptist Church of Mount Carroll, gave the invocation.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to approve MINUTES
the minutes of the February 26, 2008 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, and Bork, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Cooper seconded to authorize ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of March 2008 as approved by the finance committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, and Boelkens, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Bates reported the total balance of the bank accounts was \$675,631.38. FINANCIAL
Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to approve the REPORT
financial report as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, and Cooper, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Alderman Lego reported of the March 10th license and ordinance COMMITTEES
committee meeting: LICENSE & ORDINANCE

1. Mayor Bates had noted the ordinance examples provided by the city ENGINE BRAKING
attorney regarding the engine braking excessive noise issue. This has NOISE
been and issue at the highway intersection. The committee members consensus was to review the examples and provide a recommendation to the city attorney. Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Bork seconded to direct the city attorney to draft an ordinance prohibiting excessive engine braking noise citywide. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Lego, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
2. Will be talking with the city attorney about the commercial vehicle parking issue that was brought up at the intersection of Carroll and Rapp Streets. Mayor Bates had noted that the neighborhood issue in this area has gotten worse, but he would like to pursue the ordinance that would address this complaint and others in the community.
3. Discussed the garbage and debris on the property located at the intersection of Carroll and Center Streets. Alderman Bork asked if we could pursue the clean up of this property? To present this matter to the city attorney at the council meeting. City Attorney Ronald Coplan was in attendance and stated that there was a history with this property. City Attorney Coplan suggested to start with the "Notice to Abate" and if there was no action to then issue a citation. He stated that generally the fines are nominal and this does not solve the problem. He stated he felt the city would probably need to seek a court order. He stated with other nuisance issues such as weeds it is clearly identified, but with the personal property there is more of a gray area. He stated to pursue this that he would like

more authority that this is more than a city employee stating that this is junk. Alderman Cooper stated she felt this matter should be pursued and asked if an order of community service would be an option? City Attorney Coplan stated that there are certain kinds of penalties handling these matters, and he was not sure that the city could ask for or impose community service work. He stated he would like to pursue this matter with the court and would ask for a continuing court order, which would need persistent attention from the city. City Attorney Coplan stated he would work with the city clerk and the police chief to develop the "Notice to Abate" and have that served. Mayor Bates noted that he did receive a complaint about another property and he felt the city did need to put in its due diligence to address this matter throughout town.

4. Discussed the enforcement of the snow removal from the sidewalks. This was an issue this year. The mayor asked if we hired people to clean the sidewalks could the charges be assessed to the resident or owner by other means than by placing a lien on the property? To review the ordinance. It was noted that this section was under 7-1-8 in the city code.
5. Discussed the delinquent water bills. The clerk noted that the newspaper article did provide some action from a few of the residents on the list. The council would sill ask the city attorney if the delinquent residents could be listed in the newspaper? City Attorney Ronald Coplan stated that the delinquent property taxes are listed in the newspaper and he did not see why the city could not also report the water bill delinquencies as well. Mayor Bates stated he would like to have this done as the last resort. The council members present were in agreement to have the water and sewer committee work with the city clerk/collector to make contact again to the delinquent residents to work out a payment plan and if that action is not successful to have the water service shut off until the bills were paid in full.
6. Discussed the water tower painting contract on the present storage tank. Need to make contact with Watertower Paint and Repair Company/Maguire Iron about clearing up this old contract. Mayor Bates stated that Maguire Iron would be mobilizing into town in the next month for the installation of the new water tower. City Attorney Ronald Coplan stated that there was a contact with the company that was done previously and he should be the one to check with first.

Alderman Bergren reported of the March 10th police committee meeting: POLICE

1. Chief Hockman provided a report to the committee of the maintenance costs on the Impala squad car since it was purchased. It was noted that over \$5,000 was done to this vehicle in the two years of ownership.

Alderman Boelkens reported of and read the minutes of the March 10th water and sewer committee meeting. A copy of these minutes attached as a part of the record with these minutes. WATER & SEWER

Alderman Sparboe reported of the March 10th streets committee meeting: STREETS

A copy of these minutes would also be attached as a part of the record. The recommendations from the meeting are as follows:

1. Alderman Sparboe presented the streets committee recommendation to SUMMER HELP advertise for summer help for the cemetery, water, sewer and streets departments. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, and Bergren, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
2. Alderman Sparboe presented the streets committee recommendation to ask the ROOF REPAIR city crew to develop the bid specifications for the roof repair at the city "Morton Building" at the public works department. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes,

Bergren, yes, and Sparboe, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. the motion was carried.

3. Alderman Sparboe presented the streets committee recommendation to **STREET LIGHTS** authorize the street superintendent to order at least 6 more globes for the city streetlights, and if a price break is given on 10 to order up to 10 of the globes. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, and Bork, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. the motion was carried.
4. Alderman Sparboe presented the streets committee recommendation to **CEMETERY FLOWERS** approve the advertisement in the newspaper to have all flowers and decorations removed from the cemetery by April 1, 2008 for the spring clean up. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, and Boelkens, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes.
5. The consensus of the committee was to schedule a streets committee with the cemetery board on March 24th at 6:30 p.m.

Alderman Sparboe reported of the March 11th finance committee meeting: **FINANCE**

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to **PAY REQUESTS** authorize the mayor to sign the payment requests from Loberg Excavating for \$16,353.00 and Maguire Iron. Inc. for \$68,552.11 for the water works improvement project and to be processed for the EPA loan disbursement. Roll call vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, and Cooper, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
3. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to **MAYFEST CONTRIBUTION** authorize the contribution to the Mayfest Committee in the total amount of \$2,500.00 disbursed from two funds; the general fund -\$1,000.00 and the band fund-\$1,500.00. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Lego, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
4. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to **INTERFUND TRANSFER** authorize the interfund transfer of \$12,480 from the city grant fund to be split evenly \$6,240 to the city general fund towards the purchase of the bricks and \$6,240 to the city water fund towards the water works improvements project. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, and Bergren, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
5. Alderman Bergren reported that he had a request to hold the "Jazzercise" classes at the city Community House. The council would need to consider the charges for this and the representative would need to check the calendar with the clerk for the scheduling.
6. Alderman Sparboe noted that the Mount Carroll Township Public Library would be celebrating its Centennial Anniversary. To consider a proclamation this summer for this.
7. Discussed the delinquent water bills and payment enforcement.
8. The committee tabled the IMRF service credit issue to consider the cost estimates.
9. The next finance committee meeting on March 25th will start at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Bates reported of the update from Sharon Pepin, Community Funding & Planning Services. Noted that the city was not approved for a Safe Routes **SAFE ROUTES GRANT** to School Grant in this application cycle. She provided a report of the funded communities and stated that she was checking on what reasons the city was not considered and would report back to the council.

Mr. Steve Frederick, Mount Carroll Lions Club, was in attendance and presented **STREET SOLICITATION** the street solicitation request for the organization to be held on May 3, 2008 at

the highway intersection between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and the Main and Market Streets intersection between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to noon. Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Bork seconded to grant the street solicitation request from the Lions Club for May 3, 2008. Roll call vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, no, and Cooper, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

City Attorney Ronald Coplan and the city council reviewed a couple of the ORDINANCE ordinances under consideration. The one is to prohibit certain commercial vehicles REVIEW from parking in the residential areas of town. The other was to consider what was next in adopting building codes. It was decided to have some examples of building codes and enforcement from other communities. This would be discussed at the next license and ordinance committee meeting on April 21, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Bates reported that he had received information from Curry Motors regarding the state bid for police squad car vehicles. He noted they did have a quote for a Ford Crown Victoria model. The council discussed whether the past lawsuit would still hold for the Ford vehicles. City Attorney Coplan stated the city could check to see whether the dealer was bound to honor the "Blackball" list by Ford.

Clerk Cuckler reported that the lease renewal was coming up for the University of Illinois Extension for the office space in city hall. She stated she would have a copy of the lease for the council at the next meeting.

Alderman Bork asked whether all of the paver bricks had been delivered yet? Mayor Bates stated he would check on that matter.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to adjourn the ADJOURNMENT meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Lego, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Mayor Carl Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the March 25, 2008 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector