

CITY OF OLNEY  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 14, 2014

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The April 14, 2014 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 a prayer.

AGENDA #3 “ROLL CALL” The following Council members were present: Barb Thomas, Brad Brown, Bob Ferguson and Ray Vaughn. John McLaughlin was absent. Also present were City Manager Larry Taylor, City Treasurer Chuck Sanders, City Engineer Roger Charleston and City Clerk Kelsie Sterchi.

Before moving on to Agenda #4, Mayor Vaughn made some quick announcements. The first was to make everyone aware that Belinda Henton had sent a nice thank you card for hosting her retirement party. Next was a reminder that the Girl Scouts and Citizens for a Greener Olney would be hosting a community-wide cleanup event on April 19, 2014. Any interested volunteers were to show up at Musgrove Park by 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA #4 “PUBLIC HEARING: 2014/2015 FISCAL BUDGET” City Manager Taylor explained that the Illinois State Statute required the Council to hold a public hearing for the tentative fiscal year 2014/2015 budget. Notice was given to the media that the tentative budget was available for viewing at City Hall. The purpose of the hearing would be to allow the public to express their opinions and to ask questions regarding the tentative budget. The City Manager then addressed the audience by asking if anyone had comments concerning the proposed budget. There were no questions or comments from the audience. The public hearing was closed.

AGENDA #5 “PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA”

- 5-A Approve Minutes of Council Meeting from March 24, 2014
- 5-B Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable April 15, 2014-Pooled Cash \$128,858.36, Manual Pooled Cash \$111,417.56
- 5-C Raffle License-O-Town Strykerz
- 5-D Raffle License-Humane Society of Olney
- 5-E Raffle License-First Financial Bank
- 5-F Application for Permit to Sell Merchandise in City Park-Farmers Market
- 5-G Raffle License-Olney Elks Lodge #926

AGENDA #6 “REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT AGENDA” No items were requested for removal from the consent agenda.

AGENDA #7 “CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA” Councilwoman Thomas moved to approve the items on the consent agenda, seconded by Councilman Brown. A majority affirmative voice vote was received to approve the consent agenda.

AGENDA #8 “CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA” No consideration was necessary since no items were removed from the consent agenda.

AGENDA #9 “PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS”

9-A “Government, It’s Failure, Criminal Involvement with Its Citizens Will Go Live on YouTube, Etc.” Brian O’Neill, 818 E. Main, gave his opinion that area citizens had been involved in increased criminal activity. He gave an example of citizens littering while government and police were watching. Littering is a Class B Misdemeanor, and Mr. O’Neill did not approve.

Mr. O’Neill went on to warn that everyone needed to be careful about what was said and done in public because he would be recording for evidence. He then referenced a Thomas Edison quote saying that Edison did not fail but found 2,000 ways not to make a light bulb. Similarly, Mr. O’Neill felt he found a way to make hateful voters his slaves. In the past, people who were also white in skin color, were slaves. Mr. O’Neill then made the Council and the public aware that they were essentially his slaves. Many had to go out and work while he had been on government assistance for the past 29 years.

9-B “Request: Class V Liquor License” Anthony Booth of Flora, Illinois came before the Council to request a Class V Liquor License. He explained that he was looking to open a gaming facility that served limited food items. The location would be at the old Casey’s General Store on S. West Street. The hours of operation were estimated to be 9:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. Mr. Booth also owned and was managing a gaming facility for the past six years in Flora called Anthony’s Wild West.

Mr. Booth’s application was the first Class V application under the revised liquor code. City Manager Taylor made the Council aware that if they wanted to approve the application, the Council would also need to amend the City Code to increase the number of Class V licenses available. Mayor Vaughn asked the audience if anyone was present who had a question or comment. No one came forward.

Mayor Vaughn commented that at this time, he was not in favor of the request. Councilwoman Thomas thought the Council would be more in favor if the establishment was an actual restaurant that had gaming on the side. Alternately, Councilman Brown thought the proposed location would be an excellent spot for a gaming facility and would benefit the community.

Councilman Brown then made a motion approve the application and to increase the Class V availability by one, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. Councilwoman Thomas and Councilman Brown voted yes. Councilman Ferguson and Mayor Vaughn voted no. The motion failed.

Mayor Vaughn made Mr. Booth aware that Councilman McLaughlin was not at the meeting, so if Mr. Booth wished to submit his request again at a later date, the full Council could vote and Mr. McLaughlin's vote would be the determining factor. The Mayor also included that if the application had been approved that evening, Mr. Booth would have needed to pay the required \$2,800 to operate until the renewal date of May 15, 2014 where he would also at that time need to pay an additional \$2,800 to be renewed.

9-C "Request: Traffic and Potential Stop Sign at Intersection of Hedge Row & Jonathan Drive" Rob McClain of 1201 Jonathan Drive was present to request the installation of speed deterrents, primarily, on Jonathan Drive at its intersection with Hedge Row Drive. Mr. McClain also requested that the Council consider speed deterrents on Jonathan Drive at the intersection of Apple Valley Drive. Mr. McClain made his requests in hopes to make Jonathan Drive a safer road and to re-route unnecessary traffic to major thoroughfares. Additionally, Jonathan Drive contained a blind curve that increased risk to pedestrians since there were no sidewalks available.

Traffic in the area had increased because of the extended work on Hall Street a few years ago and peaked during travel times to and from schools for all kinds of activities.

Mayor Vaughn then asked for more information from Police Chief Paddock. The Chief had spoken with Mr. McClain and had visited the area about 10 times. To date, Olney Police had not caught anyone speeding. The blind curve Mr. McClain referenced could make cars appear that they were going faster than they actually are. The Chief felt that installing stop signs without first conducting a traffic study was premature. The Chief's fear with speed bumps would be that drivers would swerve into another lane to avoid the bumps.

At the time that Mr. McClain moved into the neighborhood, speed bumps were a part of Jonathan Drive, but were no longer there. Councilman Ferguson wondered why the bumps were removed. The Council had a difficult time remembering, but Councilman Brown thought the neighborhood had voted for their removal after being polled. Mr. McClain commented that he was never presented with a way to vote on the removal.

Loren Urfer of 1105 Jonathan Drive then addressed the Council. Mr. Urfer's property intersects with Hedge Row Drive. While Mr. Urfer had some of the same concerns of Mr. McClain, he felt the installation of a stop sign would be unsafe because if the sign was put in on the east side of his driveway, the sign would be in the intersection. If the sign was put on the west side of his driveway, it would be two car lengths back from the intersection. Further, the

signs would inconvenience Mr. Urfer in entering and exiting his driveway.

A Mr. Padilla of 1205 Jonathan Drive was next to speak to the Council. Mr. Padilla had only been living at his residence for the past six years and was curious why the first set of speed bumps were installed. Councilman Ferguson made him aware it was for a similar reason; to reduce speed. Councilwoman Thomas confirmed that a three year old had been hit by a car. The accident was not caused by speeding, but did initiate the project.

Mr. Padilla also voiced his concerns about speeding and visibility on the road. Mr. Padilla then offered that he would be willing to help the situation in any way he could whether it would be to cut down trees or move his fence.

In reference to the Chief's mention of a traffic study, Mayor Vaughn asked if a study had ever been done in the past to determine the amount of traffic and speed. City Manager Taylor confirmed that traffic studies had been done at times.

Mayor Vaughn agreed that anyone walking on Jonathan Drive needed to do so with caution because of the blind curve and speeding motorists. Long roads without stop signs did seem to create a tendency for speed. If Hall Street was busy, Jonathan Drive would see a traffic increase. The Mayor would like information from a traffic count if one could be done at a reasonable cost.

Councilman Ferguson asked how often radars were used on Jonathan Drive. Chief Paddock said they were not used often. Three officers are usually on duty at any given time, so at the peak hours of concern, it would be difficult to have enough coverage near the schools while Jonathan Drive was also monitored. If a traffic study was conducted, the area would need to be radared for about a month.

Councilman Ferguson asked about the traffic equipment that would sit on roadways and flash drivers their speeds as they drove by. Chief Paddock said that many different types of equipment like that did exist. The equipment had a large range in price and could be anywhere between \$3,000 and \$10,000.

At the mention of cost, Mr. McClain included that he would personally pay for the installation of stop signs at the areas of concern.

Mayor Vaughn then suggested giving homeowners in the neighborhood a notice that the topic would be on the agenda for the April 28 meeting. Councilman Brown would also like to see a questionnaire included asking if the homeowner was in favor of stop signs, speed bumps or nothing at all. The mailer should go to homeowners on Jonathan, Hedge Row and Apple Valley Drives.

Councilwoman Thomas remembered that after the last poll, many residents were not in favor of signs because they did not want them in their yards. She thought the speed bumps had been removed within the past three years.

Mayor Vaughn moved to poll Jonathan, Hedge Row and Apple Valley Drives giving the option to a) install stop signs, b) install speed bumps, or c) do nothing, seconded by Councilman Brown. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

AGENDA #10 “PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES. RESOLUTIONS. ETC.”

10-A “Resolution: Approve Bids for Mapledale Cemetery Road Construction” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution to accept the bid from Doll’s, Inc. for the Mapledale Cemetery Road Construction at \$16,900. The only other bidder was Fritschle Land Improvement at \$17,710. The budget for the project was set for \$25,000. Councilman Ferguson moved to approve 2014-R-17, seconded by Mayor Vaughn. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

10-B “Appointments to Various Boards and Commissions” The Council was provided with a list of names and term dates for tentative appointments to various boards and commissions. Mayor Vaughn noted that there was one addition to the list. For the Park Board, Mayor Vaughn also wanted to appoint Councilwoman Thomas to serve as ex officio. Mrs. Thomas would not be a voting member, but would attend meetings and participate in discussion. Councilman Brown moved to approve the appointment list, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

10-C “Ordinance: Water and Sewer Rate Increases” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance dictating the approved water and sewer rates, fees and their effective dates. Mayor Vaughn moved to approve Ordinance 2014-08, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. Councilwoman Thomas, Councilman Ferguson and Mayor Vaughn voted yes. Councilman Brown voted no. The motion carried.

10-D “Discussion: Parking at Musgrove Park” The Council was provided with Ordinance 2012-32 that prohibited the stopping, standing or parking of vehicles on the north side of Florence Street east of Silver Street and authorizing handicapped parking spaces. City Manager Taylor explained that the ordinance still permitted parking on the south side area. Mr. Taylor felt there was potential for additional handicap parking spaces further east on Florence Street, if the Council approved. Park Department Supervisor Frank Bradley was present to answer any questions.

Mayor Vaughn asked what Mr. Bradley’s recommendations were to address the parking issues. Mr. Bradley recommended to extend parking to the east. The additional parking was needed for Babe Ruth baseball and soccer.

Councilman Ferguson then suggested that there could be an additional lot created specifically for the lifeguards. He wondered if there was an area by the pool's pump house that could be used. Then, the old lifeguard area could be used for parking for the Babe Ruth and soccer attendees.

Councilwoman Thomas offered that the parking issue could be one of the first issues that the Parks and Recreation Board could help address. The parking could be included in the board's comprehensive plan.

Councilman Ferguson felt strongly that the prohibited parking areas at Musgrove Park should be enforced. Mayor Vaughn agreed. Chief Paddock was ready to do so.

10-E "Ordinance: Authorize the Disposal of Items by Recycling of Personal Property Owned by the City of Olney-Police Department" The Council was presented with a potential ordinance to recycle some of the Police Departments obsolete electronics through Secure Processors. Chief Paddock was present to answer any questions. Councilman Ferguson moved to approve Ordinance 2014-09, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Before moving on to Agenda #11, there was a group present who wanted to discuss Glenwood Street. The Council was also provided with a 37 signature petition from the group in hopes to discuss the resurfacing or removal of rock from the road.

City Engineer Charleston made the audience aware that Glenwood Street was on the list of roads to be repaired this year. The plan would be to blend excess material into the roadway in order to build up the base. The earliest that the issue could be addressed would be around June which was when the MFT funds were expected to become available.

City Engineer Charleston anticipated putting out a bid early because the contractors were sure to be very busy this year trying to repair damage from the harsh winter. Mr. Charleston noted that the last time Glenwood Street was worked on, the work was not done properly. When the street was torn up, the equipment went too deep into the road and the base was destroyed. The aggregate then became less concentrated because it was mixed with clay. When the water penetrated that, the strength went away. Simply put, due to the improper work and the amount of water on the roadway the past few months, the road was destroyed.

One citizen commented that the road was the worst it had been for the past 40 years. She mentioned that the Street Department had come to fill the holes, but now there was too much gravel. She was unable to even push a stroller down the road.

City Engineer Charleston commented that the crushed stone was difficult to pick up because that stone, for the time being, was what made up the road itself. Mr. Charleston thought

applying calcium chloride could help control the dust. Calcium chloride would pull moisture from the air to help control dust. City Engineer Charleston would look into the cost of calcium chloride.

Another citizen wondered if the road would still be dusty even after it was reworked. Mr. Charleston did not believe so. Two coats of oil and chip would be applied. Once the anticipated work was completed, the road would again be smooth. Mr. Charleston expected that the City would complete prep work and the contractor would provide the refinishing.

Theresa O'Brien mentioned that other roads in the neighborhood had the same issues as Glenwood Street. She was curious if the upcoming work would also be done to the other roads; specifically Monroe Street where her mother lived. City Engineer Charleston said that Monroe Street was also on the project list.

Another Olney resident came forward to speak about Eastgate Street. City Engineer Charleston confirmed that area also had issues that would be addressed. Materials had been purchased for that location. The Illinois Department of Transportation would tell the City when they could bid out services which was the cause for the waiting period. Mr. Charleston again mentioned June or early July for a start time on the projects.

Mayor Vaughn sent the meeting into recess at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Vaughn moved to come back into open session, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. The City Council meeting resumed at 8:08 p.m.

Another Olney citizen came before the Council to ask what the protocol would be to be heard at a Council meeting. Mayor Vaughn replied that agendas are finalized the Friday before a Council meeting. If there was a pressing issue that a person wanted to discuss, he or she would need to contact City Clerk Sterchi to be put on the agenda. Generally, issues requiring discussion that were not on an agenda would need to be taken up at the end of the meeting.

AGENDA #11 "2014/2015 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS" The Council was provided with copies of the MFT Proposed Budget, MFT Cash Projection, City of Olney Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015, General Corporate Recap of increases and reductions and Water & Sewer Departments Recap of increases and reductions.

City Manager Taylor began by discussing the MFT proposed budget. Revenues for the 2013/2014 fiscal year were projected at \$275,213 and projected for 2014/2015 to be around \$265,082. One of the main contributing factors to the difference was the \$6,818 from the Illinois Capital Funds that City Treasurer Sanders was not anticipating for 2014/2015. In addition, the Illinois Municipal League was expecting MFT Allocations available to

municipalities to reduce by about 1.4%. The Treasurer reduced that line item using that guidance.

Maintenance of Streets had been increased by \$126,670 and the Treasurer had included details on the spreadsheet as to what made up the increased amounts. Items included were crushed stone, seal coat, concrete, patch and engineering.

The East Street and Butler Street Projects were carry-overs from a few years back. The City had not yet been invoiced for the projects.

Under the MFT Cash Projection sheet, City Treasurer Sanders believed that MFT funds ending cash balance at the end of this fiscal year would be \$225,684 under the assumption that the East Street and Butler Street Projects would be invoiced and paid for. The next fiscal year year was projected to have \$214,096 left in the cash balance, based on the proposed budget.

City Manager Taylor mentioned that even though Maintenance of Streets was increasing, he would estimate that if an STU project was done at an estimated \$500,000, with \$65,000 in engineering, the City's share would be only \$152,000. Mr. Taylor felt that the City would be close to having the necessary STU funds by 2017. The City would be able to borrow ahead should the City decide to work on a project earlier.

Mayor Vaughn asked for clarification on this topic. City Treasurer Sanders believed that the City received a definitive dollar amount from the State of Illinois for MFT. MFT funds were also to be used on any public road. MFT funds would be in the bank and available for use.

STU funds were federal funds. The STU monies were allocated but not distributed. STU project classification came from a map based on traffic. STU funds match at 80/20. They provide 80% and the City would provide 20% and also pay for the engineering. City Treasurer Sanders estimated that the City had about \$130,000 available in an STU account.

Mayor Vaughn asked if the City was committed to the East Street project. City Engineer Charleston said the City was not committed but was programmed. Programmed meant that the City had announced at one point that they would take on the East Street project. The City could request to take East Street off of the program and then request a new street.

Councilman Ferguson asked if S. Whittle Avenue would be eligible for an STU project. City Engineer Charleston confirmed that it was eligible however, due to the heavy requirements, cautioned the Council to really think about that idea before using STU on Whittle Avenue.

City Manager Taylor wanted to be sure the Council understood that when street equipment was purchased by the General Fund, the idea was that the General Fund would be reimbursed by using MFT funds for equipment rental. Due to the harsh winter, he felt that any

reimbursement could wait another year so that more roads could be improved.

Mayor Vaughn noticed that the City was spending three times more on police and fire pensions versus roads. City Manager Taylor confirmed that fact.

Councilman Ferguson mentioned that he had read an article stating that the cost of pensions nationwide was decreasing. The nationwide average for pensions came to 2% of total budgets and was inconsequential. The City's cost was around 10% of the total budget and was a consequential expense.

Moving along, Councilman Ferguson asked what HRA was. City Manager Taylor replied that it was the Health Reimbursement Arrangement. The City would pay one half of an employee deductible.

City Treasurer Sanders went on to the General Corporate Recap sheet where he detailed reductions or removals made to the General Corporate Proposed Budget as presented to the Council on March 24, 2014. Specifically, the removal of Roads in Memorial Gardens at a cost of \$25,000 was taken out under the assumption that the project could be delayed for another year. The Pacific Cycle Roof item was able to be reduced by \$100,000. The Fire Department Engine Replacement was removed because no disbursement would be recorded until the item was purchased. That item removal saved \$125,000. The reduction of the Musgrove Park Detention project by \$30,000 was listed as part of the work would be done in the 2013/2014 fiscal year. In the 2014/2015 fiscal year, only \$13,500 would be the anticipated need to complete the project. For the Boone Street Drainage item increase of \$31,520, the increased revenue was due to the fact that more work would need to be completed in the 2014/2015 year than was originally expected. The harsh winter months slowed down the project. The same amount of \$31,520 was listed also listed as a disbursement so the amounts offset one another.

The Treasurer then moved on to proposed increases to the General Corporate Proposed Budget. The City would be needing to reapply for Enterprise Zone benefits by December of 2015. Mr. Sanders and Mr. Taylor felt that a consultant should be budgeted for the Enterprise Zone. Fifteen thousand dollars would be the expected expense for the consultant in the 2014/2015 fiscal year.

The Low Vision Support Group had been requesting the installation of an audible traffic signal on Main Street. The estimated cost for an audible traffic signal was \$4,500 and was included should the Council decide to follow through with the installation. The ideal location would be at the intersection of Main and Fair Streets. With regard to Repair Roads on/to City Property, in the additional amount of \$24,172, Councilman Ferguson wondered what roads were included. City Engineer Charleston informed him that the parking lots at East Fork and Borah Lakes would be included, as well as the roadways to Borah Lake and Rotary Park.

To summarize, City Treasurer Sanders stated that at the Council meeting on March 24, 2014, the net total for General Corporate was (\$515,293). With the revised General Corporate proposed budget, the new total came to (\$288,015). Around \$316,000 was for projects such as the Pacific Cycle Roof Repair and the Boone Street Drainage project. Those were factored into the -\$288,015. Projects not included in the budget that had been discussed included Whittle Avenue improvements, the Van Sandt water retention pond, sidewalks on Hall Street and Holly Road and the turn lane on Holly Road at the elementary school.

City Treasurer Sanders went on to discuss changes in the Water and Sewer Departments. At the Council meeting on March 10, 2014, the net expense in the Water Department was at (\$469,793). Since then, changes had been made in regard to water and sewer rates. The water rate increase alone would bring in an additional \$99,805 for fiscal year 2014/2015. The new totals would set the Water Department at a (\$286,574) instead for 2014/2015.

Mr. Sanders also wanted to note that there was another timing issue with the E. Main Street Water Main Replacement project. There was expected to be about \$250,000 in disbursements for the 2013/2014 fiscal year that did not happen. Those totals were moved into the 2014/2015 fiscal year budget to then total \$385,000.

The Sewer Department net expense as presented at the March 10, 2014 meeting came to (\$83,669). Since the meeting, the sewer rate increase was approved allowing an additional \$43,931 for fiscal year 2014/2015 for the sewer rate alone. The Treasurer went on to note that Sewer Department Supervisor Tony Steber was able to find a portable emergency pump for \$65,000. The portable pump would be in place of the proposed permanent pump and allowed for a \$110,000 reduction to the budget. The reductions in the budget were set to leave the Sewer Department at a positive \$88,242 for fiscal year 2014/2015.

Councilman Brown had been speaking with City Engineer Charleston about road projects within the City and he believed two of the most important projects would total around \$500,000. The Councilman was not ready to make a motion at the April 14 meeting, but wanted to make the Council aware that he would be prepared at the next meeting to make motions for adjustments within the proposed budget in an effort to help complete some of the road projects.

At the conclusion of the updated budget presentation, Mayor Vaughn wanted to speak more on the topic of pension cost. He was curious as to how the updated budget would address the City's pension issues. City Manager Taylor replied that the City had been attempting to control labor cost as a start.

Mayor Vaughn said he had concerns with the fact that it appeared the City was ignoring the wants of the department heads and only providing a few of their needs. In comparing the 2011 budgets to the 2015 budgets, there was roughly a \$450,000 increase in health/life insurance, IMRF and pension payments. The Mayor was mystified that there could be such a

large increase in direct cost that needed to come first before any of the department needs could be furnished. He worried how needs would be provided for within even the next five years.

Councilman Ferguson made the observation that employees contributed to the highest costs but were also needed the most. Since 2011, the City had already reduced staffing by three positions. If employees were laid off, there simply would not be enough staff to complete the work that was required.

Councilwoman Thomas wondered if the \$135,000 dump truck for the Street Department could wait to be purchased until next year. Half of the funds could be set aside in the upcoming fiscal year and the rest could be contributed in the year after. Further, she would like to see the donation to the Chamber of Commerce reduced to \$5,000. She went on to question how the \$20,000 for Christmas lights was projected. Park Department Supervisor Frank Bradley explained that the \$20,000 was the cost for employees to set up, tear down and maintain the Christmas light display. Mr. Bradley also mentioned that every hour spent working on the display was coded to the appropriate line items within the Christmas Lights category. In fact, the cost to set up, tear down and maintain the display had decreased in the past few years. Councilman Ferguson felt that the only other alternative to lower the cost would be to take the Christmas light display back to a volunteer program.

A member of the audience had some comments regarding the Mayor's concerns. She felt that on a national level, health care costs had increased. She had lived in Effingham where they only had one park to maintain whereas Olney had three large parks. In addition, the population of Olney had not grown much in the past 10 years, and the City had not gained much in the way of new business either.

Mayor Vaughn then asked the City Manager what would happen if no agreement could be easily made in regards to the proposed budget. City Manager Taylor replied that the meeting on April 28, 2014 would have to continue until a resolution was found. The Illinois State Statute required the passing of the City's budget before the fiscal year began. The City's fiscal year was set to begin on May 1, 2014.

Councilman Ferguson brought up an interesting question asking if a budget had ever been presented that included no capital expenditures. If a department wanted to spend money on a capital item, the request would need to go before the Council. City Manager Taylor said that type of a budget had not ever been presented.

## AGENDA #12 "REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS"

12-A "City Manager-Status Report" The Council was provided with a status report from City Manager Taylor. The City Manager mentioned that letters had been sent out regarding electric aggregation. The letters indicated that individuals would be automatically enrolled in

the continuing program unless the individual decided to opt out. The new rate did increase slightly, but Ameren's rates were still higher than Homefield's. The new rate was locked in for two more years.

Curbside recycling was also set to change hands beginning on Monday, March 21, 2014. At that time, Kenny Wilson would start pickup of the curbside recycling. Mr. Wilson would be maintaining the same pickup schedule that the City was using.

City Treasurer Sanders had met with the Police and Fire Pension Boards regarding securing actuarial services. The Police Pension Board was set to pay for their actuary service, but the City Manager wanted to bring the request before the Council. The Council approved having the Police Pension Board move forward with their purchasing of actuarial services.

AGENDA #13 "CLOSED SESSION: SALE PRICE OF REAL PROPERTY, COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS, DELIBERATIONS CONCERNING SALARY SCHEDULES FOR ONE OR MORE CLASSES OF EMPLOYEES AND APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT AND COMPENSATION OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES" Councilman Brown moved to adjourn to closed session to discuss the sale price of real property, collective negotiating matters, deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees and appointment, employment and compensation of specific employees, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Councilmen Brown, Ferguson, Councilwoman Thomas, Mayor Vaughn, City Manager Taylor, City Treasurer Sanders and City Clerk Sterchi left the Council Chambers at 9:35 p.m.

AGENDA #14 "RECONVENE OPEN SESSION" Upon the return of those who were in closed session to the Council Chambers, Mayor Vaughn moved to enter back into open session, seconded by Councilman Brown. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. Open session resumed at 11:33 p.m. No action was taken as a result of closed session.

AGENDA #14 "ADJOURN" Councilman Brown moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

The meeting of the City Council adjourned at 11:33 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi  
City Clerk