

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 27, 2012 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Reid Law 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, Jim Rose, ROLL CALL  
present, Bob Sisler, present, Doug Bergren, present, Mike Risko, present, and Doris Bork, present.  
Aldermen Bork led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Mr. John Boelkens, Mount Carroll Church of God, gave the invocation.

Alderman Rose moved and Alderman Charles seconded to approve the minutes MINUTES  
of the March 13, 2012 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose, yes,  
Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Bork, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Charles moved and Alderman Bergren seconded to authorize the ACCOUNTS PAYABLE  
payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of March 2012 as approved by the finance  
committee. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, and  
Charles, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported the bank account balances were at \$374,591.40 as FINANCIAL REPORT  
of today (without the bills payable being posted). Alderman Bergren moved and Alderman Risko  
seconded to accept the financial report as presented. Aldermen Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes,  
Bork, no, Charles, yes, and Rose, yes. Vote: 5 yeses, 1 no and 0 absent. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported of the March 20<sup>th</sup> recreation board meeting: COMMITTEES  
RECREATION  
1. The recreation board recommendation to hire the following applicants POOL  
for the swimming pool summer season this year: For assistant managers – Rebecca Fritz and Avery  
Handel and Ryan Kerr as substitute assistant. For lifeguards – Maria Timm, Seth Bradley, Drew  
Kazmarski, Amorette Merboth, Sophi Morhardt, Paige Fosdick, Emily Mills, Tom Watson, Cassidy  
Rice, Tiffany Morhardt and Marshall Benters. Alderman Risko moved and Alderman Bork seconded  
to hire the pool employees for this summer season as recommended by the recreation board. Roll  
call vote: Aldermen Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, and Sisler, yes.  
Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.  
2. The next meeting was scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup> at the pool at 4:00 p.m.

Alderman Charles reported of the March 26<sup>th</sup> license & ordinance LICENSE & ORDINANCE  
committee meeting:  
1. Reviewed several topics regarding employee benefits of the proposed employee handbook.

Alderman Rose reported of the March 26<sup>th</sup> cemetery board meeting: CEMETERY  
1. It was noted the superintendent was seeking bids for the repairs needed for one of the lawn  
mowers.  
2. The board wishes to continue maintenance work on the old section. To budget up to \$3,000 for  
this coming year. No objections were presented.  
3. Discussed the cemetery operation and maintenance and endowment funds.

Alderman Risko reported of the March 26<sup>th</sup> streets committee meeting: STREETS  
1. Discussed what projects would be considered if summer help for the public works departments  
was not hired this year.

2. Ms. Jan Smith, Mount Carroll Lions Club, was in attendance and PARK EQUIPMENT reported the Lions Club has approved a fund drive up to \$50,000 towards new park equipment at Point Rock Park. They had also committed to \$5,000 as the first donation. More marketing of the fund drive would be in the newspaper this week and she noted she was contacting some other financial resources as well. No objections were noted to having a recognition plaque developed and placed at the park to acknowledge donors as well.

Mayor Bates reported of the proposal presented by Julie Bickelhaupt of PARK BATTING CAGES the recreation board and summer baseball program organization to construct new batting cages at Point Rock Park near the baseball diamonds. The demolition of the old concession stand was considered and there were no objections. The ball program organization does have some of the money for the project and would be doing a fund drive again this year. The cement slab could be completed by the city crew and materials would be \$4,000. The Jo Carroll Energy, electric utility, has agreed to place the ten posts for this project at the park with their equipment if the City provides the approval and letter of support. The building improvements, netting and equipment would be provided by the ball program. The committee recommendation to the council was to approve the contribution of \$2,000 towards the cost of the concrete for the cement slab for the new batting cages with the city crew doing the concrete work and approve the project with the letter of support to go to Jo Carroll Energy to authorize the installation of the ten six-foot posts at the park. Roll call vote: Aldermen Risko, yes, Bork, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, and Bergren, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates noted the discussion about the lift needed at the swimming pool to meet the ADA regulations. Superintendent Handel was seeking the State Health Department's advice regarding the equipment he was looking at so far. To report back at a future meeting.

Mayor Bates reported that at the committee meetings of March 26<sup>th</sup> he iFIBER CABLE asked Mr. John Pokropinski to attend to talk about the iFiber cable construction to Mount Carroll and what were the questions to keep asking the iFiber network as this moves forward. He reported that Mr. Pokropinski provided some questions regarding the bandwidth to be provided, whether it was shared or not shared and the need to understand the other part of the contract with the network beyond the maintenance and to have more of that clarified. He also noted that the council should do some brainstorming about the services they would like to have with this and what future services could be added. Mr. Dan Payette of the Blackhawk Hills R, C, & D working with the iFiber network project was in attendance for this evening's meeting. He commented about the bandwidth that could be provided and the enhancements. He noted that the bandwidth would be pooled. He stated the contract would be reviewed each year to consider enhancements and make any changes. He stated he anticipated that the construction into Mount Carroll would be sometime late this summer or this fall. Mayor Bates thanked Mr. Payette for attending this evening's meeting.

Alderman Rose reported of the March 26<sup>th</sup> police committee meeting: POLICE

1. The chief provided a copy of the monthly report for February 2012.
2. Alderman Rose presented the police committee recommendation to authorize the mayor to sign a letter to authorize the Mount Carroll Police Department to sign up for the State ICLEAR monthly reporting program. Roll call vote: Aldermen Bork, yes, Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, and Risko, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
3. Alderman Risko volunteered to look into assessing the city's emergency siren warning system. He stated he had some comments from individuals in town that they were not able to hear the siren when they have heard it was used. No objections voiced by the council members.

Aldermen Bergren reported of the March 26<sup>th</sup> water & sewer committee meeting: WATER & SEWER

1. Reviewed the budget for the water and sewer departments for the upcoming year. Superintendent Handel noted that he was working on a list of future projects to be considered and in what years and would provide that as soon as he had it completed.
2. Superintendent Handel reported that representatives from the Insurance Service Office would be in Mount Carroll within the next month to conduct an insurance rating and fire hydrant test.

Alderman Charles reported of the March 27<sup>th</sup> finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. Alderman Charles reported of what he had negotiated with one of the residents regarding having water service turned on.
3. Alderman Charles presented the finance committee recommendation RESIGNATION to accept Susan Morgan's resignation as the City treasurer/deputy city clerk with her last day of employment being no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>. Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Bork, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.
4. Alderman Charles presented the finance committee recommendation ADVERTISEMENT to advertise for applicants for the position of treasurer/deputy city clerk and to have the applications into city hall by May 1, 2012. Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, and Charles, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mr. Lou Schau, Mt. Carroll CDC, was in attendance and reported they would be CDC UPDATE ordering the memorial benches for the downtown soon. Alderman Rose asked how many? Mr. Schau stated there were five so far to be ordered.

Alderman Sisler asked Mr. Schau about the matter that was brought up at the last meeting about the Downtown Enhancement Loan Program. He questioned whether it was Mr. Schau's position the CDC was not able to pay its loan until the City gives the CDC its \$6,000. Mr. Schau stated that the CDC's budget has certain revenue sources and certain expenses. When the revenues are not received they have to assess what expenses are to be paid and some of their funding as well has certain restrictions. Mayor Bates suggested that more information about the loan program could be provided to Alderman Sisler if he would approach the CDC board members or Mr. Schau.

In discussion of the Low to Moderate Income Survey proposals from Sharon LMI SURVEY Pepin of Community Funding and Planning Services (CFPS) and Steve Haring of MSA, Alderman Charles moved and Alderman Risko seconded to go with the lowest bid with CFPS and ask them to attend the next meeting to consider the options for implementing the process to establish the cost of the project. Roll call vote: Aldermen Charles, yes, Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, and Bork, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Alderman Bergren presented a report of his attendance at the Rural Development CONFERENCE Conference in Peoria, IL on March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. REPORT

Alderman Charles moved and Alderman Bork seconded to approve the RAFFLE LICENSE raffle license application submitted by the Mount Carroll Rotary Club. Roll call vote:

Aldermen Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, here, Bork, yes, Charles, yes, and Rose, yes. Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Bates reported that the spring bulky waste pick up had been scheduled for Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Under general audience, Mr. Len Anderson brought a sample of the fund raising bumper sticker he had designed to provide support for the Mount Carroll K-9 dog, Scout. Mr. Jeff Woodside commented about the city employees and the city cemetery funds. Mrs. Jeanne Schnitzler, North Galena Street, reported she was experiencing very orange, rusty water again. Mayor Bates stated he would report that back to the water and sewer superintendent. Mr. Reid Law was in attendance and addressed the council about the regional Motocross event he has scheduled at his facility just north of town on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. He noted several activities he was looking to set up with the community's support at this time. He would notify the local vendors of the event as when he had this before some of the stores ran out of items that were necessary to the visitors. He stated he was hoping to have some more police presence and or security help, a shuttle system to take people to and from town when needed, a volunteer delivery booth, some youth volunteer workers for the events and possibly a wireless internet access for the campers at his facility. The council members thanked Mr. Law for his work on setting this up and having this event and they would contact him about resources to help with this.

Mayor Bates reported that the city crew were working on the painting of the COMMUNITY HOUSE walls at the community house at this time. The Schneider House Furniture could not come up with enough tiles of the one color they had in stock so they came up with another option and have agreed to donate these materials to the project. A cost savings of \$200.

Mr. Reid Law stated he had not transported the paver bricks from Amboy, IL as of this date.

Alderman Charles moved and Alderman Rose seconded to adjourn the meeting. ADJOURNMENT  
Roll call vote: Aldermen Rose, yes, Sisler, yes, Bergren, yes, Risko, yes, Bork, yes, and Charles, yes.  
Vote: 6 yeses and 0 noes. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the April 10, 2012 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler  
City Clerk & Collector