

CITY OF OLNEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The September 28, 2015, 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. Steve Wingert led the group in prayer.

AGENDA #3 “ROLL CALL” The following Council members were present: Les Harrison, Belinda Henton, Bob Ferguson, and Ray Vaughn. John McLaughlin was absent. Also present were City Manager Allen Barker, City Attorney Bart Zuber, City Clerk Kelsie Sterchi, City Engineer Roger Charleston, and Accounting Clerks Peggy Eimer and Jane Guinn.

AGENDA #4 “PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA”

4-A Approve Minutes of Council Meeting on September 14, 2015

4-B Approve and Authorize Payment of Account Payable September 29, 2015: \$71,772.96, Manual Pooled Cash \$6,312.42, Utility Refunds \$1,268.73, Tourism \$1,750.00, MFT \$11,837.89, 175th Anniversary \$1,313.17

4-C Application to Sell in City Park-Dodransbicentennial Commission

4-D Raffle License-Richland County Homefront

AGENDA #5 “REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT AGENDA” No items were requested for removal from the consent agenda.

AGENDA #6 “CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA” Councilwoman Henton moved to approve the items on the consent agenda, seconded by Councilman Harrison. 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 Agreement for Technical Services and Assistance with Moran Economic Development for Enterprise Zone Application” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to enter into an agreement with Moran Economic Development, LLC., and a copy of the proposed Moran Economic Development, LLC. agreement. Before the meeting came to order, Jared Kanallakan, of Moran Economic Development, LLC., handed out a memo

from Keith Moran, an Enterprise Zone FAQ sheet, and a map showing the Enterprise Zone area for Richland County.

Mr. Kanallakan summarized that Olney and Richland County had applied in 2014 for a renewed Enterprise Zone. After the application was submitted, the State had decided that any Enterprise Zones not immediately coming due would be pushed back for approval. Even so, Mr. Kanallakan stated that the DCEO had indicated that the submitted Enterprise Zone application would have been scored well enough to be designated. Based on additional talks with the DCEO, they also indicated that they would like to see regional efforts moving forward.

The presented contract is necessary to have Moran Economic Development, LLC. re-work and re-submit the application. All data previously used, and the intergovernmental agreements, would need to be re-worked to reflect 2015. The contract also provided that Olney and Richland County would be submitting a joint application with Newton and Jasper County.

Mayor Vaughn told the Council that he and City Manager Barker had a conference call with Jasper County's economic development director, and it seemed Newton and Jasper County were more than willing to submit a joint application. Newton and Jasper County would also be contracting Moran Economic Development, LLC.

Mr. Kanallakan informed the Council that he would need letters of support from local businesses. The DCEO had said that the letters were the strongest part of last year's application. The new Enterprise Zone application should be released in October of 2015.

Councilwoman Henton asked if the \$6,000.00 total was for both counties. Mr. Kanallakan responded that the amount was only for Olney and Richland County. Newton and Jasper County would have separate costs.

Councilman Ferguson noticed that Flora and Clay County's Enterprise Zone would also expire in 2017. Mr. Kanallakan commented that Flora and Clay County were most likely applying alone.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve 2015-R-51 with the understanding that the application will be made during the current fiscal year, and that the application would be joint with Newton and Jasper County, seconded by Councilman Harrison. Councilwoman Henton, Councilmen Ferguson and Harrison, and Mayor Vaughn voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

8-B “Discussion: JEDS Proposed Budget” The Council was provided with a copy of the 2016 JEDS proposed budget. Mandy Brown, member of the JEDS Board and Telecommunications Supervisor, was present to help answer any questions.

Mayor Vaughn asked for a brief overview of JEDS and its budget. Mrs. Brown explained that JEDS was created when the City and County dispatches combined. The budget included salaries, benefits, and expenses incurred for the dispatch center. The total is then tallied and reduced based on revenue amounts from 9-1-1 and Richland Memorial Hospital. The end total is then split in half and paid for by the City and the County.

The 2016 JEDS proposed budget totaled \$551,920.00. The 2016 expected revenue from 9-1-1 and Richland Memorial Hospital was \$88,400.00. From there, the totals for each the City and County were \$231,760.00. This amount would translate to a \$19,313.33 monthly payment from the City.

Mayor Vaughn noted that the City had been having continuous discussions regarding the budget, salaries, benefits and other expenditures due to the financial turmoil happening in Springfield. He noticed that the JEDS proposed budget included pay increases far above what the City negotiated with its employees and unions. The increases seemed lucrative to the Mayor compared to what the City had been dealt with financial cuts.

Understanding the Mayor’s concern, Mrs. Brown explained that salary increases were dictated by FOP negotiations. Mayor Vaughn was curious who was participating in the negotiations on behalf of the City. Mrs. Brown was unsure. She was not certain on whether or not the JEDS Board had any negotiating power, but felt the County Board would have more power in negotiations.

Councilman Ferguson noted that the 2014 budget for Telecommunication Officer Salaries versus the 2016 proposed budget for the same line item had increased by about nine percent.

Mayor Vaughn asked how dispatcher salaries were affected by the combined dispatch centers. Mrs. Brown replied that City dispatchers took a pay decrease and County dispatchers’ pay stayed the same per negotiation outcomes.

Councilman Harrison attended the last JEDS meeting and was with the understanding that the 2015 overtime hours totaled less than that year’s proposed budget amount of \$15,000.00. The 2015 overtime hours also totaled less than the 2016 proposed budget of \$13,000.00. Mrs. Brown told the Council that the amount had in fact been reduced from the 2015 total. Additionally, a part-time employee had recently become certified which should help with

overtime totals. The budgeted \$13,000.00 may not be totally used if that person continued to be employed.

Mayor Vaughn requested that Mrs. Brown relay the Council's concerns to the JEDS Board.

8-C "Discussion: Olney Township Fire Protection District Contribution" City Manager Barker reported that a meeting with the District, their lawyer, the Mayor and City Manager had taken place. Additional meetings would take place in the near future. Mr. Barker suggested providing a letter to the District, as directed per the contract, on the City's desire to change the terms of that contract.

Mayor Vaughn told the Council that the contract with the Olney Township Fire Protection District was created in 1977, and had never been updated. The contract automatically renews. Should either party wish to change the contract, written notice would need to be provided by October first and November first.

Due to the District's requirements and procedures for making any changes to their tax levy, it was too late in the current year for the changes to be retroactive. The Mayor recommended that the Council adopt a resolution to authorize Mr. Barker to notify the district of the intended changes. Mayor Vaughn did make a point to mention that all fire protection services will continue, uninterrupted.

Mayor Vaughn moved to pass a resolution to authorize Mr. Barker to notify the Olney Township Fire Protection District that the City wished to seek changes in the negotiated contract, and that notice be delivered October 1, 2015, and November 1, 2015, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. Resolution 2015-R-52 will be prepared.

8-D "Discussion and Possible Action: CellularOne Tower at 1500 E. Main Street" The Council was provided with a memo from City Manager Barker summarizing discussion between himself and Ed King of Cellular Properties. Mr. Barker told the Council that he was finally able to reach Mr. King to speak about the CellularOne tower at 1500 E. Main Street and its non-compliance. Mr. King did realize that the Special Use Permit was granted for only six months. He requested that the City work with him for about three to six more months as some matters with the FCC were being finalized.

In response, Mr. Barker asked for a \$250.00 per month penalty fee for each month of non-compliance beginning in October of 2015. Mr. King agreed. Councilman Ferguson wondered what would happen after the six months had passed. He would like to see the penalty fee

doubled after that time. Mr. Barker indicated that the fee could rise at that time. The Council could also proceed to take legal action past that time.

Councilman Ferguson moved to assess a \$250.00 per month penalty fee to Cellular Properties beginning in October of 2015 for a six month time frame, and a \$500.00 per month penalty fee for any additional months thereafter, seconded by Mayor Vaughn. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-E “Resolution: Authorize Sludge Hauling at Sewer Plant Provided by Borgic Custom Pumping” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to authorize the continuation of sludge hauling services at the Sewer Plant in the amount of \$16,033.00.

Mr. Barker explained that the 2015/2016 budget allotted \$35,000.00 for sludge hauling. An amount of \$18,967.00 had already been spent this fiscal year, and the Council would need to authorize the disbursement of the remaining \$18,967.00.

Sludge hauling used to be performed by the City, but now is contracted. Mr. Barker would be exploring the option of using Republic Services next year for such service using a roll-off dumpster.

Mayor Vaughn moved to approve 2015-R-53, seconded by Councilwoman Henton. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

AGENDA #9 “REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS”

9-A “City Manager - Status Report” The Council was provided with a Status Report from City Manager Barker. Mr. Barker told the Council that he had recently attended the IML Conference in Chicago. Of the many seminars, he was particularly impressed with the seminar titled “Doing Downtown Differently.” He is formulating a plan to meet with property owners to suggest some ideas.

Mayor Vaughn also attended a day of the IML Conference. The Mayor’s favorite session was titled “Administrative Adjudication.” The speaker explained how many of the villages near Chicago were holding a municipal court to handle ordinance violations instead of having the requirement of being heard in a County court where a criminal record would also be attached.

Previously, municipal courts were not allowable for non-home rule communities. Recent legislation had dissolved that distinction. The Mayor would be sharing some information with the City Manager and City Attorney.

Mayor Vaughn asked City Engineer Charleston if the City was ready for Winter. Mr. Charleston was not exactly sure on how the Street Department felt going into the colder months, but Mr. Charleston felt the City was in good shape.

Mrs. Guinn told the Council that MFT funds had not been received since July. To date, about \$45,000.00 in MFT funds had yet to be received. Additionally, the Video Gaming Tax payments continued to not be disbursed to the City. To date, about \$24,000.00 in payments had yet to be received. Mrs. Guinn added that Use Tax payments are normally received around the 18th of the month. The City had not yet received September's payment.

Councilman Ferguson included that he had heard that Video Gaming Tax statewide was down five percent for the year.

AGENDA #10 "PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS"

10-A "Brian O'Neill" Brian O'Neill, 818 E. Main Street, told the Council how he would be collecting contributions for expenses relating to his 2016 presidential candidacy. He felt that he had proven his knowledge and intelligence by setting up his candidacy needs without paper. He claimed that he knew more than everyone, and proved it by spending no money on his candidacy.

Mr. O'Neill also felt that when a State budget was passed, it would only be a continuance of wasting money.

From the audience, Courtney Yockey wished to address the Council. Mr. Yockey told how Richland County was one of seven counties participating in a rural development program. In Mt. Carmel on October 6, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., a civic forum would be held for the program. He encouraged everyone to attend. The program was developed from a data and technical support grant that was received.

AGENDA #11 "CLOSED SESSION: SALE PRICE OF REAL PROPERTY; ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY, APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT AND PERFORMANCE OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES; AND COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS"

Councilwoman Henton moved to adjourn to closed session to discuss sale price of real property, acquisition of real property, appointment, employment and performance of specific employees, and collective negotiating matters, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Councilmen Harrison, Ferguson, Councilwoman Henton, Mayor Vaughn, City Manager Barker, City Attorney Zuber, and City Clerk Sterchi left the Council Chambers at 7:36 p.m.

AGENDA #12 “RECONVENE OPEN SESSION” Upon the return of those who were in closed session to the Council Chambers, Councilwoman Henton moved to enter back into open session, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. Open session resumed at 8:29 p.m.

12-A “Ordinance: First Amendment to Ordinance 2015-15 Vacating that Portion of the Alley Located South of S. Railroad Street Between Mill Street and East Street Lying Between Lot 1 on the East and Lot 2 on the West, All in Block 1 of A.L. Byer’s Addition to the City of Olney” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance to amend Ordinance 2015-15. The ordinance would change the full conveyance of the alley to Oscar R. Eck, Roberta Eck, and Cassandra Eck.

Councilwoman Henton moved to approve 2015-39, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Mayor Vaughn mentioned that he had received a call from Governor Rauner’s office saying that there was proposed legislation that would require fire departments to have minimum staffing standards. The office wished to know how the proposed legislation would affect the City of Olney. While the Mayor assumed the legislation would greatly affect the City, he would have Mr. Barker gather some numbers.

The Mayor then reiterated that the meeting with the Olney Township Fire Protection District had gone very well.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi
City Clerk