

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 26, 2019 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Denny Pate rang the bell to announce the start of the meeting.

Mayor Carl Bates called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Mayor Carl Bates, present, Aldermen Jeff Elliott, present, Mike Risko, present, Joe Grim, present, Paul Kaczmariski, present, Eric Wiltshire, present, Kevin Powers, present.

Alderman Joe Grim led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Parson Bob gave the invocation.

Alderman Elliott moved and Alderman Grim seconded to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2019 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Alderman Powers, yes, Wiltshire, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Elliott, yes, Grim, yes, Risko, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Kaczmariski moved and Alderman Elliott seconded to authorize the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of March 2019 as approved by the finance committee. Roll call vote: Alderman Kaczmariski, yes, Wiltshire, yes, Powers, yes, Grim, yes, Risko, yes, Elliott, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported that the bank account balances were totaling \$429,003.31 as of today.

Alderman Grim reported of the March 26, 2019 Water & Sewer committee meeting:

1. Supt. Zink stated the sewer extension for Benton Street lift station has been ordered.
2. Supt. Zink stated they are currently working on the third Bio Disc to get it back up and running again.
3. Supt. Zink stated hydrant flushing will start the week of May 6, 2019. It was a recommendation from the Water & Sewer committee to approve placing an ad in the Mirror Democrat for hydrant flushing. Roll call vote: Alderman Grim, yes, Risko, yes, Elliott, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Wiltshire, yes, Powers, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
4. Supt. Zink stated he went to a seminar today on lead testing.
5. Review of Water budget revenues totaling \$250,300, and expenses \$482,800, Sewer budget revenues totaling \$197,425 & expenses totaling \$283,900.
6. Arnette Heisler stated her concern on the lack of notification when the water will be shut off and turned back on. She also stated that when the water was shut off for a time to repair a water main break and turned back on it clogged her water softener with so much rust and debris that she had to end up getting a new water softener. She presented with a bill and letter from her plumber asking for the city to reimburse for her having to replace her water softener. The mayor stated the council will present a formal response at the next council meeting.
7. Arnette Heisler asked if she could remove the walnut trees from the unused alley/street next to the storage shed on their property. Mayor stated he will talk to Supt. Dauphin and get back with her.

Alderman Kaczmariski reported of the March 26, 2019 finance committee meeting:

1. The bills were reviewed and approved for a total of \$41,555.60.
2. Review of Streets budget totaling \$339,600, Cemetery Budget revenues totaling \$16,600 and expenses \$24,600, Park budget revenues totaling \$14,500 & expenses totaling \$22,800. It was a recommendation to approve the budgets as presented. Roll call vote: Alderman Elliott, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Powers, yes, Wiltshire, yes, Kaczmariski, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

3. Supt Dauphin stated he has been looking into purchasing a new mower to replace the 2006 Grasshopper mower.

4. Denny Pate from Moring Disposal discussed the recycling prices have increased and they are now paying more to recycle and are proposing an increase of \$.49 sur-charge per household per month to continue weekly recycling. He also stated that the yearly increase will take effect this year and will increase from \$11.86 to \$12.16 per household. There is enough in the surplus to not have to charge the increase to homeowners at this time. It is a recommendation to approve both rate increases. Roll call vote: Alderman Powers, yes, Wiltshire, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Elliott, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

5. Linda Anderson questioned how we could be more creative with our recycling here in town.

Under old business the council heard there are no updates on the vacant and unkempt properties from Mayor Bates. Mayor Bates stated there has not been an update from Nicor and Supt. Zink stated that Jo Carroll has not taken any of their antennas down as of yet. Discussion on the water and sewer user charges with Alderman Powers stating he received a call from a resident to discuss rate increase and they feel it's only fair to charge residents for their usage not a flat fee. Alderman Risko stated we need to decide whether everyone pays \$28 or not as we did with the water tower. Mayor stated we need to look at how to pay for the project whether it be a flat fee or by usage per household and continue talking about rates and compare by spreadsheets. Alderman Risko wants everyone to bring in a plan on their individual opinions on how to get everyone up to \$28 per household, using 850 households as a base line. Linda Anderson mentioned her willingness to help someone who is struggling to pay their bills.

Under new business Mayor Bates updated that the Mayfest Committee wants to have the reenactment during Mayfest weekend and the Mayor stated we need more information from the Mayfest Committee on this.

Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Kaczmariski seconded to table the Approval of Ordinance No. 2019-03-10, AN ORDINANCE INCREASING SEWER RATES. Roll call vote: Alderman Powers, yes, Wiltshire, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Elliott, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Powers motioned and Alderman Grim seconded to approve Mayor Bates to sign the Final Loan Closing Amendment document with IEPA for the water meters & hydrants project. Roll call vote: Alderman Elliott, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Wiltshire, yes, Powers, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Len Anderson and Chris Rogers were present with an update on the Stone House. Len presented pictures of the stone house to council and Chris stated he has been working on windows and doors and hope the front will be finished by the weekend. Chris stated he would like to have Supt. Dauphin move some more rock at the site.

Alderman Grim stated the ice rink liner was destroyed by the flooding again this year and discussed possible downsizing the rink to 30x70 next year and moving the location although lighting will be in question and have to be discussed. He mentioned he will call Elizabeth to see how they construct their

ice rink and compare. A boy scout would like to make his project for scouts building a warming hut and storage for skates. He will get some prices and get back with us.

Moring Disposal Inc. report of recycling pick up was 13,920 pounds for the month of February 2019.

Mayor Bates mentioned reminder of the Chamber meeting notice for April 4, 2019 and Tri-County Opportunities Council Public Information Meeting at the Community House on April 8, 2019.

Alderman Risko mentioned a reminder of the Denim & Diamonds dance at Henry's Double K, March 30, 2019 there are still tickets available.

Chris Rogers mentioned the last music night is this Thursday, March 28, 2019.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Elliott seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. Roll call vote: Aldermen Grim, yes, Risko, yes, Elliott, yes, Kaczmarski, yes, Wiltshire, yes, Powers, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the April 9, 2019 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector