

MINUTES OF THE JULY 9, 2013 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Ms. 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 Charles led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Pastor Elizabeth Mascal of the Mount Carroll Lutheran Church gave the invocation.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Charles seconded to approve the MINUTES minutes of the June 25, 2013 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Grim, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Charles moved and Alderman Risko seconded to authorize ACCOUNTS PAYABLE the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of July 2013 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 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported the bank account balances were at \$507,223.16 FINANCIAL REPORT as of today before the accounts payable are paid.

Alderman Risko reported of the July 9th cemetery board meeting: COMMITTEES
CEMETERY
STONE REPAIR
1. As per recommendation from the cemetery board, Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Grim seconded to have Ivey Monument straighten 23 small stones at the cemetery entrance area at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.00. Roll call vote: Aldermen Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Charles, yes, and Rose, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The Motion was carried.
2. Identified 6 large stones that are leaning severely and are a safety hazard. The committee will obtain bids and make a recommendation to the council.
3. Discussed options for cleaning the grass clippings from the stones and expressed appreciation to the city crew for the job they are doing to maintain the grounds.

Alderman Grim reported of the July 9th recreation board meeting: RECREATION
1. Manager Jessica Moore updated the committee of the fundraiser for the pool cover. They were able to raise \$1,025.75 during the Market Street Block Fest activity. There was \$600 in donations prior to the event and the lifeguards had brought in \$155 from the swim-a-thon to date. A golf outing was scheduled for August 9th for getting some more donations.
2. Alderman Grim updated the committee on the purchase of the new toilets to be installed this year.
3. The committee discussed the overall operations so far this year.

Alderman Charles reported of the July 9th license & ordinance committee meeting: LICENSE & ORDINANCE
EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK
1. The committee reviewed the latest draft of the employee handbook. Alderman Charles presented the license and ordinance committee recommendation to refer this final draft of the employee handbook to the city attorney for his review. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, and Sisler, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Charles reported of the July 9th finance committee meeting:

FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Alderman Charles presented the salary agreement presented to Greg Kloeping to start the new position as water & sewer Department operator. Reviewed the pay grades and steps to increase upon training and certifications. Alderman Charles presented the finance committee recommendation to approve the salary agreement with Greg Kloeping with a starting salary of \$14.19 per hour to begin on July 10th. Roll call vote: Aldermen Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, and Bergren, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
3. Alderman Charles presented the finance committee recommendation to approve the letter to Wells Fargo Shareowner Services to authorize the mayor to sign all documents on behalf of the City regarding the Walgreen's Stock. Roll call vote: Aldermen Grim, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, and Risko, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
4. Alderman Charles presented the finance committee recommendation to authorize the sale of the Walgreen's stock and have the payment deposited into the City's park fund. Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, no, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Grim, yes. Vote: 5 yeses and 1 no. The motion was carried.
5. Alderman Charles stated that on the agenda for the next meeting would be the discussion and plan to have the Campbell Center revolving loan fund loan pay off instead of writing off this loan. Alderman Charles noted that the consulting auditors had raised the question to him about this matter.
6. Discussed the open position on the City public works department. The Superintendents were to review the application submitted.
7. Alderman Bergren noted some of the financial benefits to having a Business Development District.
8. Discussed having the Northern Illinois Mayor Association meeting in Mount Carroll on July 11th. Those aldermen wishing to attend should let the clerk know this evening.
9. Discussed the issue of the rain water leaking in along the west wall of the City Hall building. Clerk Cuckler provided a quote submitted by Mr. Chris Rogers of Professional Remodelers to replace the gutters and downspout and tuck point the west wall. The committee decided to have this matter on the agenda for the next meeting. Alderman Sisler stated he felt another quote could be pursued. Alderman Rose reported of another issue regarding the foundation wall of the senior center next door.

City Attorney Ronald Coplan was in attendance and reported that the other interested individual looking at the 113 N. Mill Street property had not gotten back to him yet. Alderman Sisler asked if this property was in the flood plain and would the owner be able to rebuild here if they applied? Mayor Bates stated he did not understand that the interested party would rebuild, but that matter would have to be reviewed if the City was approached.

In discussion about the Haas property located at the corner of Carroll and Market Streets City Attorney Coplan reported that there were three contractors that submitted proposals to rehabilitate the building. One was at \$278,000, one was at \$118,200 and the other offered two options, one was for all of the west wall and foundation at \$168,000 and at \$138,000 to do the wall but would not go below the street level. City Attorney Coplan reported that he had a conversation with Mrs. Haas and she stated she was going to discuss the quotes with her husband. He stated he had indicated that the City Council was going to need a decision sooner than the

next court appearance scheduled for August 8th. The council members present discussed the security of the building and whether all access had been secured. The council members present asked the city attorney to write to Mrs. Haas clarifying the status of securing the building and keeping individuals from gaining access into the building.

Alderman Charles reported that Mr. Johnson the owner of the vacant lot COMMERCIAL STREET located along the 300 block of East Commercial Street had noted that he had the car body removed, he had found some more metal and had that removed, and he did burn some of the brush piles. He stated he would then work on cutting the weeds and grass.

Alderman Sisler noted that the areas along the alley behind the buildings to the north of Market Street in the downtown from Clay Street all the way west were overgrown with tall weeds and grass.

Alderman Charles reported that he had talked with the one tenant in the BUSHY FLATS "Bushy Flats" row houses (the tenant in 213 E. Market Street) and he would clean up the outside area if a dumpster was provided. Alderman Charles moved and Alderman Risko seconded to authorize the placement of a large dumpster, at the City's expense, at the Bushy Flats row houses, for Mr. Westphal to clean up the outside of the buildings, of the debris and garbage. Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Grim, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates noted the receipt of the June 18, 2013 letter from the GALENA STREET the Illinois Department of Transportation "approving the application BRIDGE submitted for preserving the historic Galena Street Bridge by rehabilitation and relocation of the historic structure and the construction of a new bridge for the Galena Street Bridge to carry North Galena Street over Carroll Creek in the City of Mount Carroll." These funds being approved for the FY 2018 increment of the FY 2014-2019 proposed Multi-Model Transportation Improvement Program. As noted in the letter "\$1,408,000 of IMBP funds for rehabilitation and relocation of the historic structure and replacement for the Galena Street Bridge, structure number 008-6100, was approved. We anticipate providing funding for FY 2018, subject to annual appropriation. This amount represents 80 percent of the eligible construction and construction engineering costs required in FY 2018." This matter was referred to the streets committee to consider for future projects and seek input from the community and the historic preservation advisory committee.

GENERAL AUDIENCE

Under general audience Alderman Bergren reported that the Mount Carroll Township Public Library is the first library in the area to be able to check out the electronic books on a person's digital devices. The council members present discussed more of the issues regarding the Haas building.

Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Risko seconded to adjourn the ADJOURNMENT meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, and Charles, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the July 23, 2013 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector