

CITY OF OLNEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 23, 2017

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The January 23, 2017, 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. John Monroe led the group in prayer.

AGENDA #3 “ROLL CALL” The following Council members were present: Les Harrison, Belinda Henton, John McLaughlin, Bob Ferguson and Ray Vaughn. Also present were 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 Meetings on January 9, 2017”

4-B “Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable January 24, 2017” Pooled Cash \$400,071.27, Manual Pooled Cash \$152,387.26, Tree Project \$355.90, Liability Insurance \$37,537.00, Workers Compensation Insurance \$5,910.00, MFT \$1,543.75, Christmas Light Display \$325.66, 175th Anniversary \$279.06, Police Pension \$12,715.00, Fire Pension \$8,653.00

4-C “Raffle License: Richland Country Club (1)”

4-D “Raffle License: Richland Country Club (2)”

4-E “Ordinance: Authorize Disposal of Personal Property from the Water Distribution Department by Recycling with Wilson Metals – Dot Matrix J.U.L.I.E. Printer”

4-F “Ordinance: Authorize Disposal of Personal Property from the City Clerk Department by Recycling with Wilson Metals – APC Battery Backup & CyberPower 425 VA Surge Protector”

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 “Tourism Grant Application: 9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit” The Council was provided with a Tourism Grant Application from the Olney Public Library and Olney Rotary Club, and a copy of the 9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit flyer. Dan Eichelberger, President of the Olney Rotary Club, and Sheila Ritter, Library Board Director, were present to speak on the application.

Mr. Eichelberger told the Council that the exhibit would be approximately 1,100 square feet in size, and would feature artifacts and audio from the 9/11 tragedies.

The groups estimated the entire cost of the event to be around \$16,000.00. They had raised \$8,000.00 in donations to date, and were requesting a \$5,000.00 Tourism Grant from the City. Fundraising to cover the remaining balance would continue. The event is scheduled for October 12 – October 14, 2017, and the groups estimated approximately 2,000 people would be in attendance. The event would be free to the public.

Mayor Vaughn asked if the 9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit had been in the area before. Mr. Eichelberger and Ms. Ritter did not believe so.

Mayor Vaughn commented that he had researched the exhibit online and was very impressed. Additionally, he appreciated how the exhibit handled its money by contributing back to charities and other similar types of events.

Councilman McLaughlin recalled that Mt. Gilead Church had never submitted a request for their approved Tourism Grant monies to be disbursed. Mr. Sanders confirmed. The church's Kirk Cameron event had generated enough money that the Tourism Grant funds were not needed.

Mayor Vaughn told Mr. Eichelberger and Ms. Ritter that following the event, an event report was required to be submitted, in addition to the other documentation for disbursement of funds. Ms. Ritter replied that she was aware of the requirement. She pointed out that the exhibit hands out comment cards to attendees. She hopes the cards will provide good information that they can submit on their follow up report.

Councilwoman Henton moved to approve the \$5,000.00 Tourism Grant Application towards the 9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-B “Resolution: Accept Proposal from DPS Equipment Services, Inc. for Maintenance on a Final Clarifier No. 2, Waive Formal Bidding Procedures, and Amend the 2016/2017 Budget” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to accept the proposal from DPS Equipment Services, Inc., for maintenance on Final Clarifier No. 2 at the Sewer Plant, waive formal bidding procedures, and amend the 2016/2017 budget.

Mr. Barker told the Council that Final Clarifier No. 2 was currently inoperable. The cost to repair the bottom portion of the clarifier would be about \$37,000.00. After speaking with DPS Equipment Services, Inc., Mr. Barker learned that it would be more cost effective to repair both the top and the bottom portions of the clarifier in a total amount of \$59,700.00. The bottom portion needed to be done, and the top portion would be due for maintenance before much longer. DPS Equipment Services, Inc., would furnish labor and material to recondition the clarifier drive assembly and replace one sludge manifold assembly on the final clarifier.

Understanding that the proposed work was not listed in the current budget, Councilman McLaughlin wondered where the funds would come from. Mr. Barker replied that the Sewer Fund had enough available to add to the budget.

Councilman McLaughlin moved to approve 2017-R-03, seconded by Mayor Vaughn. A unanimous voice vote was received.

8-C “Resolution: Authorize Sale of 321 E. Lafayette Street by Public Auction” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to authorize the sale of 321 E. Lafayette Street by public auction.

Mr. Barker reminded the Council that no bids were received on January 9, 2017, for the parcel at 321 E. Lafayette Street. At that time, the Council was in consensus to take the next step of trying to sell the property by public auction. The auction will be advertised in the newspaper for three consecutive weeks, and will be scheduled for Monday, February 27, 2017, at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Zuber indicated that no minimum bid would be required.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve 2017-04, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-D “Ordinance: Authorize Sale of Personal Property from the Police Department on GovDeals.com – 2006 Chevrolet Impala Sedan” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance to sell a 2006 Chevrolet Impala Sedan from the Police Department on GovDeals.com.

Mr. Barker reminded the Council that this vehicle was involved in a recent accident, and was scheduled to be taken out of service when the newly ordered squad car was received. After the accident, it was found to be in the best interest of the City to accept the settlement from the insurance company in the amount of \$4,082.48 and not repair the vehicle. Mr. Barker felt that the vehicle could be sold on GovDeals.com for about \$2,500.00.

Councilman McLaughlin moved to approve Ordinance 2017-08, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-E “Ordinance: Authorize Sale of Personal Property at the Police Department at Scrap Daddy, Inc. – 47 Bicycles and 1 Scooter” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance to sell 47 bicycles and 1 scooter at the Police Department at Scrap Daddy, Inc.

Police Chief Paddock indicated that the bicycles and scooter were abandoned property. The department had tried to locate owners, and none of the items were ever reported stolen. Currently, the bicycle bin is full and needs to be cleared out.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve Ordinance 2017-09, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-F “Adoption of Policy for Use of White Squirrel Costume” The Council was provided with a proposed rental agreement for use of the City’s white squirrel costume. Mrs. Sterchi told the Council that since the costume had been appearing at City events, requests were being received from outside entities requesting to use the costume. She felt that a policy should be placed to determine appropriate outside uses for the squirrel, and so that considerations such as liability due to accidents or damages could be established. The initial cost of the costume was \$5,025.00. Mayor Vaughn agreed that a policy would be needed to protect the property and its users, and also for the integrity of the costume.

Councilman McLaughlin wondered why a proposed certificate of insurance for \$1,000,000.00 was needed by the user for use of the costume. Councilwoman Henton and City Attorney Zuber indicated that the insurance proposed was not for the costume itself, but for any accidents that could take place by wearing the costume. Mayor Vaughn told the Council of a conversation he had with someone who had recently worn the costume. The person indicated that it was difficult to see out of the costume head, and that walking in the costume was difficult.

Councilwoman Henton then offered that perhaps the City may not want to loan out the costume at all. She explained that the other white squirrel costume owned by the Chamber of Commerce was also available for general uses.

Councilman McLaughlin recommended addressing the topic further at the February 12, 2017, Council meeting. Mayor Vaughn suggested that until a policy was placed, there should be no unauthorized use.

AGENDA #9 "REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS"

9-A "Status Report-City Manager" Mr. Barker told the Council that easements had been acquired for the S. Whittle Avenue project. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) had recently audited the project, and stamped their approval. The widening project should go out for bid on March 3, 2017.

City Engineer Charleston was continuing work on bid information for the Kitchell Avenue resurfacing project. He hoped to go out for bid on that project in mid-February.

Mr. Barker then reminded the Council of the public hearing scheduled for January 24, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. at City Hall on the proposed Food Establishment Inspection Program.

Councilman McLaughlin asked if the City was performing the waterline relocation work on S. Whittle Avenue. Mr. Charleston replied that Kieffer Brothers would be doing the relocation work. The project should be completed in mid-April. The City had removed necessary trees, and Doll's had cleaned out the underbrush.

Mayor Vaughn told the Council that he had received a list of demolitions for the year from the Code Enforcement Department. He reported that 24 properties had either been demolished or remediated so far this year. He gave his compliments to the City Manager, Code Enforcement, and the City Attorney with their help in dealing with dilapidated housing in the City.

AGENDA #10 "PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS"

10-A "Brian O'Neill" Brian O'Neill told the Council that he had been trying to get a health department in Olney for quite some time, and had called the State's health department to complain about the issue. Mr. O'Neill then told the Council that Biker BBQ had not been in operation recently because they are required to have a three tiered sink, but do not have one. The owner of the restaurant was looking for another location, and is in support of the proposed Food Establishment Inspection Program.

Even with being in support of the program, Mr. O'Neill did not feel that the Wabash Valley Health Department should be conducting the inspections and receiving the fee money from the inspections.

AGENDA #11 “CLOSED SESSION: SALE OR LEASE PRICE OF REAL PROPERTY; ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY; AND APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, AND PERFORMANCE OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES” Mayor Vaughn noted there was no need for a Closed Session at this evening’s meeting.

AGENDA #12 “RECONVENE OPEN SESSION” Because there was no Closed Session, this agenda item was not addressed.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi
City Clerk