

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 9, 2011 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mrs. Karen Bochat 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, Jim Rose, ROLL CALL
present, Bob Sisler, present, Doug Bergren, present, Mike Risko, present, and Doris Bork, present.

Alderman Bork led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Mr. John Boelkens, Mount Carroll Church of God, gave the invocation.

Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Charles seconded to approve the MINUTES
minutes of the July 26, 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 Risko seconded to authorize the ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of August 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 as of today were FINANCIAL REPORT
\$561,651.86. Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Bork seconded to approve the financial reports as
presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, Charles, yes, and
Rose, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Charles reported of the August 9th finance committee meeting: COMMITTEES
FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Alderman Sisler questioned the construction of the shelter building by the City swimming pool recently. Mayor Bates noted this was mentioned sometime around the month of May. The Lions Club donated this to be used during the summer season at the pool and there were other improvements that would be done at the Point Rock Park as well.
3. Alderman Sisler asked how the City could go about keeping a historic line item in the budget to note when certain donations are made by an individual or organization that was earmarked for a specific project or piece of equipment. Mayor Bates stated those have generally been remembered and provided for, but this matter could be reviewed during budget time every year.
4. Discussed some of the interfund transfer line items in the fund expenditures.
5. The committee discussed the letter from the Mount Carroll Bowling BOWLING ALLEY
Center regarding a review of their Tax Increment Financing agreement. & TIF AGREEMENT
There would not be a TIF increment generated to present a payment back from the property tax receipts for this year. Ms. Karen Bochat, owner, Mt. Carroll Bowling Center was in attendance and stated that they have made considerable investment and would like any consideration the City could provide. Mayor Bates noted that the clerk had contacted the City's TIF attorney and she was to provide some options for the City to consider in a letter. He stated the council could make a payment of the receipts in a specific amount to the Mount Carroll Bowling Center if they wished. (The total estimated receipts are about \$50,000. About \$10,000 was earmarked to be paid to the State Bank of Pearl City per their agreement, and about \$500 to the City's revolving loan fund per the CDC agreement, and reimbursement of what is left for City TIF expenses along with whatever could be paid back towards the IEPA loan for the water project.) The committee

tabled this matter to the next meeting pending review of more information about the Tax Increment Financing plan.

6. The committee discussed committee meeting agendas.

Mr. Lou Schau, CDC, reported that he would be providing two loan applications to the Historic Preservation Committee for the Downtown Enhancement Loan Program. He reported that all of the flower boxes have been improved in the downtown by the Beautification Committee, and some of the businesses have been helping with the watering and maintenance of the new flower boxes. He reported that the Bella restaurant was now open in the evenings and the coffee shop in the Market Street Commons was opened extended hours on Friday and Saturday evenings. August 11th was open mic night and August 15th was game night at the Market Street Commons. Discussed the repairs and use of the golf cart by the committee.

Mayor Bates reported he had been in contact with the City of Amboy and PAVER BRICKS
Mr. Reid Law about moving the paver bricks. He reported that Mr. Law stated he would charge just for his fuel costs to transport the bricks.

Mr. Len Anderson, committee member for the Cruise Night activities, was in CRUISE NIGHTS
attendance and addressed the council about next year's plans for four Cruise Nights. He requested confirmation of sponsorship by the City again and the contribution of \$800 from the band fund for entertainment. Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to approve the sponsorship for the 2012 Cruise Night activities and the \$800 towards the entertainment from the band 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.

Alderman Charles addressed the council about his proposed changes to the WATER
ordinance section regarding the collection of water bills for the City of Mount ORDINANCE
Carroll. The current users would be grandfathered in regarding the deposit rules. He presented that the deposits would be increased and charged to all move ins and changes in the future. The landlord deposits would be refunded with interest after a year if their bills are consecutively current for twelve months before. He explained the landlords' responsibilities and that the City would enforce the no more than one month charges shut off requirements for all. Mr. Leo Haag, a landlord of several rental properties in town, and Jan Handel, a custodian of a rental property in town, voiced their dissatisfaction of the enforcement of the water shut offs by the clerk. Alderman Bork stated she was contacted by one landlord, Lanny Stone, also complaining about how his tenants had left him with large water bills. Clerk Cuckler noted there was one property. Alderman Charles stated that he wished to get these matters on the policies and they would be enforced. Some of the back bills are being looked at as well and some would be handled by monthly payments along with current charges and some would be handled by the collection agency the City had contracted. He noted the proposed establishment of the health and welfare fund that was in an ordinance for this evening. All residents getting shut offs monthly would be provided a list of resources that could provide help with paying delinquent utility bills. Alderman Charles moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to table this matter for future consideration at the next council meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Risko, yes, Bork, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, and Bergren, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mr. Jeff Woodside, Pheasants Forever organization, was in attendance and PHEASANTS
asked the council to consider a contribution or hole sponsorship for their FOREVER

golf tournament in September. The proceeds go towards providing college scholarships to the area students. Alderman Sisler moved and Alderman Charles seconded to approve a \$100.00 hole sponsorship contribution to the Pheasants Forever organization for the Scholarship Golf Tournament. Roll call vote: Aldermen Risko, yes, Bork, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, and Bergren, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Charles seconded to pass Ordinance No. 2011-8-4, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A HEALTH AND WELFARE FUND. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, and Risko, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Ordinance No. 2011-8-4 was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Bates stated the next item on the agenda was the approval of his appointment of Diane Lego to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission. Alderman Sisler moved and Alderman Charles seconded to affirm Diane Lego's appointment to fill the vacancy on the City Planning Commission. 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.

Mayor Bates noted the e-mail from Mt. Carroll Lions Club member Wayne Knight. He wanted to know if the City would be interested in having some large trees from a nursery that their organization would contribute to placing at Point Rock Park. They could be available next spring. Mayor Bates stated he would contact Mr. Knight to say the City would be interested unless there were any objections. No objections were voiced by the council members present.

Mayor Bates noted from a past meeting he was asked about a procedure by which agenda items could be set for future meetings. He stated he felt the suggested meeting procedures provided by the attorney (John Cox) from the Jo Carroll Energy council training sessions provided some information about this and as well another resource would be to go to the Roberts Rule of Order. The City leans towards these procedures as there is not a full set of rules in place for the City of Mount Carroll.

Under general audience, Mr. Jeff Woodside, Pheasants Forever member, thanked the council for their support. Ms. Jan Handel thanked the council for what they are doing with the delinquent water billing. Mr. Mark Traum noted his appreciation to Mr. Jeff Woodside for all of his efforts. Mr. Andy Shaw of Milledgeville was in attendance and noted he had an apartment building on State Street. It has had severe sewer backups last year and now again this year. He asked if he could get some assistance in working with his plumber about this matter. Mayor Bates stated he should get in contact with Water and Sewer Superintendent Russell Handel first. Mr. Shaw noted that the rain event this year made a different impact from last year, so he was wondering what he should be doing or was there something the City could do. Mayor Bates stated this should be assessed and Russell would be the one to start with. Ms. Jeanne Schnitzler, 808 N. Galena Street, was in attendance and addressed the council about her very murky looking, stinky water coming into her house. Her question was when was it going to get better? She stated she knows of others that have the same problem. Mayor Bates stated that the water could be tested again and the other residents with problems should contact the water department staff or the city hall with their issues and complaints. If they don't notify us we do not know there is a problem or where. Ms. Schnitzler also asked when the neighbor of hers was going to mow the lawn again. The grass was very tall again.

Alderman Sisler reported he was contacted by a resident about pot holes on Washington Street between

Clay and Main Streets. He also noted he read that there was a claim on the City's insurance loss runs for a fall on a sidewalk. He hoped that there was a plan to repair the sidewalks. Alderman Rose reported of a complaint he received about a property on Spring Avenue. Also noted was that there was a tree limb or brush hanging low over a sidewalk by the County parking lot (on Strickler Avenue). Alderman Risko noted he felt that some of these issues could have been presented to the appropriate City department head or the City Hall office instead of at the city council meeting.

Mayor Bates stated he was told by the county highway department office that they planned to be doing the seal coat work on Benton Street the week of August 21st.

Alderman Bork moved and Alderman Charles seconded to adjourn the meeting. ADJOURNMENT
Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Bork, yes.
Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the August 23, 2011 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector