

CITY OF OLNEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2016

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The February 22, 2016, meeting of the Olney City Council was called to order by 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. Don Meeks led the group in prayer.

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

AGENDA #4 “PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA”

4-A “Approve Minutes of Council Meetings on February 8, 2016 (6:00 p.m.) and February 8, 2016 (7:00 p.m.)”

4-B “Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable on February 23, 2016” Pooled Cash \$89,980.71, Manual Pooled Cash \$10,806.22, IMRF \$35,038.87, 175th Anniversary \$909.00

4-C “Raffle License: Olney Lions Club Foundation, Inc.”

4-D “Ordinance: Sale of Personal Property (Scrap Metal) to Scrap Daddy, Inc. – Park Department” 2016-07

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 McLaughlin moved to approve the items on the consent agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Henton. 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 “Request: Class S Liquor License for Bobalou’s (175th Anniversary)” The Council was provided with a Class S Liquor License Application from Bobalou’s, and an excerpt from the August 10, 2015, minutes. Christy Ritter, representing Bobalou’s, was present to help answer any questions.

City Clerk Sterchi reminded the group that on August 10, 2015, the Council indicated their interest in approving a Class S Liquor License to be used during July 22 and 23, 2016, as part of the 175th anniversary celebration weekend. Bobalou's expressed interest in being the supplier for the celebration, and asked the Council's approval of the application.

Mayor Vaughn added that the Fair Board would be helping at the event, and various security measures had been discussed.

Councilman McLaughlin moved to approve a Class S Liquor License to Bobalou's for July 22 and 23, 2016, seconded by Councilwoman Henton. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-B "Request/Ordinance: Vacate East/West Alley Between S. Grant Street & the Unimproved Portion of S. Lincoln Street" The Council was provided with a copy of an e-mail from Gary and Kim Houchin, a map of the proposed alley to be vacated, a listing of surrounding property owners that were sent a notification letter, and a copy of the notification letter that was sent. Kim Houchin was present to answer any questions.

Mrs. Houchin told the Council that the platted alley was not being used as an alley for any through traffic. She and her husband had been maintaining the alley for years. No City services run through the alley.

City Clerk Sterchi indicated that no comments in support or opposition of the request had been received. Mayor Vaughn asked if anyone was present to oppose the request. No one from the public wished to speak on the request.

Councilwoman Henton recalled that the Houchins had requested to vacate this alley in the past, but the neighbors had opposition at that time.

If sold, the price per square foot would be at \$.15 plus the cost of recording.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve the alley vacation request submitted by Gary and Kim Houchin, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. Ordinance 2016-02 will be created.

8-C "Ordinance: Amending Chapter 5.32 (Taxicabs) of the City of Olney Municipal Code" The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to amend Chapter 5.32 (Taxicabs) of the City of Olney Municipal Code.

City Attorney Zuber told the Council that that he and Charles Robertson had met to discuss portions of the Taxicab ordinance that needed updating. The proposed changes were detailed in the ordinance, but a few of the changes needed recommendation from the Council.

Mr. Robertson hoped to charge a \$6.00 flat rate to any location in the City with an extra \$2.00 charge for each additional person in the same trip, or a \$4.00 charge if the other person needs to be brought to another location. He did not believe he would charge to handle any baggage.

Mr. Zuber suggested that the Council recommend a higher amount to list for the maximum charges. The taxicab owner could then use his or her discretion on whether or not to charge the maximum rate. Mr. Zuber added that he did not include any language in the ordinance regarding rates outside of City limits, as the City would not have jurisdiction on that aspect.

Mr. Zuber also pointed out that the Illinois Child Passenger Protection Act only applies to non-commercial vehicles.

The Council suggested that no more than \$5.00 should be charged for the first mile. They also suggested that the flat fee should not exceed the sum of \$10.00, and that the taxicab company should not charge more than \$5.00 for each additional adult passenger.

Sections to be amended in the proposed ordinance were Sections: 5.32.010 (Definitions), 5.32.040 (Fee), 5.32.070 (Public hearing), 5.32.090 (Issuance of license), 5.32.130 (Location of office and office hours), 5.32.140 (License sticker or tag), 5.32.150 (Designation of taxicabs), 5.32.160 (Rate of fare), 5.32.190 (Rate card displayed), 5.32.230 (Additional passengers), 5.32.240 (Restriction on the number of passengers), 5.32.250 (Driver's requirements), and 5.32.260 (Driver's permit fee).

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve Ordinance 2016-03 that would approve the ordinance as presented with Council recommendation of charging no more than \$5.00 for the first mile, and charging no more than \$10.00 for a flat rate charge, and no more than \$5.00 for each additional adult passenger, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-D "Request: Taxicab License" The Council was provided with the copy of Mr. Robertson's Taxicab License Application from the February 8, 2016, meeting, and a proposed drivers' log submitted by Mr. Robertson.

Mrs. Sterchi noted that Ordinance 2016-03 amended the Taxicab License fee from \$30.00 to \$35.00. The Council and Mr. Robertson understood the change.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve a Taxicab License to Charles Robertson for a 1994 Buick Lacrosse, seconded by Councilwoman Henton. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-E “Ordinance: Amend Section 5.24.030 (Rates for Water Service) of the City of Olney Municipal Code” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance to amend water rates for Watergate, effective for bills processed on or after February 18, 2016. Walter Buss was present to help answer any questions.

Mr. Barker explained that the proposed ordinance would change Watergate’s rate to be a flat rate of \$.514 per 100 gallons with one debt service/capital improvement charge of \$1.75 and one billing fee of \$1.06. After May 1, 2016, the rate will increase to \$.539 per 100 gallons with one debt service/capital improvement charge of \$2.75 and the billing fee remaining the same at \$1.06.

Councilman McLaughlin moved to approve Ordinance 2016-04, seconded by Councilwoman Henton. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-F “Ordinance: Amend Section 5.24.030 (License Restrictions) of Chapter 5.24 (Raffles) of the City of Olney Municipal Code” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance that would amend the maximum price for each raffle chance sold from \$50.00 to \$100.00.

Councilman McLaughlin moved to approve Ordinance 2016-05, seconded by Councilwoman Henton. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-G “Raffle License: Olney Firefighters Association” The Council was provided with the Olney Firefighters Association Raffle License Application from the February 8, 2016, meeting.

Councilwoman Henton moved to approve the Olney Firefighters Association Raffle License Application, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-H “Resolution: Accept Quote for Community Building Flooring & Waive Formal Bidding Procedures” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to accept the quotation from Concrete Evolutions in the amount of \$27,789.00 to epoxy the concrete floor with color chipping, and that would waive the formal bidding procedures, and a copy of the quote received from Concrete Evolutions.

Mr. Barker told the Council that the work to the floor could range from a low of \$20,140.00 to the high of \$27,789.00. Pricing would be based on amount of labor required.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve 2016-R-12, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-I “Resolution: Amend 2015/2016 Budget in City Hall Maintenance and Parks & Cemeteries Categories” This topic was tabled until the March 14, 2016, meeting as not enough

members of the Council were present to vote. Amendments to the budget require a four-fifths vote.

8-J “Request/Ordinance: Amend Section 12.32.040 (Daily Boating Licenses) of the City of Olney Municipal Code to Allow for Authorized Agents to Charge an Additional Amount of \$5.00 Instead of the Current \$3.00 as a Service Charge or Commission” The Council was provided with a letter from Jerry and Sandy Cravatta, owners of Lakeside RV, requesting to change the ordinance listing service charges for the sale of daily boat licenses through authorized agents from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per license.

Mr. Barker told the Council that if the Council wished to grant the request, all authorized agents would be able to increase their service charges to \$5.00 per license. Mr. Barker also added that 2016 pricing information had already been listed and provided to the authorized agents. It was suggested that the Council wait until 2017 to make effective any further changes.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve Ordinance 2016-06, and make the increased service charges effective as of January 1, 2017, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Mayor Vaughn wished to thank the Cravatta’s, and noted his appreciation for what they do at Lakeside RV.

AGENDA #9 “REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS”

9-A “Status Report-City Manager” Mr. Barker explained that the City was awarded a \$400,000.00 Community Development Block Grant for Housing Rehabilitation Funding. The grant should help approximately six or seven owner-occupied properties that are in need of rehabilitation.

Mayor Vaughn noted the hard work that went into applying for the grant that was done by the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission and Administrative Assistant Cindy Harlan.

Councilwoman Henton wondered how property owners would be selected as recipients. Mr. Barker replied that the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission would conduct an application process.

The City Manager then told the Council that he and the City Treasurer would be visiting Charleston, Illinois, on February 24, 2016, to attend the Good Energy bid opening.

City Attorney Zuber commented that he and Walter Buss had recently met to discuss changes to Watergate’s contract. Those changes would be addressed at the March 14, 2016, City Council meeting.

AGENDA #10 “PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS”

10-A “Brian O’Neill” Brian O’Neill, 818 E. Main Street, told the Council how he felt a taxicab service would not be of benefit to those on food stamps as the taxicab fee would be too high. He felt that Mr. Robertson would soon be out of business. He also went on to explain how he felt that Rides Mass Transit offered more benefits to those who are elderly or disabled. He did feel, however, that the taxicab would benefit those needing to travel out of town.

Before adjourning, Mr. Barker wished to add that the flooring work has started at the Community Building, but that the Council would soon need to make a decision on how they wanted the kitchen to be laid out. Mr. Barker had received a quote of \$15,000.00 for the work on the kitchen. This quote did not include plumbing. He would be seeking a more reasonable quote. The Council felt that adding a wall with a serving window would be too costly at this time.

Mr. Barker then told the Council that he had found a certified appraiser to appraise City-owned property. Her fee would be \$350.00 per parcel.

With the upcoming W. Main Street Watermain Replacement Project, Mr. Barker recommending contracting with a camera company to view inside of the storm drains to assess any issues.

Lastly, Mr. Barker told the Council that the Fire Department had been awarded an interest-free loan in the amount of \$350,000.00 to be used towards a new fire truck. Action would be required by the Council before the next scheduled Council meeting, so a Special Meeting of the City Council would be scheduled before then. The loan would be for 20 years at a rate of \$17,500.00 per year.

Fire Chief Rusty Holmes added that the total amount of funds needed for the new truck would be about \$550,000.00 to design the truck appropriately for the needs of the community. The sale of the 31 year old fire truck being replaced may be about \$3,500.00.

AGENDA #11 “RECONVENE OPEN SESSION” This item was removed from the agenda.

AGENDA #12 “ADJOURN” Councilman McLaughlin moved to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Vaughn. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi
City Clerk