

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 28, 2020 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNT CARROLL CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Steve Behrens 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, present, ROLL CALL
Doug Bergren, present, Kevin Powers, absent, Jeff Elliott, present, Mike Risko, present, and Joe Grim, present.

Alderman Bergren led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Bill Zink gave the invocation.

Alderman Elliott moved and Alderman Risko seconded to approve the MINUTES
minutes of the January 14, 2020 regular meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Aldermen Kaczmarski, Bergren, yes, Elliott, yes, Risko, yes, and Grim, yes, and Powers, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried.

Alderman Kaczmarski moved and Alderman Risko seconded to ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
authorize the payment of the accounts payable to date for the month of January 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 \$757,290.91 as of today. COMMITTEES

Alderman Risko reported of the January 28th finance committee meeting: FINANCE

1. The bills were reviewed and approved.
2. The finance committee went into closed session to consider the compensation of specific employees of the public body. No action was presented.

Alderman Grim reported of the January 28th water & sewer committee meeting: WATER & SEWER

1. Superintendent Zink reported of the current projects which included two water leaks this last week, talking with contractors and an engineer for two upcoming development projects, and repairs needed at the treatment plant.
2. Reported of new tires that would be placed on the City backhoe for free through a program from Titan Tire company.
3. Jared Fluhr and Steve Haring from MSA presented the project update from the treatment plant facility, the downtown sidewalk project and the water main replacement and looping project for the northwest side of town.
4. Alderman Grim presented the water & sewer committee ENGINEERING
recommendation to approve the agreement with MSA Professional Services, Inc. for the design engineering services at a cost not to exceed \$96,000 for the proposed Water Main Replacement and Looping Project. Roll call vote: Aldermen 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.

Regarding old business and pending items Mayor Bates reported that VACANT PROPERTIES
there was something to be reviewed for the West Washington Street property.

For the downtown sidewalk project, Mr. Jared Fluhr from MSA reported that all that was needed for the grant write to be sent to the state had been submitted to Sharon Pepin's office.

Mayor Bates and Alderman Risko reported that a site visit to a community DAVIS TRUST
center in Fairfield, IL was scheduled for February 27, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Bates stated that the next item on the agenda was the placement US FLAGS ON LIGHT
of the American flags on the City light poles. Mr. Richard Ottens, POLES

Commander of the local American Legion was in attendance and addressed the council with a request from the organization to be able to place the flags in the brackets on the light poles starting just before

Memorial Day and leaving them up through December 7th. Mayor Bates stated that he felt this community was very patriotic, there are members on the council that have served in the military, he stated he appreciated all that the Legion members have done in the past and would continue doing, but he stated there are some concerns about the flags getting entangled in the holiday wreath decorations that are usually put up around Thanksgiving. Mayor Bates and Alderman Risko asked about even taking them down during some different times in the summer, or could there be a compromise with the placement and not have the flags on the poles that also have the flower baskets. Mr. Ottens stated that they do not have the volunteers or the funds to contract someone to remove and set the flags all through the summer and fall months for the different flag flying days. They feel that the placement of all 41 of these flags in the city's downtown is a great tribute and statement of community pride for our town. Ms. Pam Sorg of the chamber beautification committee addressed the council and noted that the main issue this year was the entanglement with the wreaths. She stated she would be willing to meet with Mr. Ottens to come up with some ideas to present to the council before this May. Mayor Bates and the council thanked everyone for attending this evening's meeting to discuss this matter and stated he would suggest to the street department to take a look at the brackets on the light poles and whether any different location would be feasible on the poles.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Kaczmariski seconded to approve the SPECIAL USE PERMIT special use permit for Mr. Mark Swiech for the property located at 415 S. Mill Street, to operate a guest house as an Airbnb rental and the waiver of the owner residency standard applicable to the guest home under Section 9-5-3 of the City Zoning Code. 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.

Under general audience Mr. Richard Ottens asked about the gating on the walking bridge on Galena Street and having access to a certain area on the bridge for the Memorial Day wreath toss memorial. To check into that matter before the Memorial Day event.

Alderman Grim moved and Alderman Elliott seconded to adjourn ADJOURNMENT
the meeting. Roll call vote: Aldermen Grim, Kaczmariski, yes, Bergren, yes, Elliott, yes, Risko, yes, and Powers, absent. Vote: 5 yeses, 0 noes, and 1 absent. The motion was carried. Mayor Bates adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

The Mount Carroll City Council approved these minutes at the February 11, 2020 regular meeting.

Julie A. Cuckler
City Clerk & Collector