

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 13, 2015 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 Paul Kaczmariski, present, ROLL CALL  
Jim Rose, present, Kevin Powers, present, Doug Bergren, present, Mike Risko, present, and Joe Grim, present.  
Alderman Powers led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Alderman Jim Rose gave the invocation.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Powers seconded to approve MINUTES  
the minutes of the September 22, 2015 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen  
Kaczmariski, yes, Rose, yes, Powers, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Grim, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0  
noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Kaczmariski moved and Alderman Grim seconded to ACCOUNTS PAYABLE  
authorize the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of October 2015 as approved by the  
finance committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Powers, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim,  
yes, and Kaczmariski, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported the bank account balances were at \$566,000.07 FINANCIAL REPORT  
as of today.

Alderman Grim reported of the October 12<sup>th</sup> recreation board COMMITTEES  
meeting: RECREATION

1. Completed a facility walk through. List of items for repair or POOL YEAR END  
for replacement were considered: Need a new safety line (rope with buoys), bolts needed for the  
cover, the lifeguard chairs need repair, need to purchase more umbrellas and deck chairs.
2. Reviwed the year end report with the manager.
3. Discussed the employee reviews.
4. Discussed the pool handbook. In process and needs to be done by January
5. Manager Stephanie Hughes stated she would check on winter/spring lifeguard classes in the area.
6. Discussed the marketing and PR for upcoming pool staff applications
7. Applications would be available in February  
-Noted the applicants need to provide information about when they would be gone for vacation,  
if known, and make sure to be available during the swimming lesson weeks
8. Paul Kaczmariski stated he would check with the school to see if the picnic tables could be stored  
in the garage.
8. Discussed whether to establish another position with the manager.
9. Next meeting would be scheduled in February.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Powers seconded to direct the pool EQUIPMENT PURCHASES  
manager to purchase the safety line rope and buoy and more umbrellas for the pool at a cost not to  
exceed \$500. Roll call vote: Aldermen Powers, yes, bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Kazcmarski,  
yes, and Rose, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. the motion was carried

Alderman Risko reported of the October 13<sup>th</sup> streets committee meeting: STREETS

1. Street Maintenance Worker Mark Traum was in attendance to report of the cemetery roadway  
work. Completed except for the gravel and dirt finish along the edge of the roadway paving.

2. Noted the garage demilotion should be completed this year.
3. The summer help would be done the end of the
4. As time and weather permits work continues on the sidewalks, tree trimming and sweeping the streets.
5. Alderman Risko reported the speed study was completed by the GALENA STREET County of Galena Street. An ordinance would be ready for council approval later this evening to change the speed limit on Galena Street. Alderman Risko presented the streets committee recommendation to approve the speed limit change on Galena Street from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmarski, yes, Rose, yes, and Powers, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
6. Alderman Risko reported the city crew was working with Alderman Grim and members of the fire department to prepare a space at Point rock Park for and ice skating rink this winter.
7. Also if weather permits the city crew would be completing some improvements to the playground areas at the park.
8. Alderman Risko reported that the parks MAPPING goal group were working with the crew to decide what materials were needed to improve the disc golf course.

Alderman Powers reported of the October 13<sup>th</sup> license & ordinance LICENSE & ORDINANCE committee meeting:

1. The committee reviewed the draft of the animal ordinance. ANIMAL ORDINANCE  
One change was made in section 5-1-7. A copy of the ordinance would be sent to the city attorney for his review.
2. The committee discussed the matter of the need for animal clean up dispensers at the City parks.

Alderman Kazcmarski reported of the October 13<sup>th</sup> finance committee FINANCE meeting:

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Alderman Kaczmarski presented the finance committee TREASURER INSTITUTE recommendation to approve all of the expenses for City Treasurer Wiersema to attend the treasurer's institute in Bloomington, IL in November. Roll call vote: Aldermen Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmarski, yes, Rose, yes, Powers, yes, and Bergren, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
3. Alderman Kaczmarski presented the finance committee CARROLL COUNTY recommendation to approve the expenses for Alderman Joe ROUNDTABLE Grim to attend the Carroll County Roundtable meetings for the 2016 calendar year. Roll call vote: Aldermen Grim, yes, Kaczmarski, yes, Rose, yes, Powers, yes, Bergren, yes, and Risko, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
4. Discussed and reviewed the tax levy worksheet. To have total for the different funds at the next finance committee meeting.
5. Alderman Kaczmarski presented the finance committee CITY CODE AMENDMENT recommendation to approve the amendment to the city code Section 7-4A-1 (I) in the first sentence to change the word "shall" to "may". Roll call vote: Aldermen Kaczmarski, yes, Rose, yes, Powers, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Grim, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
6. Discussion of the current sewer rates and the needs for the upcoming sewer plant improvements.

The council members present discussed the status of the vacant or **VACANT PROPERTY** abandoned properties located on West State Street and Miller Street. Mayor Bates reported that a neighbor to the Miller Street property was negotiating with the family and bank to purchase that property. He would confirm the status of that and would report back, but he asked the council to consider proceeding with the process to have the West State Street property cleaned up. Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Risko seconded to authorize the city attorney to proceed with the process to file the complaint to demolish or repair the property located at 329 West State Street. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Powers, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, and Kaczmarski, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Kaczmarski seconded to **LEASE AGREEMENT** authorize the mayor to sign the lease agreement with Living Water Fellowship for the use of the City's community house. Roll call vote: Alderman Powers, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmarski, yes, and Rose, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Powers moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to pass **ORDINANCE NO. 2015-10-5** Ordinance No. 2015-10-5, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SPEED LIMITS. Mayor Bates noted this was for Galena Street regarding the speed study done for the Galena Street bridge project. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmarski, yes, Rose, yes, and Powers, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Grim stated the chamber's request for the Pumpkin Fest **PUMPKIN FEST** activity on October 24<sup>th</sup> was to have the block of Main Street in front of the bowling alley and the block of Rapp Street between Carroll and Main Streets to be closed for the pumpkin bowling and the Great Pumpkin Drag Race and to be able to conduct the pumpkin toss again at the City's "burning grounds" property located along Galens Street. There was discussion about the bowling alley owners wanting to have a beer garden for that afternoon during the Pumpkin Fest activities. Mayor Bates stated that they would need to contact him as liquor commissioner about that matter. Alderman Powers moved and Alderman Risko seconded to approve the request for the street closings and use of the burning grounds for the Pumpkin Fest activities on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Roll call vote: Aldermen Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmarski, yes, Rose, yes, Powers, yes, and Bergren, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. the motion was carried.

Alderman Powers moved and Alderman Grim seconded to approve the **RAFFLE LICENSE** raffle licenses for the American Legion Post #67 and the Carroll County Senior Services Organization. Roll call vote: Aldermen Grim, yes, Kaczmarski, yes, Rose, yes, Powers, yes, Bergren, yes, and Risko, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates asked the council to consider the disrepair of the property **BUSHY FLATS** known as "Bushy Flats" located in the 200 block of East Market Street. The block consists of five units or buildings with a common roof and in some units common basements and attics. At this time there is just one occupant in one of the middle units. He has experienced some leaky roof problems. Mayor Bates acknowledged that in the audience was that property owner and occupant, Mr. Eugene Westphal. Mr. Westphal addressed the council and stated that he did have some water damage coming from the roof of a neighboring unit. They had done something to stop the leaking when it rained. Mr. Westphal was asking about some issues with the racoons and groundhogs and the grass growing in the areas in the public ways by the guardrail at the end of the block. Mayor Bates stated he would get ahold of the street

superintendent about the grass issue, and Mr. Westphal would need to check into getting some live traps possibly. The consensus of the council members present was to seek the services of a qualified general contractor or the city zoning officers for an assessment of the property to start a process to get this property fixed up to code.

Mr. John Swiech, CDC, was in attendance and thanked the council for the annual distribution to the Mount Carroll Community Development Corporation.

GENERAL AUDIENCE

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Bates reported of the following letters: Information about a Prevailing Wage Seminar on October 22<sup>nd</sup> in Freeport, IL. A thank you letter from the Mount UP committee for the City's support with the MAPPING program. Information about the Kunes' open house along with the Chamber Business After Hours activity on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Bates noted the police report he had the chief provide to the council regarding a noise ordinance complaint recently at the Henry's Double K business on South Jackson Street.

The council members present discussed the information meeting held on October 8<sup>th</sup> regarding the Reagan International Academy. To date the corporation has purchased two properties for the development of a private school that would offer a college prep curriculum to mostly Chinese students starting in the fall of 2016. Mayor Bates stated he would like to consider asking the developers to come to a council meeting in the future to see if they could provide an update.

REAGAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
ACADEMY

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Risko seconded to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Kaczmariski, yes, Rose, yes, Powers, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes and Grim, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the October 27, 2015 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler  
City Clerk & Collector