

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 22, 2014 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mr. John Boelkens 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 Tom Charles, present, ROLL CALL

Jim Rose, present, Bob Sisler, present, Doug Bergren, present, Mike Risko, absent, and Joe Grim, present.

Alderman Rose led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Karl Rafferty gave the invocation.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to approve the MINUTES minutes of the April 8, 2014 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Grim, yes and Risko, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Charles moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to authorize ACCOUNTS PAYABLE the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of April 2014 as approved by the finance committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Grim, yes, Charles, yes and Risko, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported that the bank account balances as of today were FINANCIAL REPORT at a grand total of \$334,892.27.

Alderman Bergren reported of the April 16th historic preservation COMMITTEES advisory committee meeting: HPAC

1. The committee approved the Façade Loan application from Jill Bess to FAÇADE LOAN install new awnings over the windows in the building at 102 East Market Street. The amount of the loan was \$5,600.
2. Under old business the committee review the historic walking tour signs and needed repairs, noted that the contact was made to the new owners of the Uriah Green house on clay Street, discussed the status of the repairs to the Bob Boyd building on Market Street, and noted that a draft of the sign ordinance for the downtown business district was submitted to the city attorney for his final review.

Aldermen Grim, Sisler, Bergren and Rose reported of the April 21st committee meetings for police, water and sewer, cemetery, and streets. A copy of these minutes are included and into the record for this meeting.

Action item presented from the police committee is as follows:

Alderman Rose presented the police committee recommendation to NEW COMPUTER-POLICE purchase a new computer for the police department from Future Quest Technologies, Inc. at the cost of \$918.50. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Grim, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, and Risko, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Charles reported of the April 22nd finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.

Mayor Bates read the Arbor Day Proclamation noting April 25, 2014 as the national day for this to be observed.

Under general audience Mr. Judson Smith, Lincoln Street, commented GENERAL AUDIENCE of the status of the City streets and his concern the council needs to prioritize more street projects. Mr. Eric Eberle, East Benton Street, addressed the council about a dog on dog attack that had just happened this evening. Police Chief Cass stepped out of the council chambers with Mr. Eberle to address this matter. City Attorney Coplan noted that he had received a copy of an ordinance violation citation that involved a dog recently. Discussed whether this was the same dog or not.

Mayor Bates noted that under correspondence he would report that the next Northern Illinois Mayors Association meeting was scheduled for May 15th in Mount Carroll. There was an internet magazine article that has Mount Carroll in its listing of Illinois communities. He noted the letter from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources regarding a recent site visit to evaluate Mt. Carroll's participation in the National Flood Insurance program.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Charles seconded to adjourn the ADJOURNMENT meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Grim, yes and Risko, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1 absent. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

NAME OF COMMITTEE PLACE OF MEETING: City Hall
Cemetery, Streets, Police, Water and Sewer DATE OF MEETING: April 21, 2014
TIME MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.
THOSE PRESENT: Mayor Bates, Aldermen Charles, Rose, Sisler, Bergren, Risko and Grim,
Police Chief Fred Cass, Cemetery Board member John Boelkens
ITEMS OF BUSINESS DISCUSSED, RECOMMENDATIONS OR DECISIONS:

CEMETERY

1. Alderman Risko reported he was researching what was needed for the endowment fund and would be working with the members to seek the start-up funds.
2. Discussed the gravestone repair. Alderman Risko asked the committee members to go to the cemetery to see if there were some specific stones to be added to the list for Mr. Apple when he comes in May. To please refer this information to Superintendent Eric Dauphin.
3. Under maintenance, the crew have been cleaning up the leaves and debris and filling in the grave sites that have settled over the winter.
4. Alderman Sisler stated that the hedge at the north of the cemetery needs attention this year.
5. Discussed a possible litter issue. Referred this matter to the police chief.

STREETS

1. Discussed the completed, ongoing and current projects. The crew has been maintaining the equipment and helped the water and sewer department with the water leaks this winter and spring season. Regarding the gravestone repair the cemetery board and superintendent were developing a list of repairs to prioritize. The street sweeping was completed for this spring season. Looking to plant trees again this year. Developing a list of places for these to be planted. To contact the tree board members. List of park maintenance projects: Develop a berm around the new playground equipment, fix one ladder on the new equipment, have a suggestion to place another rocking horse structure in the playground area across from the large pavilion, will schedule to remove the old equipment in the back part of the park (seems hazardous), will change out three of the charcoal grills, will do some repair work to the playground equipment by the ball diamonds, looking at what would be needed to repair the roadway in Point Rock Park, Shawna Houzenga stated she would be the park custodian again, need the superintendent to state what he recommends for summer help and when.
2. In other discussion the mayor asked about getting cost estimates to improve East Street and the downtown parking lots. In discussion of the Carroll Street sidewalk project it was noted that this was a project needing some engineering to get the specific costs and would need some communication with the adjoining property owners.
3. Mayor Bates stated he had talked with the fire chief about having them help the city crew wash down the streets this year to prep for the painting and striping.
4. Noted the crumbling roadway and potholes at the end of the driveway of the Shaw's grocery store on South Jackson Street.
5. Noted that there were items needing repair and attention from the bridge inspection report of the ford structure at Point Rock Park.

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POLICE

1. The chief provided a copy of the March 2014 monthly report.
2. Chief Cass reported that the new software for the PD computers was being installed soon.
3. Chief Cass stated he was working on a list of abandoned vehicles and would be pursuing appropriate action with the owners or seek the removal.
4. Several nuisance complaints were mentioned to the chief for his attention.
5. *Recommendation to the council to purchase the new computer for the police department from Future Quest Tech, Inc. (with the Office Suite 2013 not the 2010 version) at the cost of \$918.50.

WATER & SEWER

1. Discussed the winter's freezing water lines. To consider an announcement about the thawing and whether property owners were to continue to stay on drip.
2. Mayor Bates reported he met with Sharon Pepin, Community Funding and Planning Services and she provided some information about installing a new water meter system and a proposal to apply for a USDA Search Planning grant for the sewerage treatment plant. He stated he would share this information with the council members and stated he asked Ms. Pepin to attend the next meeting on May 13th.
3. Discussed the water and sewer funds.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.
Minutes taken by Clerk Cuckler

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the May 13, 2014 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector