

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2019 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Ms. Maria Krull rang the bell to announce the start of the meeting. RINGING OF BELL
Mayor Bates called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. CALL TO ORDER
Roll call: Mayor Carl Bates, present, Aldermen Paul Kaczmarski, ROLL CALL
present, Doug Bergren, present, Kevin Powers, absent, Jeff Elliott, present, Mike Risko, present, and Joe Grim, present.
Alderman Kaczmarski led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Mr. Bill Zink gave the invocation.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Risko seconded to MINUTES
approve the minutes of the September 10, 2019 regular meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Kaczmarski,
yes, Bergren, yes, Elliott, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, and Powers, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1
absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Kaczmarski moved and Alderman Elliott seconded to ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
authorize the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of September 2019 as approved by
the finance committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Elliott, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes,
Kaczmarski, yes, and Powers, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported that the bank account balances were FINANCIAL REPORT
totaling \$726,776.52 as of today.

Alderman Grim reported of the September 24th water & sewer committee WATER & SEWER
meeting:

1. Superintendent Zink reported of the following projects:
 - *The new recirculating pump at the sewer plant had been installed and was working well.
 - *The East Benton Street utilities have all been completed. The senior center facility now has access and can hook up to the water & sewer when they are ready.
 - *The fire hydrant flushing for this fall was scheduled to start the week of October 7th. The public notification would be in the newspaper this week and next.
 - *The consensus of the water & sewer committee was to approve the purchase of a new hydrant meter (\$800) with a backflow preventer device (\$770).
 - *A new chemical feed pump was purchased for the water department at the cost of \$650.
2. Mr. Steve Haring, MSA Professional Services was in attendance and reviewed the status of the treatment plant project and the downtown sidewalk project.
3. Mr. Darin Clarke of Maguire Iron was in attendance and MAGUIRE IRON
provided a report of the most recent inspection of the City's water tower structure. He then presented information about an Asset Management Program with Maguire Iron to help prepare for the future maintenance of the City's water tower. Mr. Clarke will provide the full proposal for council consideration.

Alderman Kaczmarski reported of the September 24th finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Alderman Kaczmarski presented the finance committee recommendation OFFICE EQUIP.
to authorize the city clerk to seek quotes for a new copy machine for the city hall office. Roll call vote: Alderman Elliott, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmarski, yes, Bergren, yes, and Powers, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported of the September 24th license & ordinance committee meeting:

LICENSE & ORDINANCE

1. The committee discussed the new State legislation the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act. Mayor Bates stated that the City would need first to decide whether to “opt-out” which means to prohibit the business of dispensing or cultivating recreational cannabis or to permit and regulate this. That would determine what actions the council should pursue next. He asked the council members to read all of the information provided from the attorneys and the IML and at the next meeting he would ask for some direction on this matter.

Under old business Mr. Chris Rogers and Mr. Len Anderson were in attendance to report on the progress of the Stone House building and outdoor improvements. Mr. Rogers stated the electric service was being set up and they would be looking at a couple of security cameras to install. Mr. Anderson presented donations from a recent fundraiser in the amount of \$2,750 and noted the September 29th event to invite the community to see all of the improvements at the Stone House. The council members present voiced their appreciation to all of the workers and volunteers for securing this project’s success.

OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Kaczmariski moved and Alderman Grim seconded to approve the road block solicitation request from the Mount Carroll Lions Club organization for October 5, 2019. Roll call vote: Aldermen Risko, yes, Grim, yes, Kaczmariski, yes, Bergren, yes, Elliott, yes, and Powers, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Mr. Len Anderson reported that the Car Cruise Night scheduled for September 21st needed to be cancelled due to the rainy weather.

GENERAL AUDIENCE

Ms. Ronnee Jo Law addressed the council about the “Mill Street Project” (wastewater treatment plant facility project who owns the property adjoining the City’s to the south). She expressed her concern about the discharge of the water currently and how this affects her property and the pond (on her property). She also stated that the survey was incorrect and part of the area around the berm was not a part of what was agreed upon in the sale from her parents. Mayor Bates and Water & Sewer Superintendent Zink stated that the discharge was from the construction de-watering of the groundwater from the site that was being directed to the creek. Mayor Bates stated that Ms. Law’s parents sold, and “cashed the check” upon what was agreed from a survey completed in 2009 for the parcel purchased by the City. Ms. Law asked again about a letter from the family’s attorney (Kipp Meyers) about this matter and about the letter from the mayor regarding an easement. Mayor Bates stated that the City had received a letter from the attorney and the e-mail with that letter indicated that he was not representing Ronnie Law. Mayor Bates stated he had a packet of information copied on the sale of the property and related correspondence. He noted that if he gave a copy to Ms. Law this evening during the meeting it was a public document that he would also present to the press. Ms. Law stated she wished to have a copy of this information. Mayor Bates gave her a copy of the packet along with the reporter from the Carroll County Mirror-Democrat newspaper. Ms. Law stated that she wanted to have this corrected and make sure that her parents were happy with this matter. Mayor Bates stated he felt there was not a way to resolve this tonight and asked Ms. Law to look over the packet of information and then they could schedule a meeting with the city attorney and possibly one alderman and her parents to discuss this in more detail. Ms. Law stated she agreed.

Supt. Zink stated there was a new law with the EPA requiring annual inspection reports of the water tower structures.

Under correspondence Mayor Bates noted the following:

CORRESPONDENCE

1. The Moring Disposal, Inc. report of recyclables picked up in August 2019.
15,250 pounds

Mayor Bates noted that today was Police Chief Scott Marth's birthday.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Elliott seconded to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Kaczmariski, yes, Bergren, yes, Elliott, yes, Risko, yes, Grim, yes, and Powers, absent. Vote: 5 yeases, 0 noes and 1 absent. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mount Carroll city council approved these minutes at the October 8, 2019 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector