

CITY OF OLNEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 25, 2016

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The April 25, 2016, meeting of the Olney City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Olney City Hall located at 300 S. Whittle Avenue, Olney, Illinois, with Mayor Ray Vaughn presiding.

AGENDA #2 “PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG-PRAYER” Council members and visitors joined in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

AGENDA #3 “ROLL CALL” The following Council members were present: Les Harrison, Belinda Henton, Bob Ferguson, and Ray Vaughn. John McLaughlin was absent. Also present were City Manager Allen Barker, City Attorney Bart Zuber, City Clerk Kelsie Sterchi, City Treasurer Chuck Sanders, Assistant City Treasurer Jane Guinn, and City Engineer Charleston.

AGENDA #4 “PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA”

4-A “Approve Minutes of Council Meeting on April 11, 2016”

4-B “Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable April 26, 2016” Pooled Cash \$187,078.67, Manual Pooled Cash \$ 134,630.30, Utility Refunds \$2,252.52, RLF \$1,066.42, EDA \$583.61, Relending \$728.05, EDA Sequestered Fund \$74.68, MFT \$4,801.76, 175th Anniversary \$1,626.05, Unemployment Insurance \$4,026.09

4-C “Raffle License-Olney Elks”

4-D “Raffle License-Richland Memorial Hospital Relay for Life Team”

AGENDA #5 “REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT AGENDA” No items were requested for removal from the consent agenda.

AGENDA #6 “CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA” Councilman Ferguson moved to approve the items on the consent agenda, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received to approve the consent agenda.

AGENDA #7 “CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA”

No consideration was necessary since no items were removed from the consent agenda.

AGENDA #8 “PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, ETC.”

8-A “Appointments and Re-Appointments to Plan Commission, Library Board, and Police Pension Board” The Council was provided with a listing of tentative appointments and re-appointments. Mayor Vaughn told the Council of his desire to appoint Greg Eyer to the Plan Commission, Bridget McKinney Jensen to the Library Board, and to re-appoint Mike Uhl to the Police Pension Board.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve the appointments and re-appointments as presented, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-B “Tourism Purchase Request: Purchase of Promotional Items to be Purchased From the Tourism Promotion Line Item” The Council was provided with a memo from City Clerk Sterchi. Mrs. Sterchi told the Council that as the fiscal year closes, \$8,214.00 still remained in the Tourism Promotion line item. She wished to utilize those funds on some promotional items, such as luggage tags and magnets, to be used for give-a-ways at tourism conventions, local events, and at some of the hotels and motels.

An exact dollar amount was not yet known for these items, so she wished the Council to authorize the purchases up to the \$8,214.00 due to the quickly approaching end of the fiscal year. Purchases from the Tourism Promotion line item must be approved by the City Council.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve promotional item purchases from the Tourism Promotion line up to \$8,214.00, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-C “Resolution: Authorize Application to IEPA for Route 130/Miller Drive Sanitary Sewer Extension” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution that would authorize the City Manager to sign all documents required to complete the IEPA application process for the Route 130/Miller Drive sanitary sewer extension.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve 2016-R-30, seconded by Councilwoman Henton. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-D “Resolution: Accept Bid for Furnishing and Delivery of Concrete for Street Patching, Curb and Gutter Construction, Sidewalk Construction, and Miscellaneous Construction” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to accept the bids from Schrey Systems, Inc., on Option 2, for all mixes of concrete.

Mr. Barker explained that bids were solicited for various mixes of concrete with options to provide for six months (Option 1), or to provide for one year (Option 2). Bids were received from Doll’s and Schrey Systems, Inc.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve 2016-R-31, seconded by Mayor Vaughn. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-E “Resolution: Accept Bid for Sand, Pea Gravel, Crushed Stone and Riprap” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to accept bids from Charles Heuerman Trucking to provide riprap for one year, and from Tri County Ag, LLC., to supply sand, pea gravel, CA-6 crushed stone, and one inch crushed stone.

Bids were also solicited for sand, pea gravel, crushed stone and riprap with options to provide for six months (Option 1), or one year (Option 2). Bids were received from Tri County Ag, LLC., and Charles Heuerman Trucking. Mr. Barker recommended accepting the low bid from Tri County Ag, LLC., for supply on all material except riprap for one year, and Charles Heuerman Trucking for riprap for one year.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve 2016-R-32, seconded by Mayor Vaughn. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-F “Resolution: Accept Bid for the Hall Street/Berger 8-Inch Sanitary Sewer Extension” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to accept the low bid for the Hall Street/Berger eight inch sanitary sewer extension.

Mr. Barker told the Council that bids were opened on April 20, 2016, for the Hall Street/Berger eight inch sanitary sewer extension project. Two bids were received. The first was from Wayne Lapington in the amount of \$73,738.00. The low bid was from Kieffer Brothers Construction Co., in the amount of \$49,869.50. Mr. Barker added that a total of \$53,000.00 was included in the budget for this project.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve 2016-R-33, seconded by Councilwoman Henton. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-G “Notice of Award: B&T Drainage for the W. Main Street Watermain Replacement” The Council was provided with a proposed Notice of Award to B&T Drainage, Inc., for the W. Main Street watermain replacement. A formal Notice of Award provided by the City Council was a necessary requirement of the IEPA.

City Engineer Charleston indicated that it would take approximately one month before work could begin on the project. He hoped for the project to be completed by the end of November, 2016.

Councilman Harrison moved to approve the Notice of Award to B&T Drainage Co., for the W. Main Street watermain replacement, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. Councilmen Ferguson, Harrison, Councilwoman Henton, and Mayor Vaughn voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

8-H “2016/2017 Budget Discussions” The City Treasurer had placed the amended 2016/2017 proposed budget in the Council mailboxes a few days prior. Also included with the amended proposed budget was a worksheet detailing the amendments to the original proposed budget.

Mr. Barker asked if the Council had any questions or changes to make regarding the proposed 2016/2017 budget. The Council had no concerns or additions.

Mr. Barker reminded the Council of previous discussion regarding a proposed mini-excavator for the Street Department. Street Department Supervisor Tom Umfleet had tested one of the models and was very pleased. At the next Council meeting, the Council would be asked to amend the new budget for that purchase.

The City Treasurer added that the Fire and Police Pension Boards had both voted to recommend their proposed budgets to the Council for acceptance.

Councilwoman Henton noted that the 2015/2016 budget originally showed a deficit, but would end positive. The 2016/2017 year budget also showed a deficit, even though the City did have a surplus of funds located in separate bank accounts; not in the General Fund.

8-I "Resolution: Approve 2016/2017 Budget" The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to accept the 2016/2017 budget.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve 2016-R-34, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. Councilmen Ferguson, Harrison, Mayor Vaughn, and Councilwoman Henton voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

AGENDA #9 "REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS"

9-A "Status Report-City Manager" The Council was provided with a Status Report from the City Manager. Mr. Barker began by making the Council aware that the septic and dump trucks had been purchased and were satisfactory. Also, the Community Building project was complete for the time being. Minor projects such as guttering will take place at a later date. He encouraged the Council to visit the building to see the completed work.

Additionally, the new blinds for the Council Chambers had arrived and were installed by Mike Mitchell. Landscaping improvements were also being made at Bower Park.

Mr. Barker went on to tell that 17 demolitions had taken place in the 2016/2017 fiscal year. He felt confident that the City was working in the right direction to get dilapidated structures removed.

Mayor Vaughn wished for the public to know that the new aggregation rate with Homefield came in at \$.0508. He noted that with his personal business, another entity quoted \$.0608. He felt the Homefield rate would be difficult to beat.

The City Treasurer reported to the Council that the State had overpaid on corporate property tax. The State will recuperate the overpayment over the next couple of years. Mr. Sanders said that the City's share of the overpayment was slightly over \$15,000.00.

City Attorney Zuber then told the Council that he received eight hours of legal education at the attorney seminar provided by the IML.

Mr. Charleston told the Council that bids had also been received for the Lathrop Street curb and gutter project. One bid was received, but the bid was deemed irregular. He would like to extend the bid opening two more weeks so the bid could be corrected. The Council wished to allow two more weeks on the bid opening.

9-B "Street Tree Replacement Program Recommendation-Tree Board" The Council was provided with a memo from the City Clerk and a proposed Street Tree Replacement Program. Tree Board Chair Brandy McKinney was available to help answer any questions.

The proposed cost-sharing program would allow property owners to apply for placement of select trees on the right-of-way along their property. Applicants would submit application to the Tree Board for approval based on a variety of factors such as placement, type of tree, priority, etc. If approved, the property owner would purchase and plant the approved tree, submit the receipt to the City, and the City would then reimburse up to \$75.00 for the tree and its planting. Since the tree would be on City right-of-way, should the tree need to be pruned or removed for any City need, the City would have the right to do so.

Mrs. McKinney described how the Tree Board had been working for a few months on the proposed program. Funds for the program would be provided through pledges/donors and from the City budget. As this is the test-run for such a program, it is desired to see how the requests filter in the first year before determining how much should be budgeted in future years. Mrs. Sterchi added that she and the City Treasurer had spoken, and some funds could possibly come from the Public Relations line item for the first year. Mrs. Sterchi also noted that application approvals were also based on fund availability. If no funds are available, the application(s) cannot be approved.

Councilwoman Henton asked how the application process would work. Mrs. McKinney replied that City Hall would receive the application, and then the application would be approved or denied by the Tree Board based on the guidelines provided in the program.

Mayor Vaughn commented on his appreciation to the Tree Board on taking the initiative. The Mayor had heard that the Emerald Ash Borer was in the area and was concerned about the threat. Mrs. McKinney replied that no ash trees were listed as part of the program, nor were they recommended by the Tree Board to be planted anywhere for the time being.

Councilwoman Henton like the idea of the Street Tree Replacement Program, but hoped to see larger trees planted elsewhere. Mrs. McKinney indicated that the Tree Board was working on other plantings. Specifically, at the last Tree Board meeting, the Board was approached by an Eagle Scout that was interested in helping the Board establish a Tree Identification Park.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve the Street Tree Replacement Program, as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Henton. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

9-C “Recommendation of Millers Grove Location for Proposed Dog Park & Recommendation of Letter of Council Support for Grant Application-Parks & Recreation Board”
The Council was provided with a listing of pros and cons for various potential dog park locations, and a tentative letter of support for the dog park. Parks & Recreation Board Chair Morgan Henton was present to help answer any questions.

Mr. Henton told the Council that on May 1, 2016, applications would be accepted through the PetSafe® Bark for Your Park Committee for grant funds to be used towards a dog park for Olney. The Parks & Recreation Board had also included a dog park as part of their Comprehensive Plan.

The Board had gone through various pros and cons for the possible locations at W. Wayne Street/Oak Street, Gassmann Park, the southeast corner of Musgrove Park, the northwest corner of

the City Park, and Millers Grove. Ultimately, Millers Grove was deemed to be the most appropriate property due to its acreage, water availability, existing sidewalk, available parking, trees on-site, established grass, minimal flooding, lake access, and the fact that the area was already owned and maintained by the City.

Councilwoman Henton had also conducted an online poll to assess public interest. As a result 94% of voters were in favor of a dog park with 6% opposed.

Mayor Vaughn asked what the future obligations would be of the City if moving forward with the dog park. Mr. Henton replied that there should not be much additional maintenance at all. The City already mows and weed eats the area. Some fence maintenance may be required down the road.

If awarded the grant, the City would receive \$25,000.00 in funds to use for the dog park. Councilwoman Henton described that the funds would be used towards fencing, hydrants, water, picnic tables and agility equipment. Assistance may also be needed from Water Distribution to run water from the west side of N. East Road to the east side.

Councilwoman Henton moved to approve Millers Grove as the location for the proposed dog park and to authorize a letter of Council support to the PetSafe® Bark for Your Park Committee, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

AGENDA #10 “PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS”

10-A “Brian O’Neill” Brian O’Neill, 818 E. Main Street, wondered if the Council noticed that he remained seated during the Pledge of Allegiance. He said he remained seated because there is no law requiring him to stand during the Pledge. Mr. O’Neill also told the Council that he has every right to come to Council meetings dressed like Lady Gaga, as long as body parts are not exposed. Mr. O’Neill told the Council that he “reads the letter of the law.”

Mr. O’Neill then told how Mayor Vaughn had violated his rights on numerous occasions, and that he could have filed a lawsuit, but did not.

From the audience, Shawn Tate then wished to speak. Mr. Tate apologized to the Council for the verbal terrorism perpetrated by Mr. O’Neill. Mr. Tate then apologized for not defending the Mayor and Council in the past. He admitted to misjudging the Mayor and the Police Chief. Now, Mr. Tate felt that the Mayor and Council were doing a wonderful job, and he would defend the Mayor and Council with all of his heart.

Mr. Tate also asked for guidance on how to help bring a biofuel plant to the area. From there, Mr. Tate hoped that he and the Mayor could debate on how to bring Olney back to prosperity, should the Mayor choose to again run in the election.

AGENDA #11 “CLOSED SESSION: SALE PRICE OF REAL PROPERTY; ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY; AND APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, AND PERFORMANCE OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES” Councilwoman Henton moved to adjourn to

closed session to discuss sale price of real property; acquisition of real property; and appointment, employment, compensation, and performance of specific employees, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Councilmen Harrison, Ferguson, Councilwoman Henton, Mayor Vaughn, City Manager Barker, City Treasurer Chuck Sanders, City Attorney Zuber, and City Clerk Sterchi left the Council Chambers at 7:35 p.m.

AGENDA #12 “RECONVENE OPEN SESSION” Upon return of those who were in closed session to the Council Chambers, Councilwoman Henton moved to enter back into open session, seconded by Mayor Vaughn. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. Open session resumed at 8:29 p.m.

12-A “Ordinance: Salaries and Wages for Non-Bargaining Employees” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance to establish salaries and wages for non-bargaining employees.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve Ordinance 2016-17, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

12-B “Resolution: Insurance Premium Allocations for Non-Bargaining Employees” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to adopt insurance premium allocations for non-bargaining employees.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve 2016-R-35, seconded by Mayor Vaughn. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

AGENDA #13 “ADJOURN” Councilwoman Henton moved to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Vaughn. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi
City Clerk