

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2007 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mrs. Karen Kromer 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, absent, Doug Bergren, present, Bill Sparboe, present, and Doris Bork, present.

Alderman Doris Bork led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reverend Mark Harkness, Mount Carroll Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Bork seconded to approve the MINUTES minutes of the September 11, 1007 regular meeting and the September 17, 2007 adjourned 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.

Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Sparboe seconded to authorize ACCOUNTS PAYABLE the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month September 2007 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.

Mayor Bates reported of the balance of \$921,366.88 as of September 25th FINANCIAL REPORT in the bank checking accounts. 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, Cooper, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Bergren reported of the September 19th historic preservation COMMITTEES advisory committee meeting: HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1. Mrs. Alice Neuschwanger has been completing the research needed to complete the audio portion of the walking tour. The committee members approved a motion to ask the city to contribute \$150 to Mrs. Neuschwanger for her time. The committee has also compiled the information to pursue a grant from the state preservation agency to mass-produce the audio CD of the walking tour. If this can be secured the cost to Mrs. Neuschwanger could be reimbursed from the grant funds.
2. One of the committee members has sent out an inquiry to the City of Naperville regarding their tear down and rebuild ordinance within the historic district.
3. It was reported that someone had been stealing the pavers being cleaned down at the burning grounds.

Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to authorize the AUDIO CD WORK payment of \$150 to Mrs. Alice Neuschwanger for her research work for the historic walking tour audio CD. 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.

Mayor Bates stated that he would talk with the street superintendent about GATE FOR BURNING setting up a gate to the city "burning grounds" area along Galena Street GROUNDS to see if that would deter any more paver brick losses.

Alderman Sparboe reported of the September 25th finance committee FINANCE Meeting:

1. The bills were reviewed and approved. FINANCE
2. Mayor Bates and Alderman Bork reported of attending the meeting called by State Representative Mike Boland in Rock Island, IL to talk about the recently approved state budget.
3. Clerk Cuckler and Mayor Bates reported of the new website proposal being reviewed by the Chamber of Commerce. The costs through the GovOffice company were as follows: a one time license fee of \$600, annual fee of \$396 for the monthly service, and a one time graphic design option at the cost of \$400. Total \$1,396 that could be shared with the chamber if they wish to move forward. Jan VanBuskirk was in attendance and reported that Christiene Gable had checked the trial website and found that to be very user friendly. She stated she felt that Christiene would also work with the chamber and the city to set up and maintain the site. WEBSITE
Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to authorize the payment of one half of the \$1,396 cost for the set up of the new Mount Carroll website with the chamber with the GovOffice company. 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.
4. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation INTERFUND TRANSFER to authorize the interfund transfer of \$7,398 from the city depreciation fund to the city sewer o/m fund to cover the costs for the new pump and repairs to the generator at the sewer plant. 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.
5. The committee discussed the denial letter from the state DCEO regarding the city's application for a facilities CDAP grant for the water works improvements project.

Mr. Len Anderson was in attendance and reported the Friends of the Waukarusa would be looking at the walking trails at the park on October 5th.

Mr. John Swiech on behalf of the CCI steering committee reported of the state agency round table held today at the Farm Bureau building. It was attended by over 60 people.

Mayor Bates read the MSA Project Update report.

MSA PROJECT UPDATE

SOUTHEAST LANE STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Construction continues. All curb and gutter have been installed. SE Lane and S. Jackson Street have been paved in asphalt and gravel shoulders have been installed. The stop bars have been painted on the roadway; the stop and railroad crossing signs should be installed later this week. Remaining earthwork is being completed and final topsoil placed in preparation of seeding and mulching. The driveways to the properties on SE Lane should be ready for paving late this week. If the weather cooperates, the construction should be completed in the next week and a half.

PHASE 2 WATER WORKS IMPROVEMENTS GRANT RESUBMISSION

Grant awards have been made. Unfortunately, the city's water works grant application did not receive any CDAP funding.

PHASE 2 WATER WORKS IMPROVEMENTS BIDDING AND CRS

Contract execution is awaiting approval from the IEPA.

Mayor Bates noted that the street superintendent hired Mr. Ryan Guenzler to help with the mowing for the remainder of the season at the park, road parkways and city grounds.

After discussion the council members present voiced their approval to set the SPECIAL MEETING time at 6:30 p.m. to start the October 29, 2007 special meeting to adopt the Tax Increment Finance

ordinances for the amendment to the Redevelopment Project district.

Mrs. Sharon Pepin, Community Funding & Planning Services was in attendance and presented some of the final documentation to be submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to meet the loan requirements for the water works project. She provided copies of the Notice of Intent to the bidders for the two contracts that would need to be signed by the mayor, copies of two draft ordinances that would be needed to increase the city's debt services charges to the residents up to \$22.00 per user per month and provide for the IEPA access to the city's records to insure compliance with the terms of the IEPA Loan Agreement and Rules, and a complete project cost from the bids that were submitted. The actual cost less the one \$25,000 grant from Representative Boland was \$4,236,130. Noted it was unfortunate that the CDAP grant was denied. She stated that she and the mayor had talked with the DCEO representatives today about how this was decided. There was no indication that there could be a review to help the city. This does set the total amount about \$80,000 different from the total set up in the intent to borrow funds from the IEPA. If another amount would be needed by the city the ordinance would need to be redone. If the city wishes to maintain what has been done, the documents from this evening should fulfill all of the final information to have the IEPA complete a loan agreement by the end of this week. Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Sparboe seconded to authorize the mayor to sign the Notice of Intent to Award letters to the two bidders for contract #1 and contract #2 of the water works improvements project. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeases, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

WATER WORKS
IEPA LOAN

Sharon Pepin also noted that the city attorney has provided his legal opinion that would be forwarded to the IEPA's legal counsel. The council did discuss the large increase to the debt service charge to the residents and noted that in full review of the charges they felt the higher users should foot more of the costs of this debt. Sharon Pepin and Marty Beranek of MSA noted that the council should and could review the system once it was in place. There certainly would need to be an assessment of all of the charges to make sure the city was meeting all of the expenses for the water system. Sharon also noted that the city would need to adopt the proposed ordinances before drawing down any of the IEPA loan money.

Mr. Len Anderson reported of the September 22nd car cruise night in town. This was very successful and would be the last one for the year. He stated that their car club would like to work with the city to improve the parking lot areas for the future car cruises.

Alderman Cooper noted the information letter from the state DCEO office regarding the recycling program grants. She asked about looking into certain programs that might also generate some revenue back to the city. No action was taken at this time.

Mayor Bates stated that the bulky waste pick up with Moring Disposal, Inc. was scheduled for October 6th this fall. He asked if the council would be agreeable to also ask Mr. Floyd Brien to offer an appliance pick up in town during the same month. Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Sparboe seconded to approve the advertisement for the citywide appliance pick up with Mr. Floyd Brien to be held on October 12th and 13th. Roll call vote: Alderman Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Lego, absent. Vote: 5 yeases, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported of the September 25th tree board meeting. It was the recommendation of the tree board to have the north maple tree removed that was located at 213 S.

TREE BOARD

Main Street. It was noted that major parts of this tree were dying and the large limbs might cause damage. The council members present voiced no objections.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to adjourn the 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 8:40 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the October 9, 2007 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector