

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 10, 2009 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Robert Sisler rang the ball 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, absent, Diane Lego, present, Doug Bergren, present, Bill Sparboe, present, and Doris Bork, present.
Alderman Bergren led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Pastor Floyd West, Center Hill United Brethren Church, gave the invocation.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to approve MINUTES the minutes from the February 24, 2009 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Lego seconded to authorize the ACCOUNTS PAYABLE payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of March 2009 as approved by the finance committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported the account balances in the bank totaled FINANCIAL REPORT \$726,452.37 as of today. Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Bork seconded to approve the financial report as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

COMMITTEES
Alderman Sparboe reported of the March 3rd finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. Assessed the process of collecting water bills and the handling of delinquents. The clerk was asked to check with other communities about some of their provisions and whether they have some guidelines or codes that reflect the following:
 - A. To consider a higher customer deposit fee for the renters.
 - B. To consider a higher water turn on fee
 - C. To consider whether we could charge an advance billing with the start up of a new resident
 - D. To consider whether we could set a provision that the water bills must be paid by the property owner only
 - E. To consider changing the penalty structure on open and closed accounts
2. The committee set a budget meeting for March 10, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.
3. Discussed the IMRF program.

Alderman Sparboe reported of the March 10th finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Reviewed some of the budget line items. To look at the general, water, and sewer funds along with the salaries at the next meeting scheduled for March 24th at 6:00 p.m.
3. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation COMPUTER BACK UP to authorize the purchase of the battery back up system for the computer BACK UP at the water & sewer department office at the cost of \$167.26 from Future Quest Technologies. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

4. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation JE NEWBORN to send a letter to J.E. Newborn Masonry of Warren, IL stating that the council approved his proposal for the tuck pointing of the south wall of the city hall building at the cost of \$7,300.00. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, 1 absent.
5. Alderman Sparboe reported that the clerk provided a copy of the TIF EXPENSES Special Tax Allocation Fund (TIF) expenses over the last three years. Mayor Bates stated that the balance in the account should be able to be transferred to the general fund to reimburse these expenses. Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Bork seconded to INTERFUND authorize the interfund transfer of \$39,000 from the TIF Fund (Special TRANSFER Tax Allocation Fund) to the General Fund. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.
6. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation IML WORKSHOP to authorize the \$20 registration fee and mileage expense for Clerk Cuckler to attend the IML Workshop on March 20th in Cherry Valley, IL. Roll call vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.
7. Alderman Bork reported of her trip to Washington, D.C. to talk with the DC TRIP legislators. They mostly talked with staff members, but were given a few tips on making a request to the IEPA for “principal forgiveness” regarding the loan for the water improvements project. The committee asked the mayor to direct a letter to the IEPA director about a review of the loan.
8. The committee reviewed the proposal from Moring Disposal, Inc. RECYCLING BINS regarding the purchase of new recycling bins. If the red ones were wanted the city would need to order a minimum of 200 at the cost of \$9.75 each. Moring would provide their yellow bins on an as needed basis at \$10.00 each. The consensus of the committee was to start to purchase the yellow recycling bins from Moring when more are needed.
9. Mayor Bates reported of a request from Shirley Holm, 412 E. BENCH REQUEST Washington Street, regarding the placement of a bench in memory of her husband, Richard, in front of the Mt. Carroll Café business. She would order the bench if the city was agreeable. The committee and council members present voiced their approval to this request if the owners of the business gave their permission.

Mayor Bates asked the council to consider the transfer of \$2,000 from the INTERFUND TRANSFER general fund to the revolving loan fund. This being a part of the TIF funds being transferred into the general fund and would be used towards reducing the loan amount for the Campbell Center Foundation loan. Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to authorize the interfund transfer of \$2,000 from the city general fund to the city revolving loan fund. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to authorize TRAVEL EXPENSES the payment of \$621.28 to Alderman Doris Bork for expenses from the Washington, D.C. trip last week. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Lego reported of the March 9th license & ordinance committee LICENSE & ORDINANCE

meeting:

1. Alderman Lego read the minutes of the meeting. The committee reviewed the draft of the ordinance relating to parking restrictions of commercial vehicles. After discussion and hearing public comment Mayor Bates stated that there were two areas of the draft that would need to be revised. That the license plate designation needed to state "greater than "B" classification" and that the private property restrictions would be excluded. City Attorney Ronald Coplan was in attendance and noted the revisions and commented that the recreational vehicles were not prohibited from being parked on the private property.

Alderman Lego reported of the March 9th cemetery board meeting: CEMETERY

1. Superintendent Dauphin stated that he would like the part time employees to start April 1st. All were in consensus to make notification to have all of the flowers and decorations picked up by April 1st and that new decorations could be placed at the gravesites after April 5th.
2. Discussed getting quotes for a new tractor to replace the John Deere that was totaled last year.
3. Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Bork seconded to hire TREE INJECTIONS Foley Tree Care to do the walnut tree injections at the cemetery at a cost not to exceed \$225.00. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.
4. To check with Brian Woessner again about new trees and possible placement at the cemetery.
5. Alderman Lego moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to place ADVERTISEMENT an ad in the Mirror Democrat for two weeks regarding the cemetery decoration removal. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Sparboe reported of the March 9th streets committee meeting: STREETS

1. Herrell Electric would be installing a new electric service to the "Welcome to Mount Carroll" sign sometime soon.
2. Superintendent Dauphin reported that the Lions Club would not commit to helping to redo the bathrooms at the community house. However, they would be donating \$500.00 towards the project for the city.
3. Discussed the big drop off from the Methodist Church drive out onto Main Street. Superintendent Dauphin stated that they would be making some adjustments there this year.
4. Alderman Sparboe presented the streets committee recommendation to LED LIGHT authorize the purchase of a new solar LED light fixture for the one park flag pole at the cost of \$479.99 from Unique & Extensive Solar Powered Outdoor Lighting of Florida. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates asked the council to consider the request from the Bettendorf PARK EVENT Fire Chief Gerry Voelliger to use the City Point Rock Park grounds to hold a cyclocross bicycle race on April 5, 2009 if the conditions were not too muddy. Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to authorize the use of the park on April 5th for the US Adventure Racing Association event. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Boelkens reported of the March 9th water & sewer committee meeting: WATER & SEWER

1. The measurements for the digester cover were forwarded to MSA to go to the manufacturer.

2. The water project would be gearing up again soon.
3. Superintendent Handel reported he was checking on the pool drain issue and hoped to have that resolved soon whether we would need to change anything.
4. Alderman Bork reported of the stimulus package materials she received from the legislators. The suggestion was to ask for principal forgiveness on the water project. Director Doug Scott should be contacted. Alderman Boelkens presented the water and sewer committee recommendation to authorize the mayor to write a letter to the director of the IEPA and carbon copy this to the legislators. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, LETTER TO EPA Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.
5. Discussion about the city's aquifer water sources.

Mayor Bates reported that the committees started a review of the Capital Improvement Plan with Sharon Pepin on this same evening. Another meeting to go over the draft of the plan was scheduled for Saturday, March 21, 2009 at 8:30 a.m.

Alderman Bergren reported of the March 9th police committee meeting: POLICE

1. Chief Hockman provided a list of part time police pay scales from around the area. He stated that when considering their wage this year he hoped the council would consider that these individuals work holidays and vacations for the full time employees, and help during the Mayfest and 4th of July activities. The part time employees have carried us through some very rough times over the years. More training is required for the part time employees and it has been getting tougher to get workers for the wage.

Mr. Jacob Ehmke, MSA, was in attendance and reported that once the weather MSA REPORT broke the work on the water project would start up again. Some of the restoration items would be reviewed and identified as well. He noted that the next construction progress meeting would be April 3rd at 8:00 a.m. in city hall.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Bork seconded to pass RESOLUTION NO. Resolution No. R2009-3-5, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MOUNT R2009-3-5 CARROLL, CARROLL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, TO INDUCE THE REDEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY WITHIN THE DOWNTOWN AND SOUTH CITY TAX INCREMENT FINANCING REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The Resolution No. R2009-3-5 was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Bates stated that the next item on the agenda was the Revolving REVOLVING LOAN FUND Loan Fund Application submitted by the Mount Carroll Community Development Corporation. He stated from the meeting yesterday the committee members of the board have left the decision regarding this loan to the city council. Everyone involved in the CDC membership also has some involvement with the Revolving Loan Fund application review. He stated the loan amount first requested was \$150,000 that has been reduced to \$90,000. The letter of commitment by securing this loan would show that these funds would be leverage towards the CDAP Flexible Grant Application for the rehabilitation of the Kraft Building. The money would only be used if the grant is approved. Alderman Bork expressed her concern and stated she felt this matter should be tabled. She stated she did not view the CDC as a business and was under the impression that this money would primarily be loaned to businesses.

She also expressed her concern about the CDC having the revenues to pay back the loan. Alderman Bergren stated that he felt this was a good project for the city and the downtown. This building was a “keystone” of the downtown, and there was potential for this to become an income producing building. The loan money would be paid back through the TIF funds. Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to approve the Revolving Loan Fund application in the amount of \$90,000 to the Mount Carroll CDC contingent upon the CDC securing the DCEO Flexible Fund grant for the Kraft Building Restoration Project. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Lego, no, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, no, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 3 yeses, 2 noes and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

The council members present voice their approval to ask Moring Disposal, Inc. BULKY WASTE to schedule the bulky waste pick up for May 2, 2009. Mayor Bates stated he would do some checking into an appliance pick up.

Mr. Scott Bockman and Ms. Vickie Heiser of East Broad Street were in NUISANCE attendance and addressed the council about their common neighbor that has accumulated dog waste in the front walk and a lot of trash on the back deck. Mr. Bockman stated that this was a recurring problem and their attempts to talk to the neighbor have gone unheeded. Mayor Bates and the council stated that they would assess this matter and take the appropriate action to contact the renter and the landlord.

Mayor Bates noted the correspondence from Blackhawk Hills R, C, & D about CIP GRANT the city being awarded the CIP grant in the amount of \$2,000. Once the Capital Improvement Plan was completed the city would receive this reimbursement.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to adjourn the ADJOURNMENT meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, and Cooper, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the March 24, 2009 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk