

CITY OF OLNEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 8, 2013

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The April 8, 2013 meeting of the Olney City Council was called to order at 7:30 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. Gary Wachtel led the group in a prayer.

AGENDA #3 “ROLL CALL” The following Council members were present: Barb Thomas, Gary Foster, Brad Brown, Bob Ferguson and Mark Lambird. Also present were City Manager Larry Taylor, City Treasurer Chuck Sanders, City Engineer Roger Charleston and City Clerk Belinda Henton.

AGENDA #4 “PUBLIC HEARING: 2013/2014 FISCAL BUDGET” State statutes require a public hearing on the proposed budget prior to the approval of the fiscal year budget which gives the public an opportunity to ask questions. Mayor Lambird asked if anyone in the audience wanted to comment on the proposed budget.

No comments were heard from the public. The public hearing closed at 7:33 p.m.

AGENDA #5 “PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA”

5-A Approve Minutes of Council Meeting on March 25, 2013

5-B Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable April 9, 2013-Pooled Cash \$100,182.31, Manual Pooled Cash \$113,733.38, Levied Insurance \$1,089.00 and Tourism \$5,000

5-C Application to Sell in the City Park - Farmer’s Market

5-D Raffle License-Rolling Thunder, IL Chapter 3

5-E Raffle License-Eagles Auxiliary 2549

5-F Raffle License-American Legion

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

AGENDA #7 “CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA” Council Foster 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” No consideration was necessary for items removed from the consent agenda.

AGENDA #9 “PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS”

9-A “Video Gambling, SSI, Drinking and Taxes” Brian O’Neill told the Mayor he had a lot of explaining to do to the tax payers. According to Mr. O’Neill, the Mayor has bribed voters for their votes by promising to buy their houses. Also, according to Mr. O’Neill, the Mayor does not have the right to vote. Voting belongs to the City Council.

Mr. O’Neill does not believe the City Manager and the Council do their duty to make sure ordinances are enforced by the Police Department.

Mr. O’Neill continued his verbal attack on the Mayor by saying all he is concerned with is liquor. Mr. O’Neill threw several bundles of one dollar bills on the floor and said the Mayor is not concerned with citizens’ lives, but their money. He then stated “I don’t drink, I don’t smoke, I walk. I have got more money than you’s can have.” Mr. O’Neill explained this is why he is more qualified, he will keep the money here. The people that drink, that say they care about Olney, can donate their money to the sewer infrastructure.

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

10-A “Resolution: Endorsement of an Emergency Grants Program for SWAN” Linda Bookwalter assured everyone SWAN is not closing contrary to rumors. SWAN has laid off some employees because the state is not paying on a timely basis and making it difficult to operate.

Mrs. Bookwalter is preparing to apply for \$48,000 with the Emergency Solutions Grant through the State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunities. The grant application is due at the end of the month. Grant funds will be used for prevention, utilities, food and supplies and for the shelter and transportation needs. She requested that the Council approve the proposed resolution supporting the grant application. If approved, a copy of the resolution will be submitted with the grant application.

Councilwoman Thomas moved to approve Resolution 2013-R-13, seconded by Councilman Brown. Councilmen Foster, Brown, Ferguson, Mayor Lambird and Councilwoman Thomas voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

10-B “Discussion: Proposed Hours of Operation for Swimming Pool” The Council was given a proposed listing of hours of operation for the swimming pool for the upcoming season. The proposed hours were discussed with Karen Jameson with the triathlon and Pool Manager Mike Groves. Mr. Taylor commented that hopefully it is workable for everyone involved and makes the pool available to as many as possible while still keeping the operation economical.

Councilman Foster moved to approve the proposed pool hours, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. Councilmen Brown, Ferguson, Mayor Lambird, Councilwoman Thomas and Councilman Foster voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

10-C “Resolution: Reimbursement of White Squirrel Saddle Club” Al Zellmer recently presented a memo and receipts totally \$5,529.29 to City Clerk Henton. City Treasurer Sanders has reviewed the receipts with Code Enforcement Officer Mike Mitchell and then he tried to categorize the expenses into the five categories the City Council approved on February 8, 2010. Mr. Sanders also read the minutes from the February 8, 2010 Council meeting to understand the intent of what the Council was approving. The Council approved a total of \$1,747.00 for the various categories. This is also the amount the White Squirrel Saddle Club is requesting. Mr. Sanders prepared a memo and a spreadsheet regarding the receipts received from the White Squirrel Saddle Club. The Council was provided with this information. It appears that \$1,247.26 can be justified by the receipts. Currently, there is \$1,892 left in contingencies.

Councilman Ferguson questioned the total spent versus what the Council approved. Mr. Sanders explained the WSSC did have receipts of \$5,529.29, but not all expenses included in the receipts applied to the specific items approved by Council.

Mr. Zellmer confirmed that some receipts were missing, but explained he was not asking for the entire \$5,529.29. He just wanted for the Council to see what the WSSC has spent on the building. Mr. Zellmer said to give him a check for \$1,274.26 and the WSSC will be happy to take that. Based on all the money they have spent out there, Mr. Zellmer can speak for the membership, there will be no more dealing with money with the City Council.

Mr. Zellmer questioned when the City proposes to fix the water situation at the firing range building. He questioned who will take care of the problem if it floods again. Mr. Charleston has looked at the situation, but not recently so he could not make a recommendation at this time. Mr. Zellmer believed someone filled in the creek causing the flooding. It was his opinion a culvert or a low water crossing needs to be installed.

Councilman Foster moved to pay the \$1,274.26 to the White Squirrel Saddle Club and the City open up the creek if there is a blockage to improve drainage, and have Mr. Charleston to look and see if there is something the City can do to raise the building up or build a berm or something to protect the building, seconded by Councilman Brown. Councilman Ferguson, Mayor Lambird, Councilwoman Thomas, Councilmen Foster and Brown voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried. Resolution 2013-R-14 will be prepared.

10-D “Resolution: Accept Bids for Water Plant Chemicals” Bids were recently opened for Water Plant chemicals. Bids were requested for each individual chemical as well as for all chemicals as a package. When all bids were considered and projected for the entire year, the package bid from Hawkins, Inc. of Centralia, Illinois was the least expensive than accepting the individual low bids that meet the specification. It was recommended that the package bid from Hawkins be accepted.

Mayor Lambird asked how much the bid raised over last year. Mr. Bradley commented the total cost went down.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve Resolution 2013-R-15, seconded by Councilman Brown. Mayor Lambird, Councilwoman Thomas, Councilmen Foster, Brown and Ferguson voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

10-E “Resolution: Accept Bids for Swimming Pool Chemicals” Bids were also recently opened for swimming pool chemicals. It was recommended that the Council accept the low bids. A proposed resolution was provided to the Council.

Councilman Foster asked if the Airgas bid was close to last year. Mr. Bradley reported that the bid for carbon dioxide from Airgas was substantially higher, but the bid for sodium hypochlorite from Hawkins was lower.

Councilman Foster moved to approve Resolution 2013-R-16, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. Councilwoman Thomas, Councilmen Foster, Brown, Ferguson and Mayor Lambird voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

10-F “Resolution: Accept Bids for Miscellaneous Concrete” Bids were recently solicited for miscellaneous concrete. For several years concrete has been bid semiannually, but this time bidders were allowed to bid for six months (Option 1) and/or one year (Option 2). Doll's Inc. submitted bids for both Option 1 and 2. Schrey Systems, Inc. submitted a bid for only Option 2. The low bid for all concrete mixtures was submitted by Schrey Systems, Inc. in their Option 2 bid for a one year period. A proposed resolution was provided to the Council approving the bid from Schrey Systems for one year.

Councilman Foster moved to approve Resolution 2013-R-17, seconded by Councilman Brown. Councilmen Foster, Brown, Ferguson, Mayor Lambird and Councilwoman Thomas voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

10-G “Resolution: Accept Bids for Sand, Crushed Stone and Rip Rap” Bids were also solicited for sand, crushed stone and rip rap. This year sand, crushed stone and rip rap were bid for a period of six months (Option 1) and/or one year (Option 2). Bids were received from five bidders. The low bid for sand, pea gravel and crushed stone were the same whether for six months or one year. The low bid for CA-6 for six months was \$15.75; however, the low bid for CA-6 for one year was \$17.00. The low bid for rip rap was \$21.69 for six months and \$21.97 for one year. Mr. Taylor recommended accepting all low bids for six months. The Council was provided with a proposed resolution accepting the low bids for six months.

Councilman Brown moved to approve Resolution 2013-R-18, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. Councilmen Brown, Ferguson, Mayor Lambird, Councilwoman Thomas and Councilman Foster voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

10-H “Resolution: Accept Bid for Concrete for N. East Street Sidewalk Project” Bids were solicited for concrete for the N. East Street sidewalk from Mack Avenue to Miller's Grove. Richland County Recreation Council is providing the funding for this project. Two bids were received. The low bid of \$74.00 per cubic yard was received from Schrey Systems, Inc. A resolution accepting the low bid was provided to the Council.

Councilman Brown questioned when the project will start. He was told the project will start soon. The City will need to install a culvert to facilitate the sidewalk.

Councilman Brown moved to approve Resolution 2013-R-19, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. Councilman Ferguson, Mayor Lambird, Councilwoman Thomas, Councilmen Foster and Brown voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

10-I “Discussion/Resolution: Proposed Purchase of 1 T Pickup and/or Diesel Leaf Vac” Staff members have been reviewing the current year’s budget. Even though the use of reserves was budgeted for the repair of the Pacific Cycle roof and the purchase of the fire truck, reserves were not necessary because of increased revenue and savings within departments.

If the Council is interested in using surplus revenue during this fiscal year, it was suggested consideration be given to the purchase of an additional leaf vac and/or a 1 ton pickup truck with lights, radio and used snow plow. Neither one of these pieces of equipment have been budgeted during the 2013/2014 fiscal year. Mr. Sanders prepared a spreadsheet detailing funding sources for each piece of equipment. The Council was provided with this spreadsheet and information concerning leaf vacs. The cost of a new leaf vac is approximately \$24,200 and a used leaf vac \$17,768.

Mr. Sanders projected a \$9,000 surplus in General Corporate at the end of this fiscal year.

Concerning the leaf pickup program, Councilman Foster did not want to see the City go through another fall like the past fall. He believed another leaf vac was needed. Both vacs may not be able to be used at the same time, but another vac would serve as a backup if necessary.

Street Department Supervisor Marty Nuss explained the proposed leaf vac would become the primary vac and the exiting vac would be used as a backup.

Mr. Nuss explained the 1 ton truck would be used to tow the new road repair equipment. It could also be used in the winter for snow plowing.

Mr. Nuss commented, if approved, a used leaf vac would be purchased if it is satisfactory upon inspection.

If the Council wishes to purchases either of these pieces of equipment, Mr. Taylor explained a resolution would need to be passed to amend the budget and authorize the purchase.

Councilman Foster moved to purchase a 1 ton pickup truck with lights, radio and used snow plow not to exceed \$29,132 and a used leaf vac not to exceed \$18,000, amend the budget as recommended and waive the bidding procedure, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas.

Councilman Brown commented he would not support Councilman Foster's motion, but if it fails he would make a motion to purchase a leaf vac not to exceed \$18,000.

Councilman Ferguson questioned if bids were sought for the pickup truck. Mr. Nuss commented the quote for the truck was received from Eaglesons and is about \$400 to \$500 over the state bid.

Mayor Lambird, Councilwoman Thomas, Councilmen Foster and Ferguson voted yes. Councilman Brown voted no. The motion carried. Resolution 2013-R-20 will be prepared.

10-J "Discussion: Tourism Grant Application" City Clerk Henton prepared a proposed Tourism Grant Application that the Council could implement for the disposition of funds from the City's Tourism Fund, including a proposed application form and a form to report back to the City regarding the results of an event. The Council would still be responsible for approving grants.

Councilman Foster believed the application process would be a good way to evaluate the impact of tourism funds on local businesses.

Councilman Ferguson suggested that time be allowed for the public to review the application before approval is considered.

AGENDA #11 "REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS"

11-A "City Manager - Status Report" Mr. Taylor advised the Council, because of the forecasted weather, the brush dump will remain open Friday and Saturday of this week, but beginning next week it will be open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

11-B "City Manager - KidZone Pool Request" KidZone has requested a discounted daily pool rate for their children and waive the fee for teachers attending with the children. They anticipate bringing two groups of approximately 20 school-aged children weekly. On occasion they would like to bring a younger group, but not on a weekly basis. The City has approved a discounted rate of \$1.50 per child and free entrance for the teachers for the last several years.

Councilman Brown moved to approve KidZone's request, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Councilman Foster reported Animal Control is planning to rent the Community Building for a micro chipping event. They understood the fee would be \$75. City Clerk Henton indicated since Animal Control is a not-for-profit organization, the fee would only be \$10.

Councilman Foster moved to waive the Community Building fee for Animal Control. The motion died due to a lack of a second.

Councilman Brown asked about the baseball tournament this past weekend at the Babe Ruth diamond at Musgrove Park. Park Department Supervisor Frank Bradley commented that several traveling teams came to town to play a few games.

Councilwoman Thomas requested a recess at 8:34 p.m.

Councilman Foster moved to return to open session, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. The Council returned into open session at 8:40 p.m.

AGENDA #12 “2013/2014 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS”

12-A “Discussion: Recycling Program” Mr. Sanders has prepared some information regarding various possible recycling programs as well as some information concerning different recycling containers. Mr. Sanders concentrated on weekly or biweekly pickups and using one full-time employee and two part-time employees; two crews of two part-time employees; or one crew of two part-time employees every other week. The information provided to the Council projected costs and the cost per customer to break even.

One of the reasons for the reduction in the participation is the service. Recently, various full-time and part-time employees are being used resulting in various degrees of service because of the differences in running the routes and familiarity with the routes. A full-time employee running the route year-round would help with the consistency in service, but the cost is substantially more. If the program were funded for every week with part-time employees, it would take at least four employees because each employee is limited to less than 1,000 hours per year. They could work six months on and six months off or each two-man crew alternating every other week; however, there may be some service issues when there is a transition from one crew to another.

Instead of lowering the fee, Councilman Brown asked Mr. Sanders to find a way to improve service with improved containers or more pickups.

Mr. Sanders approached this situation as a breakeven program. The proposed cost of each option did not include the cost of purchasing new equipment or bins. Mr. Sanders proposed the break-even basis for weekly pickup service with full-time employees would be \$6.35 for the existing 909 customers. If participation increased to 1,420, the cost for weekly service could be lowered to \$4.30 per month. The second approach for weekly pickup was to use part-time employees. With 909 customers the cost would be \$3.25 and could be lowered to \$2.50 if participation increased to 1,420.

Mr. Sander contacted Bush Systems, the vendor that supplied the current recycling bins, concerning lids. Originally, 2,000 bins were purchased. Bush Systems offers a snap on lid

which is difficult to remove for \$3.35. They also offer a 21 gallon container on wheels that has an attached lid for \$40.00 plus shipping from Canada.

Councilwoman Thomas expressed concerned that an unattached lid would blow away. She also expressed concern with recycling that is being blown around.

Mayor Lambird questioned Mr. Nuss about the maximum size of a container that could be used. Mr. Nuss believed the existing size is good. He did not like the 21 gallon go-cart type of container because of the size and they will have to be manually lifted.

Mr. Sanders commented that Bush Systems has a 13.5 gallon container with an attached lid for \$37.00.

Councilman Ferguson commented it will not matter what containers are used if service cannot be improved. Mr. Nuss commented service needs to be consistent to keep participation. Councilman Brown thought weekly pickup would make the service more consistent. Councilman Ferguson commented his family would prefer weekly pickup.

The Council wanted to pursue weekly recycling with additional research on containers. City Clerk Henton questioned the use of plastic bags to address the blowing of recycling out of containers without having to invest in larger containers.

The Council reviewed the proposed budget including small funds which had not yet been reviewed.

Councilman Foster questioned the expenses for East Street and Butler Street in the MFT fund. Mr. Taylor explained the City has not been billed by the state for the final payment for either of these projects.

Councilman Foster noted that in the 2012/2013 budgets, the Fire and Police Pensions each received about \$100,000 more from the tax levies than previous years. The 2013/2014 budgets will be about the same as last year's.

Mayor Lambird clarified that pensions are now slated to be paid off in 20 years instead of 40 years. Mr. Sanders explained the actuarial reports for the Fire and Police Pensions assume that each fund will be 90% funded within the next 28 years.

Councilman Ferguson questioned the consumer price index for this area. Mr. Taylor was not sure. Mayor Lambird thought it was approximately 1.9%

Councilman Brown questioned the backup plan if the proposed school car is removed from the budget. Mr. Taylor explained the other option would be to pay employees mileage for using their own vehicle. Mayor Lambird questioned how many miles are put on a school car annually. The exact mileage was not known, but the school car is used by several departments for various reasons.

Councilman Ferguson asked Mr. Taylor if he is any closer to hiring someone for outside counsel. Mr. Taylor reported he is getting closer, and the amount spent for this expense will depend on how much is done by the outside counsel.

Mr. Sanders reviewed the Water fund recap. The fund had proposed income of \$1,591,435 and expenditures of \$1,748,458. Reserves will be used to put back \$100,000 to paint the water, \$25,000 for an air scour system, \$15,000 for East Fork Lake dam repairs and \$17,500 for radios for the water towers.

Mr. Sanders reviewed the Sewer fund recap. The fund had proposed income of \$1,031,835 and expenditures of \$1,065,215.

Councilman Brown questioned the request for an additional employee for the Water Distribution Department. Mr. Sanders indicated personnel expenses were increased approximately \$57,000 for an additional employee. Councilman Brown pointed out the \$157,000 deficit could become balanced by deleting the reserves for the water tower painting and the additional employee.

Councilman Ferguson expressed concern with adding a new employee with a deficit budget in the Water fund. Councilman Foster understood Mr. Umfleet's request because of the lack of experience in his department. Mr. Sanders believed it was worth noting that Water Distribution has historically used Street Department employee for shortfalls of manpower.

Councilman Brown did not have a problem hiring someone prior to an employee retiring so the new employee can learn the job, but he was opposed to keeping an extra employee. Mr. Taylor commented the Council would always have the option not to fill the position when the next retirement takes place January 2015.

Councilman Foster questioned why no money was budgeted for foreign fire insurance income. Fire Chief Holmes explained there has been a change, and revenue now comes directly to the Fire Department instead of the City.

Mr. Taylor emphasized if the Council wants to make any changes to the proposed budget, it would be advisable to make a motion and take a vote to determine the consensus. Changes can then be made prior to the next meeting.

AGENDA #13 "COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS, APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT AND PERFORMANCE OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES AND SALARY SCHEDULES FOR ONE OR MORE CLASSES OF EMPLOYEES" Councilman Brown moved to adjourn to closed session to discuss collective negotiating matters; appointment, employment and performance of specific employees and salary schedules for one or more classes of employees, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Councilmen Foster, Brown, Ferguson, Councilwoman Thomas, Mayor Lambird, City Manager Taylor, City Treasurer Sanders and City Clerk Henton left the Council Chambers at 9:30 p.m.

AGENDA #13 “RECONVENE OPEN SESSION” Upon the return of those who were in closed session to the Council Chambers, Councilman Brown moved to enter back into open session, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. Open session resumed at 11:29 p.m.

AGENDA #14 “ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION” No action was taken as a result of the closed session.

AGENDA #15 “ADJOURN” Councilman Foster moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

The meeting of the City Council adjourned at 11:29 p.m.

Belinda C. Henton
City Clerks