

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

Mr. Dan Fish 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, absent, Nina ROLL CALL
Cooper, present, Diane Lego, present, Doug Bergren, present, Bill Sparboe, present, and Doris Bork,
present.
Alderman Bergren led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Alderman Sparboe gave the invocation.

Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Sparboe seconded to approve the MINUTES
minutes of the December 18, 2007 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes,
Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, and Boelkens, absent. Vote: 5 yeases, 0 noes, and 1
absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to authorize the ACCOUNTS
payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of January 2008. Roll call PAYABLE
vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Cooper, yes, and Boelkens, absent.
Vote: 5 yeases, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported the bank account balances as of today were at \$679,146.15. FINANCIAL
Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Sparboe seconded to approve the REPORT
financial report as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes,
Cooper, yes, and Boelkens, absent. Vote: 5 yeases, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

COMMITTEES
CEMETERY
Alderman Lego reported of the January 7th cemetery board meeting:
1. Mayor Bates reported that he had received a call about damages to the Coleman cemetery lot to the south of the Jim Dornbush burial recently. The American Legion marker and the urn for flowers were broken and the wreath at the gravesite was found off its original location. The mayor stated he would go up with Superintendent Dauphin and look at the damage to the marker and recommended that we replace this through the Legion representatives.
2. Discussed the rate increase by Sterling Wilbert Vault Co. for the grave opening fees. To again consider whether this was a service that we could provide. Had previously looked at a Bobcat digger that would need a blade as well as an outrigger. To question whether the other departments could use the equipment when not used for grave openings, and whether the cost of about \$40,000 would be cost effective. To check on prices again. Payments to Sterling Wilbert Vault Co. each year, depending on the amount of openings, has been about \$10,000-\$12,000. The traditional burial fee has been at \$510. This fee would need to be raised no matter which decision was considered. To also check whether the regular summer help in the spring would be able to handle the equipment.
3. To consider a plan for the rehabilitation or replacement of the damaged stones and markers in the old cemetery section.
4. Consensus was that the board would like to set a policy that would require a vault for all of the burials at the cemetery. This has not been a major issue, but this would provide more security for the site and help with the spring settling of the ground.
5. Discussed whether to post a "No Dogs Allowed" sign outside the cemetery entrance or at least to make notice that it would be appreciated to have dogs leashed when walking in the cemetery as well as picking up after them. Mayor Bates noted that this seemed to be a community problem not just at the cemetery. To consider some publicity and ads requesting the dog owners to be more courteous

of others and others property.

6. Scheduled the next meeting for February 4th to follow up on the grave opening fees and services.

Alderman Sparboe reported of the January 8th finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. A budget worksheet was provided by the clerk to start work on this year's budget.
3. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to authorize the approval of the 2nd payment request from Loberg Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$69, 138.00 for the Water works Improvements Project and to authorize the mayor to sign the required documents to process through the EPA loan. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, and Boelkens, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.
4. The committee discussed the past contract with Water Tower Paint and Repair Company for the painting of the current tower structure. Since the project was stalled with the new water tower improvements there was not a resolution to the former contract. The mayor stated he would talk with the city attorney about how to present a letter to the company to resolve this matter.
5. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to approve the flood insurance renewal with the Selective Insurance Company of Southeast at the annual premium of \$674 to maintain the same current coverage values. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, and Boelkens, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried. Noted this was coverage for the sewerage treatment plant.
6. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to authorize the mayor to sign the documents and approve the 3rd payment request from Civil Constructors, Inc. in the amount of \$53,151.19 for the Southeast Lane Roadway Improvement Project. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, and Boelkens, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.
7. Mr. Lou Schau, President of the Mt. Carroll CDC was in attendance and presented a report of the activities and benefits of this organization. Alderman Sparboe presented the finance committee recommendation to approve to raise the annual contribution to the Mount Carroll CDC to \$6,000. Roll call vote: Aldermen Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, and Boelkens, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mr. John Sweich reported that the People for Progress committee was scheduled to have a meeting on January 17th in city hall at 6:30 p.m. They will be considering a time for a town meeting to consider goals for the community. He also reported that the Illinois Extension have scheduled an Entrepreneur's Workshop for February 7th at the Farm Bureau to present information about starting a business.

Mayor Bates read the status report from Sharon Pepin, Community Funding & EPA LOAN UPDATE Planning Services. A copy of this Project Status Report – January 2008 is attached with these minutes to be included with this record. The following action item was considered:

“Loan Disbursement #1 was submitted to EPA on December 20, 2007. This request has been approved and is in the process of going through the comptroller's office. A second payment application was received and approved by MSA from Loberg Excavating in the amount of \$69,138. The City has received and paid for construction engineering invoices from MSA, which is an eligible loan expense. Invoices #1 through #6 totaling \$49,600 have been included in this month's loan request. Attached is

The EPA Loan Disbursement Request documentation requesting \$118,378. This needs to be signed by the Mayor and returned to me for submittal to EPA."

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to authorize the mayor to sign the documentation for the IEPA Loan Disbursement Request. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sparboe, yes, Bork, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, and Boelkens, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mr. Nick Wagner of MSA was in attendance and presented a Project Update. MSA UPDATE
He noted the first construction progress meeting was held on January 4th for the Phase 2 Water Works Improvements Project. A tentative date of January 18th had been scheduled for the next meeting with the contractors.

The council members present voiced their approval to ask Mr. Wagner to put together a draft newsletter for the city's public information use about the project. He stated he would have a draft ready by the next meeting.

Mr. Wagner reported that MSA had completed the IDOT required bridge inspections on December 31st. The required report forms were completed and submitted to IDOT District 2. A summary of the inspections is as follows:

*The State Street and Park Road bridges are in good condition and should continue to perform well in the future with little or no maintenance for the next few to several years.

*The Galena Street Bridge condition had deteriorated since the last inspection in November 2005. The structure was de-rated based on this. In particular, the stringers within the first bay adjacent to the abutments on either end have lost most of the protective paint resulting in rusting and scaling. If the City wishes to continue to use this bridge, a more rigorous system of maintenance must be enacted. MSA recommends that a more thorough investigation of this bridge be completed, as it might be necessary to supplement and or replace some of these stringers. At this point, at a minimum, these stringers must have the rust and scale removed and a protective coating system applied to arrest further deterioration. MSA can assist the City with the recommended Galena Street Bridge evaluation and will provide a proposal for the City's consideration.

Mayor Bates asked the council to consider the approval of the Task Order with BRIDGE
MSA to complete the required bridge inspections at the cost of \$1,500. Alderman INSPECTIONS
Bork moved and Alderman Cooper seconded to approve the task order with MSA for the bridge
inspections and authorize the mayor to sign the document. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Cooper,
yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, and Boelkens, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent.
The motion was carried.

Mr. Charles Colehour was in attendance to ask the council how he might COMMERCIAL ST
pursue the closing or vacation of a portion of Commercial Street in which one of his parcels has a
building that encroaches on the street right-of-way. He stated he was looking to sell this property and
then the encroachment was identified. He stated he conducted a survey and had provided this
information to the clerk and the mayor. Mayor Bates stated that the city attorney had advised that Mr.
Colehour should submit a petition asking for the vacation of fifteen feet of Commercial Street to the
north of the parcels along this block. Mayor Bates noted that this matter could be on the agenda for the
next meeting. He also noted that the roadway would still be wide enough for improvement in the future
by being 55 feet wide, however right now the road is not improved. Mr. Colehour thanked the council
and stated he would provide the required documentation.

Alderman Nina Cooper asked about scheduling a meeting with the area contractors to discuss the matter of developing building codes for the community. The council members present voiced their approval to consider a meeting with the contractors sometime in February. Alderman Cooper stated she would work with the clerk to compile a list of contractors to invite to this meeting.

Dan Fish was in attendance and addressed the council. He stated he was running for Circuit Judge of the 15th Judicial Circuit in the upcoming Primary Election on February 5, 2008. He wished to introduce himself and provided a brochure of information.

Mayor Bates noted the letter from the Illinois Extension about upcoming teleconference workshops geared for municipal governments.

The council members present voiced their approval to reschedule the license & ordinance, police, water and sewer committee meetings from January 21st to January 15th at 6:00 p.m.

Alderman Sparboe moved and Alderman Bork seconded to adjourn the meeting. ADJOURNMENT
Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Cooper, yes, Lego, yes, Bergren, yes, Sparboe, yes, and Boelkens, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1 absent. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

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

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector