

MINUTES OF THE MAY 11, 2010 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Marianne Hutchison 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, absent, and Doris Bork, present.
Alderman Cooper led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Alderman Boelkens gave the invocation.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Bork seconded to approve the MINUTES minutes of the April 27, 2010 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Bork, yes, and Sparboe, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Cooper seconded to approve ACCOUNTS PAYABLE the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of May 2010 as approved by the finance committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, and Sparboe, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates noted the bank accounts total as of today was \$624,409.01. FINANCIAL REPORT
Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Cooper seconded to approve the financial report as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Sparboe, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

COMMITTEES

Alderman Bergren reported of the May 6, 2010 finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. Mayor Bates stated that he had asked Chief Cass to attend this K-9 DOG evening's meeting because he was told by his former employer, the Jo Daviess County Sheriff, that he could purchase the K-9 dog, Scout that he was handling the last two years for \$5,000. Their cost two years ago was \$11,200. The committee discussed the benefit to the community and whether the City would take on the cost of purchase and maintenance. The handler and dog attend two days of training each month, an annual recertification which would require travel and lodging expenses, so far the food had been donated but monthly costs could be about \$60.00 for food, the vet and medicine costs are about \$300 per year, and a kennel would be needed for the squad at the price range of \$200-\$500. Chief Cass reported that Scout had been trained as a full service K-9, narcotics drug searches, tracking, building and area searches, and officer assistance. The committee discussed the use of the Civil Defense fund to help with the purchase of the dog. To place this matter and the part time officer pool on the agenda for the May 11th city council meeting.
2. Reviewed some of the budget expenditure line items. To work on the budget again at the May 11th finance committee meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Alderman Boelkens reported of the May 11th finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Discussion about vendors setting up stands at the Car Cruises this summer. To consider a limited number to start and the vendor should be required to register at city hall.
3. Discussed some budget items for the park and park equipment.
4. Future planning for Galena Street Bridge for next year. Engineering hopefully could be run through the county. Consider the options for the old bridge. Rehabilitate or move?

5. Mr. Bob Law, 100 N. Jackson Street, was in attendance and stated that **PARK** a fence that was along the boundary of his property with the City park had been moved since last year and the city crew were mowing there now. He also stated that there were some small marking flags on his property in that area. Was the City looking to have some of the walking trails go back there? Mayor Bates stated he would contact the street superintendent and take a look at what Mr. Law was inquiring about and stated he was not aware of any plans to take the walking trails back into that area by Mr. Law's property.
6. Alderman Boelkens presented the finance committee recommendation **POLICE** to confirm the hiring and appointment of Mark Schipper as a part time Police Patrol Officer for the City. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, and Sparboe, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.
7. Alderman Boelkens presented the finance committee recommendation **K-9 DOG** to purchase the K-9 dog from the Jo Daviess County Sheriff's Dept. at the cost of \$5,000.00 with the cost being split between two funds; \$3,000.00 from the civil defense fund and \$2,000.00 from the general fund, police department, capital outlay expense. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, and Sparboe, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.
8. Scheduled to work on the budget again May 17th at 6:00 p.m.
9. Alderman Boelkens presented the finance committee recommendation **RECYLCING BINS** to change the sale price of the City recycling bins to \$12.00 instead of \$10.00 to meet the cost of the City's expense to purchase them from Moring Disposal, Inc. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Bork, yes, and Sparboe, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Bergren reported of the April 21st historic preservation committee: **HISTORIC**

1. Election of officers: Cindy Pingitore, President; Larry DeSpain, Vice **PRESERVATION** President; Eina Schroeder, Secretary
2. Noted that an article was put in the Mirror Democrat asking for new members. Mr. Rod Bess submitted a letter of resignation and this was accepted by the committee.
3. The committee reviewed and approved the three applications for Downtown Enhancement Program funds for this year's projects. \$2,050 to Heritage Market, \$5,000 to Old Market LLC, and \$2,950 to the Mount Carroll CDC.
4. Discussed the community brand and theme to be encouraged for use by all of the organizations.
5. Highland Community College Workforce is planning to hire at least two workers for this summer. We are asking for workers to help with the brick street project.
6. The committee has scheduled a Historic Walking Tour of the downtown in conjunction with Brick Street Days over Labor Day Weekend.

Mr. Lou Schau, CDC, was in attendance and reported of the progress of the Kraft Building Remodeling Project and noted the open house scheduled for May 23rd 2-6 p.m. He reported he was working with Sharon Pepin on the CDAP grant for the community house bathrooms and ADA ramp for the outside of the building. The "Way Finding" signs proofs were back from the printers. The CDC was planning two projects for the Stone House in the near future.

Clerk Cuckler stated she had talked with Nick Wagner of MSA and he **MSA STATUS REPORT** had reported that he was working with Superintendent Handel to schedule the 11-month warranty review of the water tower.

Ms. Sharon Pepin, grant consultant, was in attendance and reported that SHARON PEPIN she had contacted IEPA about the city's last draw request for the water project. It had been processed but was short about \$683 due to some questions about the engineering. The \$141,000 should be sent to the City very soon. She reported of the Kraft Building draw request to the USDA for the project in the amount of \$26, 178.57 that would be paid to the contractor, Loescher Heating and Air Conditioning. This request does not require City approval.

Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to CLOSE OUT REPORTS authorize the mayor to sign the close out report documents for the Opportunity Returns grants for the water drilling project and the brick streets project. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, and Sparboe, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried. Ms. Pepin reported that she had been working with Mr. Robert Hatheway of Shaw's grocery store to put together a package to expand the Whiteside and Carroll County Enterprise Zone to his property for the new store. She stated she would ask for a letter for support from the mayor for this project, but also wondered if the City would want to put the remaining property owned by Mr. Dave Johnston in this request to the E-Zone board. An adjoining parcel of Mr. Johnston's was approved into the enterprise zone in the past. Alderman Boelkens moved and ENTERPRISE ZONE

Alderman Bergren seconded to authorize the mayor to send a letter of support to Betty Steinert of the Whiteside County Enterprise Zone to add the property of Bob Hatheway's for the Shaw's grocery store and the remaining 10 acres of Dave Johnston's property. Roll call vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Sparboe, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Ms. Pepin reported that the Blackhawk Hills R C & D was accepting applications for Energy Efficiency Grants for public buildings until June 11, 2010. If there was some project to consider to let her know.

Mayor Bates stated the latest schedule for the brick street project this summer would be during the last two weeks of June.

Mayor Bates stated he was going to meet with the city attorney to discuss the International Building Code ordinance and whether there was any other questions regarding the Fill Ordinance. He asked if the council or anyone from the audience had any questions or comments about the proposed Fill Ordinance. Mr. Reid Law was in attendance and read from Section 2 of the ordinance regarding the needs for a permit. He asked what about when someone wants to fill in an area of their yard? Mayor Bates stated that the individual should at least inquire whether the work they are proposing to do would require a permit. In some cases to fill in an area of a yard or a hole a permit might not be required. Mr. Robert Law asked about projects or agriculture activities within the agriculture districts. He asked about putting in berms for a time before a structure was built. Mayor Bates stated that if it was in the city limits and there was a structure involved then it should fall within this and the construction permits, but this could be referred to the city attorney as a question whether this applies here. Mr. Reid Law asked what the objective was to having this ordinance. Mayor Bates stated that this was to provide information to the City about certain activities and to understand that it would not affect others surrounding the project. Mr. Reid Law stated then that it was not to inhibit what his personal property rights were. Mr. Robert Law asked about putting in ponds. He stated when he has done those he goes through 4 other agencies and was the City also going to require a permit? Mayor Bates stated that the City should be able to require a permit for a pond within the city limits. Mr. Reid Law asked what would be done if a neighbor did not like what was being done or the officer for the city denied the permit. Mayor Bates stated as of now there are two zoning officers that review the permits for the city checking that the set backs are accurate and the work is not detrimental to the neighbor. If they deny any permit they have stated (in writing)

the reason. Mayor Bates stated he would ask the city attorney if anything more needed to be in this ordinance to provide for a review process for the applicant if a permit were to be denied. Mayor Bates noted that the reason this ordinance was put to draft was also due to a project on certain property (in the Law's Subdivision) that the mayor stated he understood was not finished. A project like this would require documentation under these regulations to provide the city with what the finished project was to be. Mayor Bates stated he would be meeting with the city attorney and provide him with the questions provided tonight and asked the clerk to get a copy of the minutes to him as well.

Michele Miller and Brian Borger of the Tri-County Economic Development TCEDA Alliance were in attendance to address the council about their organizations missions and accomplishments over this last year and ask for a contribution from the city again this year. Alderman Lego moved and Alderman Boelkens seconded to approve the contribution of \$500.00 to the TCEDA organization this year. Roll call vote: Aldermen Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Bork, yes, and Sparboe, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Lego seconded to approve the EMPLOYEE POLICIES annual employee policies for the fiscal year 2010 – 2011. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, and Sparboe, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mr. Reid Law addressed the council and asked about sidewalk and street projects to be done this year in order to work on the Capital Improvement Plan. Mayor Bates noted that the City committees would be meeting on May 24th at 6:30 p.m. to go over that information.

Chief Fred Cass brought K9 dog, Scout, into the council chambers and talked about the training that he and the dog have accomplished and the services that could be provided.

Alderman Boelkens moved and Alderman Cooper seconded to adjourn the ADJOURNMENT meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Bork, yes, Boelkens, yes, Cooper, yes, and Sparboe, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the May 26, 2010 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector