

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2014 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mary 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, present, and Joe Grim, present.
Alderman Grim led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Mr. John Boelkens gave the invocation.

Alderman Rose moved and Alderman Charles seconded to approve the MINUTES
minutes of the January 28, 2014 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes,
Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Grim, yes. Vote: 6 yeases and 0 noes. 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 February 2014 as approved by the finance
committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, and
Charles, yes. Vote: 6 yeases and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported the bank account balances were at \$316,098.68 FINANCIAL REPORT
as of today before the accounts payable are paid.

Alderman Risko reported of the February 11th streets committee meeting: COMMITTEES
STREETS
1. The Street Superintendent was not able to attend this evenings meeting...
2. Discussed the completed projects: The maintenance of equipment; the park sheds were both
down; noted that the plowing and salting of streets was ongoing; the average salt purchased each
year was around 300 tons and 225 tons have been ordered so far; and the crew has been assisting
the water & sewer department with water main breaks. Discussed the other projects: Alderman
Risko reported that regarding the Galena Street Bridge project under the FY 2018, the engineer
was still working on the design.
3. Alderman Risko stated that there were some issues with the moving of vehicles this winter after
some of the heavy snow storms. Have referred this matter to the license and ordinance committee
to consider some winter parking regulations for the city streets.

Alderman Charles reported of the February 11th license & ordinance LICENSE & ORDINANCE
committee meeting:
1. Alderman Charles presented a draft of proposed sign regulations for the
Council to review. Discussed whether the Mt. Carroll Historic Preservation Advisory Committee
should be the authority recommending approval or denial of the sign placement in the
downtown. Alderman Sisler questioned whether this was an issue that needed to be addressed.
Alderman Charles asked the council members to review this draft and have input for the next
committee meeting.
2. Discussion of the street parking after snowfalls. To ask the City Crew for more input on this
matter regarding what were the hazards and what were the problems.

Alderman Rose reported of the February 11th police committee meeting: POLICE
1. Chief Cass commented that he could get some other towns winter parking regulations if the
council wanted some examples. He stated they do work with the city crew when they ask for
help getting a vehicle moved.

Alderman Bergren reported of the February 11th water and sewer committee meeting: WATER & SEWER

1. Mayor Bates reported he had talked with Sharon Pepin of Community Funding and Planning Services about grants that might be out there for a feasibility study of the wastewater treatment facility.
2. The committee discussed the water pipes that are freezing at homes and businesses in town. A notice has gone out about precautions that the residents can take with this matter. This is all due to the very cold weather for so long.

Alderman Charles reported of the February 11th finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Discussion about the establishment of a Capital Improvement Fund. City Attorney Ronald Coplan was in attendance and stated if a reserve account is being set up the council would want to set the parameters of its use and define its mission. To follow up with more information at the next meeting.
3. The committee started review of the police department budget and will complete during the Council meeting following this meeting.

Alderman Grim reported of the February 5th recreation board meeting: RECREATION

1. The committee heard from Cory Harrison of the YMCA Camp Benson about a new water park development proposed for the calendar year 2015 at the camp. They were wondering about whether the City would consider a partnership for use in the future. No action was being proposed. Consider this matter for future discussion.
2. Alderman Grim reported that the costs for a new cover were coming in at about \$15,000. The consensus of the committee was to consider whether they wished to change direction for another project for the pool, but would need to take into consideration the fundraising that has been done so far for the purchase of a new cover.

Mayor Bates commented that there was not much activity at the Haas building due to the weather, and City Attorney Ronald Coplan stated that a court appearance was scheduled for February 28th.

Alderman Charles moved and Alderman Risko seconded to approve the AGREEMENT Intergovernmental Agreement with the State of Illinois, Office of the Comptroller in order to provide access to the Local Debt Recovery Program for the purposes of collecting both tax and nontax debts owed to the City of Mount Carroll. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Charles, yes, and Rose, yes. Vote: 6 yeases and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Charles moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to pass ORDINANCE NO. 2014-02-11 Ordinance No. 2014-02-11, AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO SEWER USE CHARGES. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, and Sisler, yes. Vote: 6 yeases and 0 noes. Ordinance No. 2014-02-11 was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Before going to general audience the council members present reviewed POLICE BUDGET the proposed police department budget. Consensus of the council members present was to include the line item for a new vehicle. The total of the budget to be used for the appropriation ordinance for the police department was set at \$259,050.

Under correspondence Mayor Bates reported he received a letter of RESIGNATION resignation from Howard Herrell as City Zoning Officer to take effect March 1st. Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Rose seconded to accept, with regret, the letter of resignation from Mr. Howard

Herrell. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, no, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Charles, no, Rose, yes, and Sisler, yes. Vote: 4 yeses, 2 noes and 0 absent. The motion carried.

Under general audience Alderman Risko asked about what the council GENERAL AUDIENCE might be doing in anticipation of the opening of the Thomson Prison in the next year or eighteen months. Clerk Cuckler reported that she was having a demonstration from a computer software company on February 25th at 9:00 a.m. in City Hall for anyone interested in attending. Mayor Bates noted that there was a follow up Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request from the gentleman from Paris, IL regarding a couple of the credit card receipts. Mayor Bates stated he had had an inquiry about whether the City would discuss having a community garden somewhere in town. City Attorney Ronald Coplan reported that there was one in Morrison, IL.

Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Charles seconded to adjourn the ADJOURNMENT meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes and Bergren. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the February 25, 2014 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector