

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 13, 2011 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mr. John Pokropinski rang the bell to announce the start of the meeting. RINGING OF BELL  
Mayor Carl Bates called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. CALL TO ORDER  
Roll call: Mayor Carl Bates, present, Aldermen Tom Charles, present, Jim Rose, ROLL CALL  
present, Bob Sisler, present, Doug Bergren, present, Mike Risko, present, and Doris Bork, present.  
Aldermen Sisler led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Ms. Paula Trent gave the invocation.

Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to approve the minutes MINUTES  
of the November 22, 2011 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose,  
yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Bork, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was  
carried.

Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Charles seconded to authorize the ACCOUNTS PAYABLE  
payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of November 2011 as approved by the finance  
committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, and  
Charles, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported the bank account balances were at \$491,546.87 as FINANCIAL REPORT  
of today. Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Risko seconded to approve the financial report as  
presented. Aldermen Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, Charles, yes, and Rose, yes. Vote:  
6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

COMMITTEES

Alderman Charles reported of the December 13<sup>th</sup> finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Mr. Lou Schau and Mr. John Pokropinski, CDC, were in attendance iFIBER  
to discuss the construction of the new underground fiber in Northern Illinois and what are some  
of the options or opportunities for the community. The decision of the committee was to have the  
mayor make a first contact to Daniel Payette of the iFiber organization.
3. Mayor Bates reported he had talked with the three bank representatives in town. He stated he  
was waiting for some more information from The National Bank.
4. Alderman Risko stated he reviewed the garbage account balance, revenues and expenses to the  
end of the fiscal year. He noted there should be a balance of about \$9,000 at that time. To look at  
the rates during budget discussions for the next fiscal year. Alderman Sisler asked about the  
publishing line item expenses in the garbage fund & why it had a higher budget amount this year.  
Clerk Cuckler stated she would check on this matter. Alderman Charles noted he would be  
asking the finance committee and department heads to provide input into the budget for next year  
right after the first of January.
5. Alderman Charles presented the finance committee recommendation to INTERFUND  
approve the interfund transfer of \$21,000.00 from the park fund to the TRANSFER  
general fund. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, Charles, yes, Rose,  
yes, and Sisler, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
6. Alderman Charles reported the water bill collections were going better. COLLECTIONS
7. Alderman Charles noted that he would like to discuss the employee wages and the consensus of  
committee members present was to discuss this some more at the committee meeting on  
December 19<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Lou Schau, CDC, reported of some local business successes. The Straddle Creek Soaps was now selling their products to the area HYVEE stores; the Stone House Fudge was adding another employee and the Red Gate Embroidery business would be opening in with the BSD Printing business in the downtown. The Market Street Commons would have a checkers tournament game night on December 19<sup>th</sup>.  
CDC UPDATE

Mr. Len Anderson, Friends of the Waukarusa, was in attendance and commented that the City crew had done the work on the trails and turn-around at the Point Rock Park that was planned for this year with the clearing of the sod and putting down the gravel base and had done a great job. He noted that the first Car Cruise night event for 2012 would be June 16<sup>th</sup>.  
FRIENDS OF THE WAUKARUSA

Mr. Ronald F. Coplan, City Attorney, was in attendance and provided a copy of a newspaper article regarding some potential open meetings act violations of concern in other areas of the State of Illinois. He noted he had provided a draft of an ordinance for the council to consider regarding the removal of water meters, he had reviewed the solicitors ordinance that was proposed and he had some suggestions for that which he would present in the future, and he had read the information about the golf cart and all terrain vehicle ordinance being proposed. He stated that from a prior meeting he noticed a question about whether there were fines that could be imposed on residents when they start a building project without a building permit. He stated he thought it might have been our common practice that when a resident was caught in this violation the officers would generally make contact and have the building permit completed unless there were any issues with the set back requirements. If there were any chronic violations or if this does not meet the needs of the community then there are procedures to take the matter to court.  
CITY ATTORNEY

Under general audience comments Alderman Sisler noted the following:  
GENERAL AUDIENCE

1. He asked about the national motor cycle qualifying event at the Reid Law motocross track north of town.
2. Asked about the status of the transportation of the City of Amboy Purington paver bricks.
3. Noted that since sitting council cannot get an increase of pay they can give themselves a bonus.
4. Asked about the opening of the City cemetery.
5. Asked about whether the City could investigate a way to get compensated for the recyclables that the contracted hauler picks up.
6. Asked about the enterprise depreciation account use and expenses.
7. Noted he had talked with Zoning Officer Howard Herrell about the senior center renovations and how the inquiries to the city hall were handled.
8. Asked about the status of the restroom sign at the Kraft Building.

Under correspondence Mayor Bates reported of the letter from State Representative Jim Sacia about a luncheon meeting in Freeport of December 20<sup>th</sup>. Noted the recycling weight picked up in November 2011 was at 30,340 pounds.

Mayor Bates noted that he had authorized the one-half working day before the Christmas and New Year's Day holiday that may be paid time off for the City employees. Those days would be on December 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Bates reported that he had been contacted by Mr. Schamberger of Burbach Aquatics about the lift needed at the City swimming pool this next summer season. Mrs. Paula Trent of 106 N. Main Street was in attendance and expressed her concern with the swimming pool's diving area. Mayor Bates noted that the pool's structure was grandfathered in and would not be approved to be built in that way in any new construction, but did meet minimum regulations.

Alderman Rose moved and Alderman Bork seconded to adjourn the meeting. ADJOURNMENT  
Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes. Vote: 6 yeases and 0 noes. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the December 27, 2011 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler  
City Clerk & Collector