

MINUTES OF THE JULY 8, 2008 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Lou Schau 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, Nina ROLL CALL  
Cooper, present, Diane Lego, present, Doug Bergren, present, Bill Sparboe, present, and Doris Bork,  
present.  
Alderman Nina Cooper led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Alderman John Boelkens gave the invocation.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to approve the MINUTES  
minutes of the June 24, 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.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Sparboe seconded to authorize the ACCOUNTS  
payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of July 2008 as approved PAYABLE  
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.

Mayor Bates noted the bank account balances with the beginning of the month FINANCIAL REPORT  
total at \$1,142,467.83 and with the bills out as of today the total was \$763,507.74. Alderman Boelkens  
moved and Alderman Sparboe seconded to approve the 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.

Aldermen Sparboe reported of the July 8<sup>th</sup> finance committee meeting: COMMITTEES  
FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Reviewed the Exterior Beautification Painting Application. Mayor Bates noted a couple of  
additions to the application. The clerk to make the revision and provide to interested residents.
3. Reviewed the delinquent water bills listing.
4. Mayor Bates noted that as of July 1<sup>st</sup> there was another minimum wage increase for Illinois.
5. Alderman Bergren asked that the city council consider adding up to another \$10,000 to the  
Downtown Enhancement Program. He stated monies from the Tax Increment Finance fund that  
are reimbursed back into the funds may be used for just this type of program, and improvements  
that are made to the downtown would add to the district's assessed valuation. To consider  
whether to move some of the TIF fund money into this program. Mr. Len Anderson was in  
attendance and noted that there were some areas of the Masonic Lodge building that might need  
some repairs. The council to consider any action upon this matter. DOWNTOWN  
Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to authorize ENHANCEMENT  
adding another \$5,000 into the Downtown Enhancement Program for this PROGRAM  
fiscal year from the TIF funds that are available to the city. 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.
6. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to COMPUTER  
approve the proposal from Future Quest Technologies, Inc. to conduct MAINTENANCE  
quarterly computer maintenance on the police and water and sewer department computers at the  
cost of 3 visits at \$95.00 each and 1 visit at \$125.00. 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.

7. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation **EMPLOYEE** to approve the purchase of a \$30 Chamber Bucks certificate to be given **ANNIVERSARY** to Superintendent Eric Dauphin to recognize his twenty-year anniversary as a full time city employee. 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.
8. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to **FIREWORKS** approve the contribution of \$250.00 to the Mount Carroll Fire Department for the fireworks display. 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. Alderman Sparboe noted that he felt this was one of the best fireworks displays that we have ever had. Great job!
9. Mr. Len Anderson reported of the Car Cruise activities on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Several safety issues to be addressed. The next Car Cruise is scheduled for July 19<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Bates stated that one of the agenda items under finance that was not **WEBSITE** addressed was the costs for the administration of the City/Chamber website. He received a proposal from the Chamber president to consider an amount of \$1,500 to be paid to Ms. Gable. This was not itemized and the Chamber President Laura DeSpain was not able to attend tonight. The council members present voiced their approval to table this matter until the next meeting.

Mayor Bates also noted that the values were available from the county clerk to begin work on the annual tax levy. To consider this at the next meeting as well.

Mr. Dennis Pate, Moring Disposal, Inc., was in attendance and addressed the letter **WASTE REMOVAL** he presented to the council of a rate increase of \$1.00 per household per month (which would amount to \$760 more each month). Alderman Sparboe commented that he has been impressed with Moring's service these many years and overall held the rates steady for many of those years. Mr. Pate stated that the fuel costs that have doubled since last year has become a very large part of the operating budget that wasn't the case before and it has impacted everything they do and the landfills have also raised their fees due to the fuel costs as well. Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to approve the rate increase presented by Moring Disposal, Inc. to increase the household monthly fee by \$1.00. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, no, and Boelkens, yes. Vote: 5 yeses and 1 no. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates asked the council to consider the request from Mr. Robert Law **POWER LINE** to have a pole and electric service line installed on city property in Point Rock Park to service a building to the south of this area. Jo Carroll Energy has provided a drawing of the pole location and would do the work at Mr. Law's expense. Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Bork seconded to allow Jo Carroll Energy to place two electric poles on city property to provide service to Mr. Robert Law. 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.

Mr. Len Anderson of the Friends of the Waukarusa reported that there were a couple of signs to repair at the park. Mayor Bates asked Mr. Anderson to have his group check on the trees that were planted by the sewerage treatment plant. He felt that some needed to be replaced. Mr. Anderson stated that he would have this done and report back to the council.

Alderman Lego left the council chamber at 8:00 p.m.

Mr. John Swiech reported that the next People for Progress meeting was scheduled for July 17<sup>th</sup> in city hall at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Lou Schau of the CDC reported that work was progressing on the Kraft building rehabilitation and thanked the mayor and council for the work on the sidewalk on the east side of the building. He noted that they had installed a railing in this area and have now met the ADA entrance requirements. The Beautification Committee was working with the city crew to complete the plantings around the Community House and was working with the community service workers to complete the plantings around the county courthouse building. A clean up of the area around the "Stone House" was being done as quickly as possible. He noted that the state was holding back a percentage of the funds to the University of Illinois Extension program, so this would mean more local funding would be needed to maintain the same services.

Mayor Bates reported that MSA Professional Services, Inc. provided a written status report of the water improvements project.

The council members present were in agreement to work up some specifications to request bids for the tuck pointing of the city hall building, and to consider the painting of the fire escape at the city hall building.

Mayor Bates reported that work was to start on the roof of the Morton Building this week.

Clerk Cuckler reported that Mr. Sisler of Sisler Roofing and Construction was WATER WORKS  
in and stated he was going to start work on the roof of the water works building ROOF  
the week of the 14<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. They were hoping to work around some of the work on the well houses so they wouldn't all be working in this area at the same time. She noted that the contract with Mr. Sisler requires ½ down at the start of the project. Total due \$9,913.83. Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to approve the payment of \$9, 913.83 to Sisler Roofing and Construction before the next council meeting. 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.

Mayor Bates reported that he was working with Superintendent Dauphin to pick out some new park equipment for Percy Park and Point Rock Park. Cost could be around \$9,500.

Mayor Bates and Mr. John Swiech reported that Mr. Swiech has been working SUMMER YOUTH  
with the City of Savanna to add some Mount Carroll teenagers on the Summer PROGRAM  
Youth Program. It is possible that the three summer help employees with the city could go under the program for a few weeks. To report back at the next meeting.

Alderman Sparboe noted the Mount Carroll Township Public Library 100-year LIBRARY  
Anniversary. He asked if the city would consider a Proclamation and help with CELEBRATION  
funding for some of the entertainment for the August 1<sup>st</sup> celebration activities. No objections were voiced by the council members present. Mayor Bates stated that was what the band fund was to be used for.

Alderman Bergren stated that he noticed there was some equipment parked along Carroll Street again and wondered where we were regarding the parking there. Mayor Bates reported that he recalled that there were a few specifics that the council needed to consider in directing the city attorney to draft an ordinance. Maybe this could be revisited at the license and ordinance committee meeting.

Alderman Bergren stated that he and the historic preservation committee members have some concern about one of the downtown buildings and how the one wall looks like it is in need of repair. Mayor Bates stated that he was also aware of the concerns that he has raised and that he would try to talk with the property owner before we consider any other action.

Mayor Bates reported of two meetings coming up: The Northern Illinois Mayor's Association on July 17<sup>th</sup>. He would not be able to attend, so anyone interested should let the clerk know if they would like to go to this in Rock Falls, IL. The Farm Bureau is having a Local Government Conference on July 29<sup>th</sup> in Lena, IL. To consider at the next meeting.

Mayor Bates reported of receiving the approval from DCEO for the waiver of GRANT the extension of the Opportunity Returns Brick Street Grant.

Alderman Cooper asked if there were any other meetings that were not listed on the month's calendar. Mayor Bates stated he did not believe so was there anything in particular? Alderman Cooper asked if there were any meetings of the Revolving Loan Fund committee scheduled, and if she could have a copy of the minutes from their last meeting. Mayor Bates stated he was not aware of any meetings of that committee scheduled for this month, and he asked the clerk if she was provided a copy of the minutes from their last meeting. Clerk Cuckler stated that she did not have those minutes.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to adjourn the ADJOURNMENT meeting. 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. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the July 22, 2008 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler  
City Clerk