

CITY OF OLNEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2016

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The January 11, 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. Steve Wingert 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 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 Meeting on December 14, 2015”

4-B “Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable on January 12, 2016” Petty Cash \$144.61, Pooled Cash \$329,114.85, Manual Pooled Cash \$118,712.88, Utility Refunds \$2,271.26, Levied Insurance \$69,321.00, Liability Insurance \$34,754.00, IMRF \$96,745.86, Police Pension \$12,690.00, Fire Pension \$8,613.00, Tourism \$1,750.00, 175th Anniversary \$303.17, Christmas Light Display \$1,972.23

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 “Resolution: Authorize Payment from State Route 130 Corridor TIF Fund to Reimburse the City of Olney for Costs to Establish the TIF” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution that would authorize the City Treasurer to reimburse the City \$38,251.00 from the State Route 130 Corridor TIF fund, and a breakdown of the balance in the TIF fund as of April 30, 2015.

Mr. Barker explained that the proposed funds for reimbursement were associated with establishing the TIF fund. The reimbursed money would go into the City’s General Fund.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve 2016-R-01, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Mayor Vaughn added that the State Route 130 TIF would soon see some activity. A couple of redevelopment agreements were being submitted. He would like to for the Council to have a refresher seminar on what criteria should be considered in redevelopment agreements. City Manager Barker would research a presenter for such a seminar.

8-B “Resolution: Approve RCRC Donation for Millers Grove Sidewalk Extension, Cost of Finalizing Construction, and Amend 2015/2016 Budget” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution that would accept RCRC’s donation for the Millers Grove sidewalk extension project, that would also approve the cost of finalizing construction, and would amend the 2015/2016 budget.

Mr. Barker told the Council that the sidewalk extension work took place later in 2015. RCRC had raised \$11,542.00 in funds to go towards the project. Total construction costs were \$12,991.19.

Councilwoman Henton moved to approve 2016-R-02, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. Councilmen McLaughlin, Ferguson, Harrison, Mayor Vaughn, and Councilwoman Henton voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

8-C “Request: USA Bassin Fishing Tournament Length Exceptions at East Fork Lake” The Council was provided with a memo from City Clerk Sterchi describing an exception request from the USA Bassin regarding tournament length times in June, July and August.

Mrs. Sterchi told the Council that the USA Bassin had requested eight hour tournaments instead of six hour tournaments on June 11, July 23, and August 27. This group has fished on East Fork Lake for a number of years. Time exceptions had been given to the East Fork Bassmasters and the Illinois B.A.S.S. Nation for 2016.

Councilwoman Henton commented that the USA Bassin is a national fishing group that has had many regional events here in the past. She wanted to approve the request as it would continue a good relationship, and the eight hour tournaments were required for the USA Bassin’s particular category.

Councilwoman Henton moved to approve the request for USA Bassin to hold eight hour fishing tournaments on June 11, July 23, and August 27 of 2016, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-D “Resolution: Amend 2015/2016 Budget to Transfer \$8,350.00 from the Administrative Department to the Code Enforcement Department for a Half Ton Pickup Truck”

The Council was provided with a proposed resolution that would amend the 2015/2016 budget by taking \$8,350.00 from the Administrative Department and transferring it to the Code Enforcement Department for the purchase of a half ton pickup truck.

Mr. Barker explained that the City was the successful bidder on two pickup trucks in the amount of \$8,350.00 each. Mr. Barker felt that one of those trucks should go to Code Enforcement as the Code Enforcement Officer frequently meets with the public, and an upgraded vehicle would make a better impression of the City. Mr. Barker was still undecided on where the old Code Enforcement truck would be placed.

Councilman McLaughlin moved to approve 2016-R-03, seconded by Councilman Harrison. Mayor Vaughn, Councilwoman Henton, Councilmen Harrison, McLaughlin, and Ferguson voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

Mayor Vaughn hoped to be able to vote on approving the City Manager's purchase. It was determined that no vote was needed as the Council had already authorized the City Manager to purchase the vehicles at the December 14, 2015, meeting.

Mayor Vaughn closed the topic by stating that the purchase of the two trucks was an excellent decision, and congratulated the City Manager. The Council agreed.

8-E "Resolution: Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Gallagher Compensation Agreement Between the City and Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc., for Brokerage Fees to Be Effective as of December 31 of 2016, 2017, and 2018" The Council was provided with a proposed resolution that would authorize the City Manager to execute a compensation agreement with Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc., for brokerage fees as of December 31 of 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Mr. Barker told the Council that the prior agreement with Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc., had come to a close. The brokerage fee had been \$17,000.00 per year. Arthur Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc., had offered to extend the agreement for another three years at the same rate.

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

AGENDA #9 "REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS"

9-A "Status Report-City Manager" Mr. Barker began by saying the Community Building repair work had started. The City was awaiting a few bids and hoped to come to the Council at the next meeting to make some awards.

The Enterprise Zone application had been submitted. The City and Moran Economic Development both felt confident about the end result.

After the December 14, 2015, meeting, Mayor Vaughn noticed that water revenue was down slightly. City Treasurer Sanders stated that on his spreadsheet, he had a total that did include grants and other non-water usage income and one that did not. He saw nothing out of the ordinary in regard to utility income.

Mayor Vaughn then commented on the drastic increase in telecommunications tax revenue. Mr. Sanders indicated that at the time he was not certain on the reason for the increase, but suspected it could be due to the State being behind on paying the full amounts.

Councilman McLaughlin was impressed by the Christmas Light Display donations. The donations seem to be increasing each year.

Mayor Vaughn then added that it appeared Santa had responded to about 200 letters from the Letters to Santa mailbox that had been placed in Bower Park.

AGENDA #10 “PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS”

10-A “Brian O’Neill” Mr. O’Neill began by noting that the City had continued work on the wheelchair accessibility of sidewalks in the area. He went on to comment on some parking violations that he had recently seen.

Mr. O’Neill then told the Council of a recent interaction he had with the Sheriff’s Department regarding people teasing animals in certain areas. He felt that the deputies were not properly trained.

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

Councilmen Harrison, McLaughlin, Ferguson, Councilwoman Henton, Mayor Vaughn, City Manager Barker, City Treasurer Chuck Sanders, City Attorney Zuber, and City Clerk Sterchi left the Council Chambers at 7:20 p.m.

AGENDA #12 “RECONVENE OPEN SESSION” Upon return of those who were in closed session to the Council Chambers, Councilwoman Henton moved to enter back into open session, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. Open session resumed at 7:35p.m.

City Attorney Zuber clarified to the Council that bidding requirements were not necessary when purchasing used items.

Mr. Barker told the Council that the Gun Club was hoping to make improvements to the Gun Range and building by adding lighting and wiring with a temporary floor. A new electric meter would be required.

Mayor Vaughn was cautious on catering to various group requests if the reason was for doing so was due to lack of harmony between groups.

Councilwoman Henton commented that two electric meters would lead to two minimum bill amounts. She thought one meter could be kept at the facility and any overage of the average usage bill could be billed out accordingly.

Mr. Barker added that the Police Department was supportive of the Gun Club's improvement offers.

Mayor Vaughn then suggested that the clubs that use the range area could take up a collection among their members as a donation to the City for the free use of the facility. Councilwoman Henton responded that such an offer of improvements was a donation.

Councilman Ferguson requested to find out what the minimum bill for electricity was before moving forward. Mr. Barker would look into the matter.

Mr. Barker went on to talk about a policy where if a developer was laying water lines, the City would reimburse them for the cost of laying an eight inch line versus a six inch line. Mr. Barker had not seen such a policy in writing. To Councilman Ferguson and Councilwoman Henton's recollection, the City had taken such reimbursements on a case-by-case issue as an eight inch line would not always be of benefit to the City. The Council requested that more clarification be added to the ordinance.

Mr. Barker had been receiving an increase of complaints on the unsightliness of certain mobile canopies, carports, and other items around town. He questioned if the City should add additional requirements for such items, other than setback requirements. Councilman McLaughlin did not believe so. Councilman Harrison wished to enforce current ordinances first, such as garbage containers that are left out for longer than 24 hours.

Mr. Barker then referenced a memo that had been placed in the Council's mailboxes. There were certain items in the 2015/2016 budget that departments needed. Before continuing research and bringing the items before Council, he wanted to be sure the Council was ready to move forward and spending such money. The Council agreed to continue moving forward. Mr. Sanders noted that the General Fund held \$4.6 million as of December 31, 2015, compared to the prior year's total of \$3.9 million.

Mayor Vaughn had been reviewing a document that prior City Manager Larry Taylor had provided him regarding full-time employment over the past 13 years. He noticed a large

decrease in manpower over the past few years. The Mayor requested that the City Clerk provide copies of the document to the Council before the next meeting.

Going forward, Mayor Vaughn wished to amp up Code Enforcement. There had been a general decline in the quality of housing as many properties were turning into rentals. Code Enforcement Officer Mike Mitchell had expressed interest in rental property inspections. The Mayor also wished to see such a program implemented.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi
City Clerk