

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 24, 2009 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Ed Juracek 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 Lego led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Pastor Elizabeth Mascal, Mount Carroll Lutheran Church, gave the invocation.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to approve MINUTES the minutes of the November 10, 2009 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, and Bork, yes. Vote: 6 yeases and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Bork seconded to authorize the ACCOUNTS PAYABLE payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of November 2009 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 yeases and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates noted the bank account balances as of today were at FINANCIAL REPORT \$699,851.77. There are three accounts with negative ending balances so these matters were addressed at the finance meeting. Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Cooper 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 yeases and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

COMMITTEES  
Alderman Bergren reported of the November 18<sup>th</sup> historic preservation HISTORIC PRESERVATION advisory committee meeting:

1. It was noted that Char Behrens had been chair of the committee for two years now. According to the city ordinance two years is the limit per individual. After the first of the year the committee will approve another chairman.
2. Mr. Peter Eiteuner presented his letter of resignation from the committee effective January 1, 2010.
3. The Brick Street Workshop for June 2010 has been scheduled and Mr. Royce Baier will be contacted as the instructor to see if he would be available in that month. Campbell Center has agreed to put the workshop on its course catalog.
4. Considering the "Seitner House" for individual recognition for the National Register. (Address is 415 S. Clay Street)
5. The committee will be providing recommendations to the license & ordinance committee for a teardown & rebuild ordinance and a downtown façade guideline ordinance.

Mayor Bates stated that the planning commission met on November 23<sup>rd</sup> SPECIAL USE PERMIT to consider the petition to expand a special use permit submitted by Mitchell and Carla Lamoreux for 405 W. Cole Avenue. The petitioners were granted a special use permit on October 12, 2004 for the purpose of constructing an accessory building for the purpose of housing and conducting a taxidermy business, motor vehicle garage and workshop at this premises. The petitioners request to expand the services provided by offering hydrographic printing that could be printed onto items such as, ATV bodies and parts, firearms, archery bows and other hunting accessories. Mayor Bates reported that

the planning commission's recommendation to the council was to approve the special use permit expansion as requested. Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to approve the special use permit expansion request and direct the city attorney to draft the ordinance required. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Lego, yes. Vote: 6 yeases and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Bergren read the minutes of the November 23, 2009 license LICENSE & ORDINANCE and ordinance committee meeting. A copy of these minutes are attached and made a part of the record for the council meeting. The topics of discussion were the Law's Subdivision dirt and concrete fill issue, the drafting of a fill ordinance, and a presentation by two representatives of the Indiana-Illinois-Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting regarding a Responsible Bidder Ordinance for the City to consider.

Alderman Bergren reported of the November 23<sup>rd</sup> police committee meeting: POLICE

1. Chief Hockman reported he has received offers for a used typewriter that the department could have. The problem has been finding ribbons for the printing.
2. Chief Hockman reported the fall scheduling with one officer gone part of the time went pretty well. They should have a normal work schedule for awhile now.
3. The council members and department heads in attendance approved a committee meeting date change from December 21<sup>st</sup> to December 14<sup>th</sup> for next meeting. All of the committees, license & ordinance, police, cemetery, streets, water & sewer.

Alderman Boelkens reported of the November 23<sup>rd</sup> water & sewer committee WATER & SEWER meeting:

1. Mr. Nick Wagner, MSA was in attendance and provided a project update. The contractors with MSA and Superintendent Handel have conducted a walk through of the water project. A few items on the final punch list are remaining. Loberg will be submitting final contract paperwork in the next week. Nick reported that a final warranty review of the water project would be done in 11 months.
2. Superintendent Handel reported that the digester cover work at the sewer plant had been completed. All council members present commended the crew for a good job.
3. Discussed several complaints about low water pressure and rusty water throughout town. Superintendent Handel stated that they were working on the pressures and adjusting the chemical feed yet. Some of the problems he has reviewed at some of the households has been related to the inside plumbing lines.

Alderman Lego reported of the November 23<sup>rd</sup> cemetery board & streets CEMETERY & STREETS committee:

1. Discussed that the lights to the cemetery star and flag have been out. To check with the street superintendent. Mayor Bates stated that he had checked on this matter today and the lights were on.
2. Mayor Bates reported that Mr. Reid Law mentioned that the fence that borders the cemetery with the Law's property was down and he thought this should be replaced. The consensus of the committee members present was that this was not an issue.
3. Alderman Sparboe commented that the city street crew's work on the Benton Street patching of the holes was appreciated and the grading at Lover's Lane had helped a lot.

Alderman Sparboe reported of the November 24<sup>th</sup> finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. Discussed some of the street lights that were out throughout town and the one that was not replaced from the Illinois Route 64 road project at the intersection of South Jackson Street. To contact Jo Carroll Energy about getting a light back in there.
2. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation INTERFUND TRANSFER to authorize the interfund transfer of \$2,700 from the enterprise depreciation fund to the water fund and \$2,300 from the depreciation fund to the sewer fund in order to meet expenses for the month. 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.
3. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation INTERFUND TRANSFER to authorize the interfund transfer of \$2,200 from the cemetery endowment fund to the cemetery o/m fund to pay for the new directional signs at the city cemetery. 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.
4. The finance committee set the annual tax levy totals for 2009. Grand TAX LEVY total for this year \$196,635. Last year's total was \$197,058. Alderman Sparboe noted that the city's assessed valuation was decreased by \$1,000,000 from last year as well.
5. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation HOLIDAY BONUS to approve the Holiday bonuses for the full time employees at \$100, the part time employees at \$50 and for the council member that chose at \$25. 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.
6. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation GIFT CERTIFICATE to approve the purchase of a \$50 gift certificate from Sievert's Restaurant to be given to Water & Sewer Superintendent Russell Handel for his work on the sewer digester cover. 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.
7. Ms. Sharon Pepin, CFPS, was in attendance and presented a status KRAFT BLDG. report of the Kraft Building Restoration Project. Bids have been received and approval was done by the CDC for the general contractor and most of the materials. The CDC requested a draw from the City loan in the amount of \$26,000 for costs incurred so far. The CDC also requested approval to handle the purchase of the windows, lighting and other items needed through the City that would be paid directly from the City Revolving Loan Fund at the cost of \$51,504.27. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation RLF LOAN DRAW to approve the \$26,000 payment to the Mount Carroll Community Development Corporation from the City Revolving Loan Fund. 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.  
Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation MATERIALS to authorize the purchase of the windows, lights, paint and miscellaneous materials for the Kraft Building Project at the cost of \$51,504.27 to be invoiced to the City and paid through the City Revolving Loan Fund. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Cooper, yes, and Lego, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.  
Alderman Sparboe reported that Mr. Lou Schau of the CDC also reported that there would be a cost saving if they could order the new windows for the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor during this process. However, all of the monies thus far have been earmarked for the project at hand. They would need another \$16,000.00. The CDC was asking the City to consider another revolving loan fund application. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to consider another

Revolving Loan Fund application request from the Mount Carroll CDC. 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.

Alderman Bergren read the report from the November 12<sup>th</sup> People for Progress meeting. The topics of discussion were a Community Theme and Branding, ordinance development regarding building codes, the Brick Street Restoration Workshop, park improvements, and a proposal from the Beautification Committee regarding new benches and planters for the downtown.

Mr. Lou Schau, CDC, reported that the book signing with David Alan Badger went very well on November 14<sup>th</sup>. He noted the framed drawing of the City Hall and six of the books for the City. He reported that the CDC would be working with the contractors for the Kraft Building project to complete the bond and agreement paperwork.

Ms. Sharon Pepin, CFPS, was in attendance and reported that the CDAP grant GRANT UPDATE Agreement with DCEO should be available for the mayor to sign within the next week. This is the emergency grant for the well #2 casing project. Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to authorize the mayor to sign the grant agreement as soon as it was available. 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.

Sharon Pepin presented IEPA loan draw #22 in the amount of \$191,986.00. IEPA LOAN Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Cooper seconded to authorize the mayor to sign the IEPA loan draw request #22 in the amount of \$191,986.00. 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.

Ms. Pepin asked reported the repayment of the loan would start January 31<sup>st</sup>. Mayor Bates reported that it was the consensus of the council to have the accrued interest paid in the first payment on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Pepin stated she would be providing an agreement with IEPA with this accrued interest being paid in that payment.

Ms. Pepin stated she provided a report of the wage increases for the project WAGE INCREASES that had been presented by the water project contractors from August 16<sup>th</sup> through project completion this month. That would be presented in a change order by MSA for the council to consider.

Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Lego seconded to approve to proceed with COMMUNITY the Community House bathrooms rehab project and have the specifications HOUSE developed to let the project out for bids. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Lego, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Mr. Lou Schau of the CDC provided an architect's drawing of the proposed layout of the bathroom rehab to be used for the specifications.

Mr. Reid Law was in attendance and addressed the council about the FILL ISSUE Law's Subdivision dirt and concrete fill issue. He commented that he had seen the letter that was sent to the Illinois Department of Transportation regarding this matter and he felt it was misleading and misrepresented all of the facts. He stated he had replied to this letter to the council and asked that a follow up letter from the city be sent to IDOT. He stated he has talked with Mr. Happ with IDOT and he had asked him to remove the five loads of fill in question. He stated he had removed 7 loads. Mayor Bates stated that the council members discussed the reply letter from Mr. Reid Law and have decided

that they would not direct the city attorney to send another letter to IDOT. He stated the city has done what was possible regarding this matter and would not do anything more. Mayor Bates stated that once the council considers a fill ordinance there would be a permit process and the guidelines regarding the fill materials.

Mr. Law stated that his father (Robert Law) had asked him to address another CEMETERY issue regarding a fence at the boundary of the city cemetery and his property. He felt this fence should be replaced by the city. Mayor Bates asked Mr. Law to provide a letter going over this matter, and he would be talking with the street superintendent about another matter in this same area that he and Mr. Law have looked at.

Mr. Law stated that he had reviewed the latest Capital Improvement Plan CIP as well for the city. He stated he was concerned that more of the street and sidewalk problems were not being addressed. Mayor Bates and Alderman Sparboe noted that money is certainly one of the main reasons it has been hard to prioritize the work that would be done, and as well the water and sewer projects have taken the crew's time over the last two years.

Mayor Bates asked the council to consider the Resolution on the Proposed RESOLUTION Sale of the Thomson Correctional Center. Mayor Bates reported that the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Department of Defense are looking at the prison facility in Thomson, IL. Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Bork seconded to pass the Resolution on the Proposed Sale of the Thomson Correctional Center in support of the project. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Lego, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The resolution was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Gene Teeter and Mr. Ed Juracek of the Campbell Center were in FINANCIAL SUPPORT attendance and addressed the council about the financial status of the business and noted that they were struggling with making ends meet. They have the next year's program in places for the preservation and conservation classes. Alderman Cooper stated she felt that the board might receive some resource information from Mr. Russ Simpson with the Tri-County Economic Development Alliance. He could be reached through the Jo Carroll Energy business office in Elizabeth, IL. Mayor Bates noted the council could consider something, but was concerned about setting a precedent that others would bring to the council in the future.

Mr. Mitch Lamoreux, 405 W. Cole Avenue, was in attendance and thanked the council for their review of his special use permit application and approval.

Mayor Bates reported that he had talked with the local liquor license holders BAR HOURS That would have business on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. He allowed them to stay open until 2:00 a.m.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to adjourn the ADJOURNMENT meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, and Sparboe, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m. The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the December 8, 2009 regular meeting. The attachment included with these minutes is on file in the city clerk's office.  
Julie A. Cuckler, City Clerk & Collector

