

CITY OF OLNEY  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 8, 2019

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The July 8, 2019, 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 Mark Lambird 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 present: Greg Eyer, Morgan Fehrenbacher, Belinda Henton, John McLaughlin and Mark Lambird. Also present were City Manager Allen Barker, City Clerk Kelsie Sterchi, City Engineer Mike Bridges, and City Attorney Bart Zuber.

AGENDA #4 “PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA”

4-A “Approve Minutes of Council Meeting on June 24, 2019”

4-B “Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable July 9, 2019” Pooled Cash \$158,634.54, Manual Pooled Cash \$107,252.93, Petty Cash \$82.10, Housing Rehab Grant \$19,650.00, MFT \$15,057.47, IMRF \$27,365.35, Tourism \$955.77

4-C “Special Event Request: Closure of Whittle Avenue from Market Street to Chestnut Street from 5:00 P.M. until 10:00 P.M. on July 27, 2019, for the Whittlefest Concert”

4-D “Resolution: Amend the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget for Portable Soccer Goals at Musgrove Park” **2019-R-49**

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 Councilman Eyer. Councilmen Eyer, McLaughlin, Councilwomen Fehrenbacher, Henton, and Mayor Lambird 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: Rescind Resolution No. 2019-R-15 That Authorized the Execution of an Agreement for Recycling Services Between the City of Olney and Kenny Wilson, Doing Business as Wilson Metals” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution that would rescind Resolution No. 2019-R-15 that authorized the execution of an agreement for recycling services between the City of Olney and Kenny Wilson, Doing Business as Wilson Metals. To

date, the agreement was never signed by Mr. Wilson, and the agreement listed a start date of May 1, 2019. No recycling services had yet begun.

Mayor Lambird stated that he had spoken with Mr. Wilson several times over the past few months. It was clear that Mr. Wilson's plan for recycling was no longer feasible and would no longer be happening as presented.

Councilman McLaughlin moved to approve 2019-R-50, seconded by Councilwoman Fehrenbacher. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Councilman McLaughlin wondered if Mr. Wilson would be considering any other options.

From the audience, Dr. David Eckiss said that should have been asked before the vote. Mayor Lambird clarified to Dr. Eckiss that the plan that was originally voted on earlier in the year was no longer happening, and that Councilman McLaughlin was asking about other options.

In speaking with Mr. Wilson, Mayor Lambird felt that Mr. Wilson was interested in exploring other options in the future. Councilman Eyer agreed, and stated that he had also spoken with Mr. Wilson. It was Councilman Eyer's belief that once farming season was over, Mr. Wilson may again look into recycling. Mr. Wilson had mentioned conducting a survey to show which citizens were interested and at what price. Mr. Wilson still would not be able to provide curbside service.

#### AGENDA #9 "REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS"

9-A "Status Report-City Manager" Mr. Barker reported that Cody Smith had started work earlier in the day as Police Officer. Officer Smith had three years of experience with the Richland County Sheriff's Department and three years of experience with IDOT.

Councilman McLaughlin asked if the Police Department was now fully staffed. Mr. Barker confirmed.

9-B "RCDC Report" RCDC Executive Director Courtney Yockey told that RCDC would be having its annual meeting the next day.

9-C "Chamber of Commerce Report" Councilwoman Fehrenbacher told the Council that the Chamber was still accepting teams for its upcoming golf outing.

Councilman McLaughlin asked if there was an upcoming ribbon cutting scheduled for the Best Western Plus. Mr. Yockey replied that would take place on July 18, 2019.

9-D "Parks & Recreation Board Report" The Parks & Recreation Board had not met this month, so there was no report.

9-E “Tourism Board Report” Councilwoman Henton said that the ILLINOISouth Tourism Bureau had been releasing YouTube videos of surrounding towns. Olney’s had been released and was ready to share.

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

Mr. Barker rolled out a map of the City Park. At the last Council meeting, the Council showed interest in reviewing plans and numbers related to an OSLAD grant application. The images shown this evening included a biking/walking trail, pickleball courts, and a new restroom facility.

Mr. Barker pointed out that the pickleball courts shown on the map would most likely not stay at that location which was behind the old pool house. The reason was because the old pool had been filled in with dirt, so this area would most likely not be ideal.

If interested, the City had a short amount of time to submit the grant application. Typically, the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission would do most of the legwork, but the Commission was currently without an Executive Director.

Councilman McLaughlin had read that bike paths were not eligible for OSLAD grants. Mr. Barker replied that he had spoken to IDNR and received clarification. Bike paths going from one location to another, like used for transportation, were not allowed. A bike path such as the one proposed for recreation was allowable.

Councilman McLaughlin asked if the proposal fell in line with the Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Barker confirmed. Referencing that portion of the Comprehensive Plan, Mr. Barker noted that pickleball courts and walking trails were included. He would be also soon be approaching the Parks & Recreation Board for their support.

Councilman Eyer recalled that during the last conversation, it was proposed that the trails would be one-third of a mile. He felt that was rather minimal, and asked if the sizing restriction was due to the amount of space or more of a budget issue. Mr. Barker replied that since the last conversation, it was found that the trails would now total a half-mile. Additionally, extra concrete could be added to dissect the current layout to a quarter-mile for those that wanted a lesser distance.

The proposed trails would be on the northern side of the City Park. Councilman McLaughlin was aware that this area flooded frequently, and he wondered how that would damage the concrete. Mr. Barker was aware of such issues. The portion that has trouble with flooding could be built up by backfilling with dirt. If water still collected on the other side, additional drainage could be added.

Councilman McLaughlin and Councilwoman Fehrenbacher were in favor of the proposals since they fell in line with the Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan. The rest of the Council agreed that work could continue.

AGENDA #11 “CLOSED SESSION: SALE OR LEASE PRICE OF REAL PROPERTY; ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY; APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, AND PERFORMANCE OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES; AND COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS” No closed session was needed.

AGENDA #12 “RECONVENE OPEN SESSION” Because no closed session was needed, this item was removed.

AGENDA #13 “ADJOURN” Councilman McLaughlin moved to adjourn.

From the audience, Steve Bryan asked if there had been any additional discussion on the use of golf carts inside of City limits. At the June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, Mr. Zuber indicated he would be gathering information from other communities that allowed the use of golf carts on City streets. Mr. Zuber told Mr. Bryan it was still on his list of things to do, and hope to have gathered information by the next meeting.

Councilwoman Fehrenbacher seconded the motion to adjourn. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi  
City Clerk