

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2017 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Will Mueller 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 Kaczmarski, present, ROLL CALL  
Jim Rose, present, Kevin Powers, absent, Jeff Elliott, present, Mike Risko, absent, and Joe Grim,  
present.  
Alderman Grim led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Mr. Jeff Davis gave the invocation.

Alderman Rose moved and Alderman Kaczmarski seconded to approve MINUTES  
the minutes of the August 22, 2017 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Kaczmarski,  
yes, Rose, yes, Elliott, yes, Grim, yes, Powers, absent, and Risko, absent. Vote: 4 yeses, 0 noes, and two  
absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Elliott seconded to authorize ACCOUNTS PAYABLE  
the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of September 2017 as presented by the  
finance committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Elliott, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmarski, yes, Risko,  
absent, and Powers, absent. Vote: 4 yeses, 0 noes, and 2 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported that the bank account balances were FINANCIAL REPORT  
totaling \$752,107.53 as of today.

Mr. Matthew Schueler, Wipfli, LLP, was in attendance and presented ANNUAL AUDIT  
highlights from the City's Annual Audit report for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2017. Mr. Schueler  
explained the audit process conducted by them for the City of Mount Carroll. He reviewed the key  
points or issues from the financial report and provided a five-year comparison summary spreadsheet of  
the financial net position for the City. Regarding any operational suggestions, Mr. Schueler did note that  
as they present annually to most small municipalities with a very limited staff there was a noted remark  
for the segregation of duties concerning receipts. Alderman Kaczmarski moved and Alderman Elliott  
seconded to accept the Annual Audit Report 2017 and place this on file. Roll call vote: Aldermen Elliott,  
yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmarski, yes, Rose, yes, Powers, absent, and Risko, absent. Vote: 4 yeses, 0 noes,  
and 2 absent. The motion was carried.

COMMITTEES

Alderman Grim reported of the September 12<sup>th</sup> streets committee meeting: STREETS  
There was not a quorum for this meeting, the following was discussed:

1. Alderman Grim reported that he had very nice comments about the park's appearance during the Civil War Re-enactment Event last weekend. He stated he wished to commend the city crew for having everything in good order at Point Rock Park.
2. Alderman Grim reported of the notice that the Galena Street Bridge would be closed starting September 13<sup>th</sup> until further notice for the new bridge construction.

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

1. Alderman Grim reported that there were some issues in the Golf Cart/UTV regulations which Chief Cass brought to him that he would like to be changed in the ordinance. Alderman Grim stated that he would have that information for the next license and ordinance committee meeting.

Alderman Kaczmarski reported of the September 12<sup>th</sup> finance committee FINANCE  
meeting: There was not a quorum for this meeting, the following was discussed:

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Noted the other agenda items would be considered during the council meeting.
3. Ms. Jill Pepin, Community Funding and Planning Services, was in attendance and reported of the status of the wastewater treatment plant project, the new water meter and hydrant replacement project, the sanitary sewer lining project, and the housing demolition project.

The council members present discussed the matter of employee health insurance. During renewal in May of this year it was noted that there might be some changes or regulations that would take effect the first of the year. Mayor Bates stated he would contact the City's agent and report back about this matter. Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Kaczmariski seconded to INTERFUND TRANSFER approve the interfund transfer of \$1,000.00 from the City water fund to the City cemetery fund to go towards payment on the interfund loan. Roll call vote: Aldermen Grim, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Rose, yes, Elliott, yes, Risko, absent, and Powers, absent. Vote: 4 yeses, 0 noes, and 2 absent. The motion was carried.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Under old business Mayor Bates reported of the status of the vacant and abandoned property projects. Mayor Bates reported that the City did not receive any bids for the surplus property located at 602 South Miller Street. City Attorney Ronald Coplan was in attendance and stated that the City would not be required to advertise again unless that was what they wished. Mayor Bates stated he knew there was interest by certain individuals, but they expressed concern about meeting the advertised specifications. City Attorney Coplan stated that the City could contact and negotiate with potential or known persons of interest, and would want to set a minimum bid for the purchase to demolish or the purchase to repair. Mayor Bates stated that he would make the contact to those that he was aware of first and would report back to the council.

#### MILLER ST PROPERTY

Regarding the bids to demolish the row house building in the 200 block of MARKET ST PROPERTIES East Market Street (Bushy Flats), City Attorney Ronald Coplan reported of the September 7<sup>th</sup> bidding meeting and the status of a couple of issues that have arisen. He stated that from the original inspection it was not brought to our attention that according to certain regulations a building with more than four units would need to have an asbestos inspection and report. He stated he knew of a certified inspector in Sterling, IL and had talked with her about her services and costs. One of her main concerns was whether the building was safe to enter and complete an inspection. For this the City would need a structural engineer to investigate the building. He reported that there were two contractors that came to the September 7<sup>th</sup> bid opening. It was unclear whether either of the contractors were certified to handle the removal of any hazardous or asbestos materials. He stated he advised the contractors to hold onto the sealed bids at this time and that the City would be in contact with them when an inspection was scheduled. They may or may not decide to attend the inspection as well. After discussion of issues and possible costs regarding the removal of any asbestos or hazardous material from a demolition site, Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Kaczmariski seconded to authorize the city attorney to pursue options with a structural engineer regarding the "Bushy Flats" property. Roll call vote: Aldermen Kaczmariski, yes, Rose, yes, Elliott, yes, Grim, yes, Powers, absent, and Risko, absent. Vote: 4 yeses, 0 noes and 2 absent. The motion was carried.

Regarding the status of the parking along College Street near Schneider PARKING REQUEST House Furniture, Mayor Bates reported he met with the City street superintendent and work had been completed along the parkway area on the business's side of the street. One of the trees was removed and the others were trimmed and a curb cut was done by the city crew. This should provide better access for the truck deliveries to the furniture business. No other action was presented on this matter.

Regarding the status of update on insurance coverage information on the MURAL GIFT Armella Kneale mural (to be considered for placement at the Bridgewater Inn business), Mayor Bates

reported that the City's insurance carrier would like some sort of information or appraisal of the mural to help determine a value for coverage. In discussion, Alderman Grim stated he would prefer that the mural was placed on city property, Mayor Bates and Alderman Kaczmariski stated they were impressed with the letter from Ms. Kneale's grandson suggesting the placement at the former "Hotel Glenview". Mr. Len Anderson, local business owner, commented he felt the hotel building would provide more exposure of the mural and be a good compliment to the city and this business. Alderman Kaczmariski moved and Alderman Elliott seconded to authorize the mayor to get an appraisal of the painting that the city was getting from the West Carroll School. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Elliott, yes, Grim, no, Kaczmariski, yes, Risko, absent, and Powers, absent. Vote: 3 yeses, 1 no, and 2 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported of attending the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting in REVOLVING LOAN FUND Springfield, IL regarding the update and status of the Revolving Loan Fund Program. The State of Illinois will be closing the fund, and will not be offering the program any longer under the block grant program. All of the current RLF communities will need to be working with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to determine grant funding projects that some or all of the RLF funds could be used for. Mayor Bates stated there were two contacts from the agency that were suggested for him to get ahold of for the application process. He stated he would report back to the council about this matter when he had more information.

Alderman Kaczmariski moved and Alderman Grim seconded to approve STREET SOLICITATION the street solicitation request from the Mount Carroll Lions Club for October 14, 2017. Roll call vote: Aldermen Elliott, present, Grim, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Rose, yes, Risko, absent, and Powers, absent. Vote: 4 yeses, 0 noes, and 2 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Kaczmariski moved and Alderman Rose seconded to grant a RAFFLE LICENSE raffle license to the Mount Carroll Lions Club. Roll call vote: Aldermen Grim, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Rose, yes, Elliott, present, Powers, absent, and Risko, absent. Vote: 4 yeses, 0 noes, and 2 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Kaczmariski moved and Alderman Rose seconded to approve CONTRIBUTION the contribution of \$100.00 to the Carroll County Chapter Pheasants Forever Scholarship Fund. Roll call vote: Aldermen Kaczmariski, yes, Rose, yes, Elliott, yes, Grim, abstain, Risko, absent, and Powers, absent. Vote: 3 yeses, 1 abstention, 0 noes, and 2 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Kaczmariski moved and Alderman Grim seconded to approve SHARON PEPIN, CFPS the proposal from Sharon Pepin, CFPS, to provide the grant administrative services for the City's CDBG for the Sanitary Sewer Lining Project at a cost not to exceed \$7,088.00. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Elliott, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Risko, absent, and Powers, absent. Vote: 4 yeses, 0 noes, and 2 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Elliott seconded to approve and MSA PROFESSIONAL authorize the mayor to sign the professional services agreement with SERVICES MSA Professional Services to provide the engineering services for the Sanitary Sewer Lining Project at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.00. Roll call vote: Aldermen Elliott, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Rose, yes, Powers, absent, and Riski, absent. Vote: 4 yeses, 0 noes and 2 absent. The motion was carried.

Under general audience, Mr. Len Anderson addressed the Council to report that the last Car Cruise of the summer season would be this coming Saturday, and expressed again that he felt the Armella Kneale mural should be placed at the Bridgewater Inn business. Mr. Jeff Wodside, Grounds Maintenance Director for West Carroll School, was in attendance and expressed his appreciation to the mayor and city crew for helping him with set up at the Mount Carroll football field for last Friday's game here in town. Mr. Jeff Davis, Red Gate Embroidery, was in attendance and expressed his appreciation to the City for the Revolving Loan Fund loan that their business had received.

## GENERAL AUDIENCE

Under correspondence, Mayor Bates noted the following:

## CORRESPONDENCE

1. The letter from the Land of Oz business owners, Richard and Carol Frey, regarding the sale of the business to Shaw's Express (owners of the Shaw's Market grocery store in town).
2. The letter from Vicky Trager, Village President of Thomson, IL, regarding the Hurricane Harvey FEMA efforts
3. The letter from the Northwest Central Illinois Works regarding a workforce report for 2017 of the region's eight-county area. Clerk Cuckler reported there was a copy of this available for review in the city hall office.
4. The letter from IMRF regarding new legislation that affects the communities.
5. The Mount Carroll Chamber of Commerce September 2017 newsletter.

Alderman Grim reported that the Mount Carroll Fire Department have scheduled water fights in Mount Carroll this coming Saturday. He stated he had a meeting scheduled with the engineer for the Galena Street Bridge construction project to coordinate the set up around this area for this event.

## WATER FIGHTS

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Kaczmarek seconded to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Kaczmarek, yes, Rose, yes, Elliott, yes, Grim, yes, Risko, absent, and Powers, absent. Vote: 4 yeses, 0 noes, and 2 absent. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

## ADJOURNMENT

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the September 26, 2017 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler  
City Clerk & Collector