

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 9, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Doug Sherf rang the bell to announce the start of the meeting. RINGING OF BELL

Alderman Doug Bergren, Chairman of the meeting in the absence of Mayor Carl Bates called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. CALL TO ORDER

Roll call: Mayor Carl Bates, absent, Aldermen Paul Kaczmariski, present, ROLL CALL

Jim Rose, present, Kevin Powers, absent, Doug Bergren, present, Mike Risko, present, and Joe Grim, present.

Alderman Risko led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Jeff Frederick gave the invocation.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Risko seconded to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2016 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Kaczmariski, yes, Rose, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, and Powers, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1 absent. The motion was carried. MINUTES

Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Grim seconded to authorize the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of February 2016 as approved by the finance committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmariski, yes and Powers, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1 absent. The motion was carried. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Alderman Bergren reported that the bank account balances were totaling \$431,132.62 as of today. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Russell Simpson was in attendance and addressed the council about the status of the Reagan Academy Project. He stated that there was progress noting it was slow but forward. He reported of the three activities working in four different locations. The first was the activity center in Chicago, IL that was establishing the student VISA program. The second was the Global Law Firm that was in California and Shanghai handling the EB5 investors program. The third was the local work on the building facilities. He reported they were focusing on the south end of the school building (on Main Street) at this time. He stated he did not have a specific timeline or a date for the opening of the school, but there was something happening on all three of these fronts. The council members present thanked Mr. Simpson for attending this evening's meeting. REAGAN ACADEMY

Alderman Risko reported of the February 9th streets committee meeting: COMMITTEES
STREETS

1. The crew was maintaining and servicing equipment.
2. There were two grave openings this last month at the cemetery.
3. Discussed the ice skating rink activities. Alderman Grim reported that the Lions Club had donated \$500 towards the purchase of new ice skates for individuals to use and the local girls scouts had purchased about \$300 worth of new skates as well. These were available for use during the day at the Market Street Commons building.
4. Discussed the repair of street pot holes this winter.

Alderman Rose reported of the February 9th police committee meeting: POLICE

1. Review of the monthly report.
2. Discussed the court fines revenues.
3. Discussed the status of K-9, Scout.
4. Alderman Rose presented the police committee recommendation to approve to take Officer Justin DeSpain off of the current probation status, as he has met the OFFICER PROBATION

6-month qualifications. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote of the council] members in attendance.

5. Alderman Rose presented the police committee recommendation PART TIME OFFICER to approve to hire Mr. Jacob Stilling as a part time police officer for the City. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote of the council members present.

Alderman Kaczmariski reported of the February 9th finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Alderman Risko reviewed the general fund revenues for this next budget year. It was noted that the expenses for a couple of departments in the general fund would be reviewed during the council meeting this evening in order to allow time for Sharon Pepin to address the committee as she had another meeting to attend this evening.
3. Ms. Sharon Pepin, Community Funding & Planning Services (CFPS) BDD TIMELINE was in attendance and presented a proposed timeline to lay out the schedule for the review and adoption of the Business Development District (BDD). In discussion, it was presented to have the public hearing and final adoption set for either March 21st or March 24th, which would be a separate date than the regular council meeting, but having a date when Sharon Pepin and Kathy Orr could be in attendance to help with the public hearing. The committee discussed the district's boundaries and whether to build in a component for a residential façade rehab program. Sharon Pepin stated she would be in contact with Kathy Orr this week and would go over some of this evening's discussion and would have the final date for the public hearing and adoption of the BDD available for the city council at the next regular meeting on February 23rd.
4. Ms. Pepin reported that the City's CDAP application for another sewer lining project was recently denied by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. She stated she would make some changes to the application and resubmit it at no cost to the City.

The council members present discussed the expenses for four community RURAL DEVELOPMENT members to attend the Rural Community Economic Development CONFERENCE Conference in Springfield, IL on March 9th and 10th. There was an early registration fee per person of \$160.00 that increased after February 16th, and if three persons from the same community registered a fourth could register for free. Costs for the room at the hotel were at \$70 plus taxes for the night. Ms. Michelle Fossett from the Mount Carroll Community Development Corporation (CDC) was in attendance and stated that a couple of CDC members were interested in attending. Alderman Grim stated he would be interested as well. After discussion, Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Kaczmariski seconded to approve to send three people to the conference with a fourth going for free registration with the City's costs not to exceed \$750.00 for the expenses. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Rose, yes, and Powers, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried. It was noted that the CDC would be reimbursing the city for the expenses for one of the attendees.

Under general audience Ms. Michelle Fossett, CDC reported of the GENERAL AUDIENCE MAPPING groups' activities at the ice skating rink this winter and that the festivals group had scheduled a meeting for this month. Mr. Doug Sherf, CDC, reported of the inquiries regarding the work on the second floor of the Market Street Commons building. Mr. John Swiech reported of the US Army promotion events for his son, Mark Swiech that will be held in Mount Carroll on February 13th. Mark would be receiving a promotion from senior signal warranty officer advisor-ARNG to chief warrant officer five.

Alderman Bergren reported of the following correspondence:
The Mount Carroll Chamber newsletter.

CORRESPONDENCE

The information from the Northern Illinois Mayors Association regarding the next meeting on February 18th in Rockford, IL.

The information from the Illinois Municipal League regarding the 2016 Legislative Agenda.

The e-mail from Mark Bressler regarding some hisotirical information about the Mount Carroll School music department receiving state honors about 90 years ago.

Moring Disposal, Inc. reported of 25,180 pounds of recycling materials being picked up during the month of January 2016.

To finish up the finance committee agenda from earlier this evening the following was presented.

After discussion about the donated vehicle to the City last year and there being no response from the family to help with securing a title, Alderman Grim moved and

VEHICLE ACTION

Alderman Risko seconded to consider the vehicle abandoned and have the vehicle towed by the local tow company (Northwest Body) that could apply for an abandoned title and scrap the vehicle and/or sell for parts. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote of the council members present. It was noted that this would essentially give the vehicle to the tow company for their own use.

Alderman Risko reviewed the administration and community house

BUDGET

budget expenses for the next fiscal year. He noted the following totals:

for general fund revenues, \$676,350, for general fund/administration department expenses, \$132,100 and for general fund community house expenses, \$6,425. Alderman Risko moved and Alderman

Kaczmarski seconded to approve the proposed budget expenditures for the administration and community house departments of the general fund. Roll call vote: Aldermen Risko, yes, Grim, yes,

Kaczmarski, yes, Rose, yes, Bergren, yes, and Powers, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Rose moved and Alderman Grim seconded to adjourn the

ADJOURNMENT

meeting. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote of the council members present. Alderman Bergren adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the February 23, 2016 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector