

CITY OF OLNEY  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 22, 2021

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The February 22, 2021, 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 Pro-Tem John McLaughlin presiding.

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

AGENDA #3 “ROLL CALL” The following Council members were physically present: John McLaughlin, Belinda Henton, Morgan Fehrenbacher, and Greg Eyer. Mark Lambird was absent. Also physically present were City Manager Allen Barker, City Treasurer Jane Guinn, City Clerk Kelsie Sterchi, and City Engineer Mike Bridges. Several State of Illinois Executive Orders allowed for attendance to take place via video, audio, and/or telephonic means as the COVID-19 crisis continues. Attending by audio/video was City Attorney Bart Zuber.

AGENDA #4 “PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA”

4-A “Approve Minutes of Council Meeting on February 8, 2021”

4-B “Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable February 23, 2021” Pooled Cash \$171,626.16, Manual Pooled Cash \$3,764.63, Tourism \$178.83

4-C “Appointment: Eric King to the Airport Authority”

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

AGENDA #6 “CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA” Councilwoman Fehrenbacher moved to approve the items on the consent agenda, seconded by Councilman Eyer. Councilman Eyer, Councilwomen Fehrenbacher, Henton, and Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

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 “Resolution: Authorize Representatives for the N.P.D.E.S. Construction General Permit & Other Documents Related to the IEPA Stormwater Permit for the Highway Safety Improvement Program – Route 130 Sidewalk” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution that would authorize representatives for the N.P.D.E.S. Construction General Permit and other documents related to the IEPA Stormwater Permit for the Highway Safety Improvement Program related to the Route 130 sidewalk.

Mr. Bridges told the Council that a Stormwater Permit was required by IEPA for the Highway Safety Improvement Program with the Route 130 Sidewalk Project. The proposed resolution would authorize the City Treasurer to be the signatory for the N.P.D.E.S. Construction

General Permit application, Notices of Intent, and Notifications of Termination. The resolution would also authorize the City Engineer to be the inspector and signatory for inspection reports required by the N.P.D.E.S. Construction Permit.

Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin asked when the sidewalk project would begin. Mr. Bridges felt there was a slim chance that it would begin in 2021.

Councilwoman Henton moved to approve 2021-R-12, seconded by Councilwoman Fehrenbacher. Councilwomen Fehrenbacher, Henton, Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin, and Councilman Eyer voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

8-B “Resolution: Accept Bid for Sewage Grinder at the Olney Sewage Treatment Plant”

The Council was provided with a proposed resolution that would accept a bid for a sewage grinder at the Sewer Plant.

On February 3, 2021, sealed bids were opened for a new sewage grinder for the Sewer Plant. Two bids were received. Mr. Barker recommended accepting the low bid in the amount of \$29,856.00 from Vandevanter Engineering of Decatur, Illinois. The only other bid received was in the amount of \$43,256.00 from JWC Environmental of Santa Ana, California.

Mr. Barker advised the Council that the grinders typically had a life of five to seven years. Currently, one grinder had gone bad and was unable to be repaired. The new grinder would replace that one. A total of two grinders should be on hand at the Plant.

Councilwoman Fehrenbacher asked if a grinder purchase was included in the budget. Mr. Barker replied that it was included in the budget at about \$54,000.00.

The Councilwoman then asked when the other grinder would need replaced. Mr. Barker expected that it would need replaced within the next few years.

Councilwoman Henton moved to approve 2021-R-13, seconded by Councilman Eyer. Councilwomen Henton, Fehrenbacher, Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin, and Councilman Eyer voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

8-C “Resolution: Accept Bids for Furnishing & Delivery of Materials for the Olney City Park Multi-Use Trail” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution that would accept bids for furnishing and delivery of materials for the Olney City Park Multi-Use Trail Project. The Council was also provided with a bid tabulation.

Mr. Barker informed the Council that earlier in the day, the first installment of OSLAD grant funds had been received for the project. The grant was a 50%-50% match. The State would provide 25% of their portion upfront and would reimburse the City their other portion as the project moved along and proper paperwork was submitted.

Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin asked when City Park improvements would begin. Mr. Bridges expected that the total project could be completed by late Summer or early Fall. Concrete work for the trail would be done by the Street Department. Due to their work load, Mr. Barker expected that the concrete may be laid in phases.

Mr. Barker then explained that sealed bids for the materials were also opened on February 3. Four divisions of materials were needed. Three bids were received for the Division A materials, one bid was received for the Division B materials, one bid was received for the Division C materials, and two bids were received for the Division D materials.

The proposed bids to accept were from Utility Supply Co., of Huntingburg, Indiana, in the amount of \$16,367.84 for Division A materials, County Materials Corporation of Champaign, Illinois, in the amount of \$13,835.00 for Division B materials, 3 Sisters Logistics of Teutopolis, Illinois, in the amount of \$13,752.75 for Division C materials, and Schrey Systems of Olney, Illinois, in the amount of \$44,625.00 for Division D materials.

Councilman Eyer moved to approve 2021-R-14, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin. Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin, Councilman Eyer, Councilwomen Fehrenbacher and 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” Mr. Barker reminded the Council that per Republic Services’ franchise agreement, they had the option to increase their sanitary hauling fees by 3% this coming March. The City Code would automatically give the City the authority to assess any sanitary hauling fee increases as assigned along with the \$0.25 City charge for administrative costs.

Mrs. Guinn clarified that if Republic Services did follow through with their option of a fee increase, the amount billed to the customer would increase from \$11.50 per month to \$11.84 per month, including the administrative fee.

The Council briefly discussed whether or not to continue with the \$0.25 administrative fee. Councilwoman Henton noted that it was not required. If not assessed, the new potential fees to be billed to residents per month would be \$11.59 instead of \$11.84. A Code amendment could do away with the administrative fee.

Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin asked what the administrative fee covered. Mr. Barker indicated that the fee was due to the City’s time spent responding to issues such as complaints, taking requests for trash totes, billing, reporting, etc.

Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin said the Council could discuss the topic again in the future if Republic Services issued a fee increase.

The Mayor Pro-Tem then asked if any other Council members wished to speak. Councilman Eyer wanted to talk about potential for the City to place boat slips. The Council wished to discuss such topic at a later date.

Earlier in the day, Governor Pritzker had signed HB 3653 on Criminal Justice Reform Legislation. The legislation was of great concern to the Police Department and the City as a whole. The Council discussed some of the potential financial burdens that the legislation would likely bring. Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin requested that the City Attorney or Police Chief look into what kind of financial impact the City could expect. It was apparent that many of the changes would reduce revenue and increase liability.

Chief Paddock was hopeful that grants would come available for some of the new requirements, specifically body cameras. Mr. Barker added that IML would be suggesting amendments to the bill and expected a lot of conversation on the topic in the future.

Councilwoman Fehrenbacher wished to express great thanks to the Street Department and Supervisor Tyler Kocher regarding their management in clearing snow after the recent storm. She received a good amount of positive feedback from the public.

9-B “RCDC Report” RCDC Executive Director Lauren McClain had nothing new to report, but thanked Mr. Barker for spending so much time in her office lately sharing his wisdom. Mrs. McClain felt that she was learning a great deal.

9-C “Chamber of Commerce Report” Councilwoman Fehrenbacher reported that the Chamber was continuing to push back several events, but did expect to bring back the monthly Chamber Luncheons as of April.

Councilwoman Henton recalled that Ladies Night had been scheduled for some time in March. Councilwoman Fehrenbacher replied that the event had unfortunately needed to be pushed back. She hoped that the event could take place in the Fall instead.

9-D “Parks & Recreation Board Report” No report was given, but Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin stated he was aware that the Board would be meeting on Wednesday and would be hearing a presentation regarding pickleball.

9-E “Tourism Board Report” Councilwoman Henton told the Council that Mrs. Sterchi had received new tear-off maps with points of interest as of last Friday. The ILLINOISouth Tourism Bureau was also continuing work on the 2021 Visitors Guide.

Councilwoman Fehrenbacher then wanted to state that Project Community had been on hold for some time due to COVID-19. The group had not abandoned the Splash Pad Project, and would be moving forward as soon as fundraising could start again.

AGENDA #10 “PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS” No one from the public wished to speak.

AGENDA #11 “ADJOURN” With no further business to discuss, Councilwoman Henton moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Fehrenbacher. Councilman Eyer, Councilwomen Fehrenbacher, Henton, and Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi  
City Clerk