

CITY OF OLNEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The September 25, 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 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. David McNabb led the group in prayer.

AGENDA #3 “ROLL CALL” The following Council members were present: Morgan Fehrenbacher, Les Harrison, Belinda Henton, John McLaughlin, and Mark Lambird. Also present were City Manager Allen Barker, City Clerk Kelsie Sterchi, Assistant City Treasurer Jane Guinn, City Treasurer Chuck Sanders, and City Engineer Charleston.

AGENDA #4 “PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA”

4-A “Approve Minutes of Council Meeting on September 11, 2017”

4-B “Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable September 26, 2017” Pooled Cash \$100,821.35, Manual Pooled Cash \$3,448.88, Tourism \$2,000.00

4-C “Raffle License: Olney Central College”

4-D “Raffle License: Olney Central College Radiography Club”

4-E “Ordinance: Authorize Disposal of Personal Property from the Mechanics Department by Recycling”

4-F “Raffle License: American Legion Post #30”

4-G “Re-Appointments: Police Pension, Library Board, Fire Pension, and Tree Board as Recommended by Mayor Lambird”

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 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 “Discussion/Possible Ordinance: Authorize the Execution of a Redevelopment Agreement Between the City of Olney and Parkside Inn, LLC.” Mr. Barker told the Council that Mr. Seals of Parkside Inn, LLC., had not yet reviewed the proposed agreement due to being out of town. Mr. Seals had requested that the topic be tabled until a later date.

8-B “Resolution: Amend a Recreation Department Line Item Description in the 2017/2018 Budget” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to amend a line item description in the 2017/2018 Recreation Department budget.

Mr. Barker told the Council that in this year’s budget, an amount of \$20,000.00 had been included to paint the swimming pool. It had since been determined that the swimming pool would not need to be sandblasted prior to painting. Because of this, the only expense to be taken from the line item would be the cost of paint and materials. City crews would complete the painting.

After the pool’s closure for the season, the two, 20 year old diving boards had been inspected, and it was found that both boards needed to be replaced. The two boards could be replaced for \$8,500.00.

Mr. Barker recommended to amend the Paint Swimming Pool line item description in the Recreation Department to Paint & Repair Swimming Pool so that the line item could be used for all paint, materials, diving boards, etc.

Councilwoman Henton moved to approve 2017-R-60, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-C “Discussion: Agreement Between the City of Olney and the Olney Little League” The Council was provided with a proposed agreement with the Olney Little League for use of the nine ball diamonds at Musgrove Park. Jon Wright and Andy Thomann, representing the Olney Little League, were present to help answer questions.

Mr. Zuber had drafted the agreement, but noted that he had heard some change requests. Mr. Zuber stated that the Park Department Supervisor had suggested amending the term to end on October 31st and start new on November 1st in order to better accommodate scheduling needs of coaches.

Mr. Zuber then pointed out that the lease rate of \$1.00 was simply placed in the draft as a filler until the Council decided what or if they wanted to charge a fee.

Councilman McLaughlin noticed that termination of the lease would be required by a four-fifths vote of the Council. He wondered why. Mr. Zuber replied that requirement was provided for by State statutes. The Little League would also need to be in default for more than 60 days in order for the lease to be terminated. If the City wanted to renegotiate terms, they could send notice of such no later than August 1st.

Because the baseball fields were taxpayer fields, Councilman McLaughlin expressed concern with the City giving up complete control of the ball fields. He did not want the City’s hands to be tied in the future if a group wanted to host a ball game, but the League’s leadership at that time would refuse for invalid reasons. The Councilman clarified that he did not feel that such a situation would ever present itself at the present time, but reminded that no one knows what the future holds. He would prefer that something be added to the agreement to state that if

a group was denied access to the fields by the League, that the group could petition the Council on the issue.

Mr. Zuber commented that language could be added to the agreement that the League should not unreasonably disallow use, and that the City Council would retain the authority to have the ultimate decision of who could or could not use the fields.

Noting that the proposed agreement authorized the League to charge \$200.00 per diamond per day for use, Councilman Harrison asked how the League would determine what to charge each team or tournament. Mr. Wright responded that the League could draw up official guidelines. He agreed that not-for-profit organizations should have a different pricing structure. Mr. Wright also clarified that the agreement would allow up to \$200.00 to be charged. That number allowed for growth in the future instead of needing to come back to the Council for changes time and again. At this time, the League typically charged an amount of \$100.00 per field per day.

Councilman Harrison asked if the public would be able to use the fields if no games were scheduled. Mr. Wright said that if no games were scheduled, the only time they may decline access to the fields would be if deliberate damage was being caused.

Councilman McLaughlin asked how tournament scheduling would be handled. It would be his preference for scheduling to flow through one source and that the City be made aware of all tournaments scheduled.

Councilwoman Henton commented that the City would continue to incur expenses related to the fields, such as the expensive cost of electricity. She felt that the City should be compensated some amount from the fees that the League would charge to the teams. Mr. Wright responded that with the fees they are currently charging for use, the League received only \$3,100.00 worth of income during the current year. Over the past few years, he indicated that the League had put in about \$20,000.00 towards fees related to the fields.

Councilwoman Henton asked if the League did their own lining of the fields. Mr. Wright replied that they lined the fields for travel tournaments, but not Little League games.

Councilman McLaughlin felt that the main things he would like to see added to the agreement were what party is responsible for what duties and who schedules tournaments. Mr. Wright added that he would like to see language requiring teams to have liability insurance.

Mr. Zuber would work on a secondary draft of the agreement.

AGENDA #9 “REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS”

9-A “Status Report-City Manager” The Council was provided with a status report from the City Manager. Mr. Barker reported told the Council that the Whittle Avenue Project was moving along with a proposed date of October 9th for paving. After the paving work was completed, the contractor would not allow the roadway to be open to the public for another 10

days or so due to continued landscaping and striping work. It was believed that Whittle Avenue would re-open to the public by late October.

Assistant City Treasurer Jane Guinn reported that the Treasury Department had received a letter from the State Comptroller that laws were being changed to require that municipalities must report on an accrual basis form of accounting. Currently, the City of Olney reported on a modified cash basis form of accounting. The State would give municipalities until the end of 2019 to submit their annual audit reports in that fashion. In order for the City of Olney to comply, the City's accounting software would need to be switched over by May 1, 2018. Mrs. Guinn added that the State was receiving some pushback on the change requirement, so there was a chance the requirement could be reversed. If not, the City's accounting system would need to be changed.

9-B "RCDC Report" RCDC Executive Director Courtney Yockey told the Council that the U.S. 50 Coalition would be having a golf outing in Salem, Illinois, on September 29th.

9-C "Chamber of Commerce Report" Councilman McLaughlin had nothing to report.

9-D "Parks & Recreation Board Report" The Parks & Recreation Board had cancelled their September meeting, so there was no report.

9-E "Tourism Board Report" The Tourism Board had not yet met for the quarter, so there was nothing to report.

AGENDA #10 "PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS"

10-A "Brian O'Neill" Mr. O'Neill told the Council that he was the best Pokémon Go player in the world. He then told how he would be helping the local museums set up their locations as Pokémon hot spots as a way to draw in more people. He explained that he had also suggested that the Fire Department use Pokémon Go to improve their fundraising efforts.

AGENDA #11 "CLOSED SESSION: SALE PRICE OF REAL PROPERTY; ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY; AND APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT AND PERFORMANCE OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES" Councilwoman Fehrenbacher moved to adjourn to closed session to discuss sale or lease price of real property; acquisition of real property; and appointment, employment, compensation, and performance of specific employees, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Councilmen McLaughlin, Harrison, Councilwomen Henton, Fehrenbacher, Mayor Lambird, City Treasurer Chuck Sanders, City Attorney Zuber, and City Clerk Sterchi left the Council Chambers at 7:26 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 Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. Open session resumed at 7:45 p.m.

Mr. Barker told the Council that the FFA had requested that the City purchase recognition signs to be placed at the entrances to town. The quote received from Hall Signs was \$151.00 per sign.

City Clerk Sterchi recalled that when the FFA first inquired with her about the signage, she was told by the Street and Park Departments that the FFA would need to purchase their own signs and work with the State on placement of the signs. Since that time, leadership had changed in the Street Department, and the new supervisor had provided Mr. Barker with the quotes.

Councilwoman Henton recalled that the City had purchased such signs in the past until they got more expensive. People and organizations then bought their own and got back the signs once they were removed.

Councilwoman Henton and Councilman McLaughlin felt that splitting the cost of the signs would be appropriate. Councilwoman Fehrenbacher did not feel that the City should buy signs on behalf of the FFA. Councilwoman Henton then offered that some signage could be removed and auctioned as a way to help finance the new signage.

As a project for the future, the Council expressed their interest in replacing entrance signs to the City.

The 2017 Olney Arts Council Festival was scheduled for September 30th. Councilman McLaughlin asked if the Park Department was busy getting the City Park ready for the event. Mr. Barker confirmed that the Park Department had been working on the City Park, but did note that a project of higher priority had come about earlier in the day that slowed down that day's progress.

Councilwoman Henton asked if she could continue the Squirrel Corn Give-a-Way program for this year. The Council had no issue with continuing the program.

The Council then discussed striping on N. East Street. Mayor Lambird wondered if the City should add striping or remove parking along N. East Street. Councilwoman Henton felt that the street should be left as-is. Councilman Harrison suggested to stripe from Main Street down about one block, similar to North Avenue and Elm Street. The Council was in favor the Councilman's suggestion.

Councilman McLaughlin commented that the spray painted lines that the resident on N. East Street took upon himself to paint were the most confusing. Councilwoman Fehrenbacher added that if anything like that happened again, action should be taken.

The Council then discussed the current state of the Musgrove House. Overall, the Council felt that continuing to put money into the house for the use of one organization did not make sense. The Girl Scouts should be consulted before any formal action.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi
City Clerk