

CITY OF OLNEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 24, 2019

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The June 24, 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. Zachary Caress led the group in prayer.

AGENDA #3 “ROLL CALL” The following Council members were present: Greg Eyer, Morgan Fehrenbacher, John McLaughlin and Mark Lambird. Councilwoman Belinda Henton was absent. 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 10, 2019”

4-B “Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable June 25, 2019” Pooled Cash \$121,533.06, Manual Pooled Cash \$5,952.15, Utility Refunds \$1,841.43, Housing Rehab Grant \$25,300.00, MFT \$9,574.09, IMRF \$41,657.85, Tourism \$8,000.00

4-C “Special Event Request: Closure of a Portion of the N/S Alley Behind Bobalou’s from 5:00 P.M. Until 10:00 P.M. on July 5, 2019, for Bobalou’s Re-Opening Celebration”

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 Fehrenbacher. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

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/Possible Ordinance: Reduce the Capacity of the Musgrove Aquatic Center from 885 to 575 Attendees” Mr. Barker reminded the Council that at the June 10th meeting, this topic had been discussed. During that discussion, concerns were raised as to whether or not the capacity reduction would affect events such as swim meets and the triathlon where a large number of attendees would be present. One of the pool managers, Matt Powell, was present to help answer any of the Council’s questions.

Mr. Powell told the Council that the main concern was with the amount of people inside of the pool water. He explained that a large Tigersharks invitational swim meet was held the prior weekend. During such races, there may be about eight people in the pool with about 60 in the pool during warm up. Mr. Powell's concerns stemmed from public swim times, especially on free swim days.

Memorial Day 2019 was a free swim day this year. A total of 677 people came to the pool on that day. While not all attendees were in the water at the same time, Mr. Powell estimated that about 550 were in the water at a given time. This level of attendance created some issues that were unnerving to him and some of the lifeguards. At the current capacity limit of 885, Mr. Powell could not even imagine what such circumstances would bring.

Mayor Lambird asked when Mr. Powell would know when the capacity number was hit. Mr. Powell replied that there are "dot sheets" that pool staff uses at the front desk. These sheets log the number of attendees that come into the pool. What Mr. Powell was unsure of was how to keep track of people leaving and new attendees arriving.

Mayor Lambird then asked how many days per year were affected by such high levels of attendees. Mr. Powell replied about two to three days would be of concern.

Councilwoman Fehrenbacher moved to approve Ordinance 2019-22 that would reduce the capacity of the Musgrove Aquatic Center from 885 to 575 attendees, seconded by Councilman Eyer. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. The ordinance would be created.

8-B "Resolution: Adopt a Long-Range Sidewalk Plan for Illinois Route 130" The Council was provided with a proposed resolution that would adopt a long-range sidewalk plan for Illinois Route 130 and a copy of the proposed long-range sidewalk plan.

Mayor Lambird informed the Council that sidewalks along Illinois Route 130 had been discussed for quite some time. Due to some recent changes, the City had the opportunity to have sidewalks built by the State when the highway gets resurfaced. In order to do this, a long-range sidewalk plan must be adopted and submitted to IDOT for their records.

Councilwoman Fehrenbacher moved to approve 2019-R-49, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-C "Resolution: Amend Resolution No. 2019-R-31 Accepting a Proposal to the Illinois Commerce Commission for Assistance in Repairs to the Whittle Avenue Grade Crossing" The Council was provided with a proposed resolution that would amend 2019-R-31, which was passed on April 8, 2019. The original resolution accepted a proposal to apply to the Illinois Commerce Commission for assistance in repairs to the Whittle Avenue Grade Crossing, and authorized Charleston Engineering to complete the necessary work for the submission of the application. The resolution also had the City commit up to \$25,000.00 towards the project.

Mr. Barker told the Council that the State had since corresponded a request that the City contribute \$40,000.00 instead. If the City does increase its contribution, the Commission indicated that would be very substantial information to put into the “Evidence of Community Effort and Support” portion of the application. In addition, the Commission would waive the 10% contribution requirement for signals if the project application was selected.

Councilman McLaughlin wondered if the project was confirmed to move forward. Mr. Barker replied that nothing was written in stone, but he felt comfortable that the Commission would move forward. The City Engineer agreed.

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

8-D “Discussion: Soccer Goals for Musgrove Park” At the last Council meeting, a brief discussion took place regarding the purchase of two portable soccer goals to be placed to the west of the soccer field at Musgrove Park. The goals were not City property. Councilman McLaughlin stated that replacement goals would cost \$4,000.00. A group had indicated that they would contribute \$3,000.00 if the City contributed \$1,000.00 towards the purchase.

Councilwoman Fehrenbacher did not believe the expense was included in the budget. Councilman McLaughlin confirmed. If the City wished to move forward, the funds would most likely come out of Contingencies.

Councilman McLaughlin asked for Councilman Eyer’s opinion on the offer. The Councilman replied that he believed the offer was a good deal as the City would be able to purchase the goals at 25% of the cost. He then asked how much remained in the Contingencies line item. Mayor Lambird believed \$50,000.00 stood in that line item.

Councilman McLaughlin moved to have the City contribute \$1,000.00 towards the purchase of portable soccer goals for Musgrove Park, but only after the \$3,000.00 third-party contribution was received, seconded by Councilman Eyer. Mayor Lambird, Councilmen Eyer and McLaughlin voted yes. Councilwoman Fehrenbacher voted no. The motion carried. If a budget amendment is needed, a resolution would be included on the next agenda.

AGENDA #9 “REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS”

9-A “Status Report-City Manager” Mr. Barker reported that data was still being gathered for the CDBG grant that would be used on the Jasper/Lincoln water line. Other projects were still in the works such as the IEPA loans, Elliott Street bridge repair, the Pacific Cycle roof, etc.

9-B “RCDC Report” RCDC Executive Director Courtney Yockey thanked the Council for assisting in providing information for a recent Request for Information that RCDC had received. Mr. Yockey also indicated that marketing materials were being created that would provide information on local incentives such as opportunity zones, the Enterprise Zone, and the TIF.

9-C “Chamber of Commerce Report” Councilwoman Fehrenbacher stated that the Chamber was current working on its annual golf outing.

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 was not present, so there was no report.

Mayor Lambird then expressed the City’s condolences to Gary Foster’s family. Mr. Foster had served as Fire Chief and City Councilman for the City of Olney during his lifetime. Mayor Lambird held Mr. Foster in high regard and stated that he had enjoyed working with him.

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

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” Councilman McLaughlin moved to adjourn to closed session to discuss sale or lease price of real property; acquisition of real property; appointment, employment, compensation, and performance of specific employees; and collective negotiating matters, seconded by Councilwoman Fehrenbacher. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Councilmen Eyer, McLaughlin, Councilwoman Fehrenbacher, Mayor Lambird, City Manager Barker, City Attorney Zuber, and City Clerk Sterchi left the Council Chambers at 7:14 p.m.

AGENDA #12 “RECONVENE OPEN SESSION” Upon return of those who were in closed session to the Council Chambers, Councilman McLaughlin moved to enter back into open session, seconded by Councilwoman Fehrenbacher. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. Open session resumed at 7:26 p.m.

Mr. Barker told the Council that an opportunity had come up to where the City could apply for an OSLAD grant. The grant would be a 50%/50% match. Mr. Barker was exploring the possibility of placing a biking and walking trail in the City Park in conjunction with new restroom facilities. No numbers or plans had yet been put together. Before moving forward, Mr. Barker wanted to assess the Council’s interest.

As part of the City’s match, it had been discovered that City labor costs would be included. Mayor Lambird added that the City Park was included in the TIF, so that could also be used as part of the match.

Councilman McLaughlin thought he remembered that OSLAD grants had been unavailable for several years. Mr. Barker confirmed, noting this was the first in five years that such grants were available.

If granted for this project, Councilman McLaughlin wondered if it would hinder the City from applying for future OSLAD grants. Mr. Bridges did not believe so.

Councilman McLaughlin then asked where in the park the trails would be located. Mr. Barker replied that the trails were proposed to be placed in the northern section of the park, between the tennis courts and Parker Street. The bathrooms were proposed to be placed near where the portable facility was located.

Mr. Barker then referenced the Parks & Recreation Board's comprehensive plan. He pointed out that walking trails in the City Park were included as part of that plan.

Mr. Barker asked the Council if he and Mr. Bridges should move forward with plans and numbers. Councilmen Eyer and McLaughlin felt it would not hurt to do so.

AGENDA #13 "ADJOURN" With no further business to discuss, Councilwoman Fehrenbacher moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Eyer. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi
City Clerk