

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 12, 2014 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Ms. Cindi Wiersema 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 McConnel gave the invocation.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Risko seconded to approve the MINUTES minutes of the July 22, 2014 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 Grim seconded to authorize ACCOUNTS PAYABLE the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of August 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 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Bergren reported that the bank account balances as of today FINANCIAL REPORT were at a grand total of \$312,638.45.

Alderman Rose reported of the August 12<sup>th</sup> police committee meeting: COMMITTEES POLICE

1. The committee conducted an interview with one of the applicants for the position of police patrol officer. (The other interviews were done on August 4<sup>th</sup>.) The committee discussed the candidate's comments and answers. Another meeting of the police committee was scheduled for August 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. in city hall.

Alderman Risko reported of the August 12<sup>th</sup> cemetery board meeting: CEMETERY

1. Alderman Risko reported that the committee had sought out bids GRAVESTONE REPAIR for the repair of the two hazardous monument stones at the cemetery that Mr. Jon Appel reported about when he was here in May. If the city wanted to ask Mr. Appel to come here this fall to complete this work it would cost about \$2,500 which would include his travel expenses. There was another proposal from Pruitt Cemetery Foundations, Inc. of Ridott, IL at the cost of \$350.00 per monument or \$700.00. He reported that Moore Monument was contacted, but they had not submitted a proposal. Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to hire Pruitt Cemetery Foundations, Inc. to repair the two hazardous monuments at the cemetery at the total cost of \$700.00. 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. Alderman Risko reported that the cemetery maintenance was going well. In discussion of certain road repair at the cemetery Superintendent Dauphin stated he would work up some estimates for that.

Alderman Risko reported of the August 12<sup>th</sup> streets committee meeting: STREETS

1. Under new business Alderman Risko reported that the crew has been continuing to maintain the equipment, the park was looking good with the old equipment now out and the mowing going well. The crew has completed sidewalk work on Cole Avenue and Main Street and moved to the road work on South East Street by the school. Trying to complete the rock base on East

Street before school starts. The next projects are the sidewalk work on Carroll Street and the road work on East Lincoln Street.

2. Superintendent Dauphin reported to the committee that he did not have any feedback from other sources about the street signs to date.

Alderman Charles reported of the August 12<sup>th</sup> finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. Alderman Charles provided a spreadsheet report of the interfund transfers done since May 2012 and the status of the ones outstanding yet this year.
2. The bills were reviewed and approved.
3. Alderman Charles reported that the City had been contacted by a SEWER BIO DISC PARTS consultant that works with communities in New York State regarding their sewer systems. They were interested in the bio disc system parts that were named under the City of Mount Carroll. He reported that he could get a quote for what it would cost to manufacture more of these parts and pursue whether the company in New York was still interested in purchasing them. The consensus of the committee was to pursue this matter.
4. Alderman Charles reported it had been a year since the City CAMPBELL CENTER LOAN Council approved to accept the \$50.00 monthly payments from Campbell Center to go towards the repayment of the revolving loan fund loan. Clerk Cuckler reported those monthly payments have been made each month. Alderman Charles noted there were no other changes to be presented on this matter at this time. Mayor Bates asked the committee to consider whether any of the TIF funds could be used.
5. Alderman Charles presented the finance committee BRICK STREET CONTRIBUTION recommendation to authorize the contribution of \$200.00 from the band fund to the Mount Carroll Chamber of Commerce to go towards the entertainment for the Brick Street Saturday activity on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, and Sisler, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes.
6. Alderman Risko reported of the cemetery board recommendation from earlier in the evening regarding the \$700.00 to repair the two hazardous stones at the cemetery this year.
7. The committee discussed the new squad car. Chief Cass reported it was in Lena, IL getting all of the equipment installed. He asked that the council consider some payment or compensation to the Village of Thomson for letting us use their one vehicle for the last few weeks and until the new vehicle is on the road.

Mr. Steve Haring, MSA Professional Services, Inc., was in SEWER LINING PROJECT attendance and reported of the bid letting for the sewer lining project that was held earlier today. There were three bidders: Visu Sewer with a total bid amount of \$120,755.85; Hoerr Construction with a total bid of \$114,095.75; and SAK Construction, LLC with a total bid amount of \$121,440.60. Mr. Haring stated that all of the bidders were qualified contractors for this type of project and that MSA recommended to the City to award the bid to the lowest bidder, Hoerr Construction. Aldermen Risko moved and Alderman Charles seconded to approve the recommendation from MSA Professional Services, Inc. and award the bid to Hoerr Construction of Peoria, IL to do the sewer lining project for the City of Mount Carroll at the bid amount of \$114,095.75. 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.

Mr. Haring noted that the estimated cost for the construction was around \$118, 000 so this bid would leave a little wiggle room in the project and maybe the City could add something else grant eligible to the project. He stated that they would be getting the construction award paperwork to the mayor in

the near future and the completion date for the project was set to be done by the end of October of this year.

Mayor Bates reported that there were two properties that he would like **VACANT PARCELS** the council to consider for processing as vacant or abandoned properties. The one located on West State Street the City received no response from the owner about mowing this year. The house has been vacant for quite some time and the one building on the lot is about to collapse. Regarding the property on Miller Street the Chief had a conversation with one of the family members of the owner that passed away this last year. It seems that there is not anyone that wants to step up and take care of the property or set it up for sale. They need to be checked out as far as whether the taxes are kept up or not, but he feels the process should be started on this. Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Risko seconded to start the abandoned property action for the properties located at 329 West State Street and 602 Miller Street. Roll call vote: Aldermen Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, no, and Bergren, yes. Vote: 5 yeses, 1 no and 0 absent. The motion was carried. City Attorney Coplan noted that the process would be to assess the matters the mayor noted, get an appraisal of the properties and determine what the costs were to demolish or repair the properties to meet code requirements.

Clerk Cuckler reported that the Illinois Department of Commerce and **RL FUND GUIDELINES** Economic Opportunity Revolving Fund manager sent an e-mail that the City's guidelines adopted in 2004 for the handling of the Revolving Loan Fund needed to be updated. A sample was provided for the council to review to be presented back to the DCEO office for their final approval. Alderman Risko asked for a couple of amendments to the draft. On page one to change the sentence under paragraph 2 in section B. to "Eligible uses of funds for the City of Mount Carroll". On page 2 under paragraph 2b in section B. the last sentence to read: "Must have written approval from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity." Then on page 3 under section C, paragraph 1 the last sentence should state the following: "The RF will be staffed by the City's economic development coordinator/RF administrator, chairman of finance committee and City Attorney." He stated these seemed to make more sense to the document and provided the City's ownership of the guidelines as well. Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Charles seconded to approve the amended draft of the City of Mount Carroll Revolving Fund Recapture Strategy to be referred to the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic opportunity for final approval prior to council adoption and implementation. 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.

Ms. Jill Bess, S. Clay Street, was in attendance and addressed the council **PARKING** about a request to consider having a few designated parking spaces for her building that she was rehabilitating at 102 E. Market Street. She stated she would like to be able to have about three parking spaces that are next to the building specifically for the apartment rentals that would be located in the upsairs of the building. After some discussion it was the consensus of the council to refer the matter to the streets and police committees for further review and evaluation and report back with a recommendation.

#### GENERAL AUDIENCE

Under general audience Ms. Marsha Ivey, West State Street addressed the council about the process for handling the nuisance properties that have tall weeds and grass, reported her mother's property had a broken water shut off valve that needed attention, and stated she was sure there have been individuals in the City cemetery late at night. Ms. Jill Bess commented about some regulations for having residents paint their residences.

Under correspondence Mayor Bates read a thank you letter from Ms. Mary Ann Hutchison, S. Clay Street, commending the city swimming pool facilities and staff. He noted there was a ribbon cutting for the chiropractor that had moved his office to a different location in town. The Blackhawk Hills RC & D was having an Economic Development Summit at Lake Carroll on August 15<sup>th</sup>. The Illinois Municipal League conference was coming up in September in Chicago. There was a contact from the fire chief of Bettendorf, IA that they would be using the City's park as a stopping point for a bike marathon on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Alderman Rose moved and Alderman Risko seconded to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Grim, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Mayor Carl Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the August 26, 2014 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler  
City Clerk & Collector