

CITY OF OLNEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2011

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The December 12, 2011 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. Jerry Bush 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 Attorney Larry Taylor, City Treasurer Chuck Sanders, City Engineer Roger Charleston and City Clerk Belinda Henton.

AGENDA #4 “PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA”

4-A Approve Minutes of the Council Meeting on November 28, 2011

4-B Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable December 13, 2011-Pooled Cash \$61,004.66, Manual Pooled Cash \$171,821.92, Water Deposit Refunds \$1,570.91, Community Development Assistance Grant \$39,970.00, Project Fund \$76,800.00, Motor Fuel Tax \$9,544.59, Tourism \$3,197.66 and Christmas Light Display \$1,024.10

4-C Raffle License Application-Olney Central College

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

AGENDA #6 “CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA” Councilman Brown moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. A majority voice vote was received.

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

AGENDA #8 “STAFF REPORTS”

8-A “City Manager - Project Update” Mr. Taylor reported that the State of Illinois is currently four months behind on the payment of income tax receipts which totals \$216,517.

The storm sewer on Locust Street has been installed to the point that plans were prepared by the City Engineer. If the storm sewer is extended any further, additional engineering will be needed. The Council and Mr. Charleston discussed the project. The Council then requested that Mr. Charleston do the additional engineering and estimate the cost of the additional work.

At a prior meeting the Council discussed placing signs on Silver Road indicating that the firing range is in use. Mr. Taylor requested approval to purchase two hinged signs that would

fold up when the firing range is not in use and unfold when in use. When the sign is unfolded, it would warn people that the firing range is active. The cost of each sign is less than \$100. The Council was in favor of ordering two hinged warning signs.

The leaf vacuum demonstration that was originally planned for December 5 did not occur, but it has been rescheduled. Key Equipment will demonstrate the leaf vacuum at the City park on December 13 at 1:00 p.m.

The new boat docks for East Fork Lake have been delivered and will be installed beginning December 15. One day of installation assistance will be provided by the vendor.

The City Park and the Christmas Light Display continue to receive vandalism. The City continues to ask individuals to report any unusual activity.

Mr. Taylor is developing a sidewalk plan. The current Comprehensive Plan includes some proposed sidewalks. Mr. Taylor hopes to present an updated sidewalk plan to the Plan Commission on January 3 and to the City Council on January 9.

8-B “City Manager - SOS Bucks for Employees” Mr. Taylor recommended that the City Council approve \$50.00 of SOS Bucks for full-time employees and \$30.00 of SOS Bucks for volunteer firemen as they have in the past as a Christmas bonus. The cost for 58 full-time employees and 23 fire fighters is \$3,590.

Councilman Brown moved to approve Mr. Taylor’s recommendation for SOS bucks, seconded by Councilman Foster. Councilmen Foster, Brown, Ferguson, Mayor Lambird and Councilwoman Thomas voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion.

8-C “City Manager - Cancel December 26, 2011 Council Meeting” Mr. Taylor recommended the Council approve a resolution canceling the December 26, 2011 Council meeting since that day is a City holiday.

Councilman Foster moved to pass Resolution 2011-R-83, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. A majority voice vote was received.

AGENDA #9 “NEW BUSINESS”

9-A “Discussion: Community Gardening” Vanessa Bourgeois informed the Council that she has received a small grant through the Food Project. The past summer she traveled to visit community gardens and to rural communities looking at their food security options. She has used some of the money to present programs to the community about healthy food choices and ways to utilize a small budget for families. She sees a need in our community for access to healthy food for a low price. She would like to use the grant money for a community gardening project. There is about \$500 remaining from the grant. She believed there is a need and a desire from the community for such a project. She was in hopes there are available lots that could be used for a community garden.

Mayor Lambird expressed a desire for the City to provide water for a community garden.

Ms. Bourgeois explained people would volunteer to work in the garden in exchange for a share of the produce. Other communities equate four hours of work for one bushel basket of food. Any excess produce could be sold at the farmers' market to sustain the project.

The Council was willing to help any way they could.

9-B "Discussion: Pre-Treating Street for Snow/Ice" The Council was provided with information from Street Department Supervisor Jay Scott regarding the use of salt brine as a pre-treatment of streets prior to snow and ice events.

Mr. Scott has been investigating this option and was present to answer questions for the Council. If the pre-treatment with salt brine is authorized, the budget will need to be amended to provide approximately \$2,500 for needed equipment.

Mr. Scott explained the salt brine can be made out of salt the City already has in stock. It will cost \$2,500 to set up the process to make the salt brine and equipment needed to apply the solution. The equipment will be put on a trailer. The salt brine will not allow water to freeze to the streets. Streets can be pre-treated during business hours which will cut down on overtime costs. Even when the salt brine dries, it will continue to work. The salt brine will also help activate later applications of salt.

Mr. Taylor suggested using the contingency fund for the \$2,500 expense. The budget can be amended and a separate line item created.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve the purchase of needed equipment for salt brine application, amend the contingency budget by \$2,500 and create a new line item for this project, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. Councilman Ferguson, Mayor Lambird, Councilwoman Thomas, Councilmen Foster and Brown voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried. Resolution 2011-R-84 will be prepared.

9-C "Resolution: Accept Radio Bid for Fire Department" The Fire Department received a grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$15,000 for radio equipment. The City went out for bids for the radio equipment. Three options were bid; Option 1 was for a complete package and Option 2 and 3 were for only part of the equipment. The low bid for Option 1 was Global Technical System, Inc. of Effingham, Illinois, in the amount of \$34,597.08 which included the installation cost.

Mr. Taylor recommended accepting the low bid.

Jason Gentler, Barbeck Communion's General Manager, was present. His company has a relationship with the County. He explained the Fire Department equipment will have to interface with the County's. He requested consideration for his bid.

Councilman Foster questioned if the bid is awarded to Global Technical Systems, Inc., will Barbeck Communications be needed to interface the equipment with the dispatch center.

Chris Overbeck from Global Technical Systems, Inc. answered his company can do all the installation and interfacing necessary.

Councilman Foster moved to award the low bid to Global Technical Systems, Inc. for the Fire Department radios.

Mr. Taylor explained the City Council previously amended the budget to provide for the necessary funds for the City's portion of the grant, but the resolution did not include the expenditure of the \$15,000 grant. He suggested that the budget be amended.

Councilman Foster amended his motion to approve the low bid and amend the budget as recommended, Resolution 2011-R-85, seconded by Councilman Brown.

Fire Chief Holmes has received good service from both companies and he will continue to work with both.

Mr. Gentler commented that once this equipment is installed and reprogrammed, there will need to be adjustments made to the dispatch console. He could not comment if the County would call him to do this work. If the County requests his company to do the work, they will be charged.

Mayor Lambird, Councilwoman Thomas, Councilmen Foster, Brown and Ferguson voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

9-D "Ordinance: Parking Agreement for IGA" The City has been approached by IGA to enter into a parking agreement which will prohibit the parking of unauthorized vehicles on their parking lots from 11:00 p.m. until 4:30 a.m. daily.

Councilman Ferguson moved to pass Ordinance 2011-59, seconded by Councilman Brown. A majority voice vote was received.

9-E "Ordinance: Tax Levy" The Council was provided with the proposed tax levy ordinance and recap. The City's proposed tax levy has actually been reduced by \$1,000, but because of the Library's needs for the IMRF fund, the rate will increase less than .5%.

Councilman Ferguson moved to pass Ordinance 2011-60, seconded by Councilman Foster. Councilmen Foster, Brown, Ferguson, Mayor Lambird and Councilwoman Thomas voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

AGENDA #10 “OLD BUSINESS”

10-A “Discussion: Trees on Whittle Avenue” The Council requested the cost of removing the trees on Whittle Avenue. Mr. Taylor explained city crews can either cut the trees down and grind stumps or pull the trees out.

Mayor Lambird would like to see a different type of tree planted to replace the existing trees.

Councilman Brown commented there is no reason all the trees have to be taken out. He suggested starting by taking out the trees that the people do not want.

Councilman Foster would prefer that the trees be kept, but be thinned out to keep the birds from roosting. If the trees are removed, he would like to see them replaced with something else.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources recommended a European Hornbeam, but the Council was concerned with its height. The Council wanted to proceed to find a replacement tree and work with the property owners as to whether the tree should be removed.

Street Supervisor Jay Scott suggested that the trees be trimmed back like they were a few years ago. He thought trimming the trees would eliminate a lot of problems without removing the trees completely.

Councilman Ferguson suggested taking out the trees where the property owners do not want the trees. Mr. Taylor was concerned with taking out the tree at First National Bank because their sidewalk is exposed aggregate.

The Council was agreeable to work with the property owners which adjoin the remaining trees as to whether the trees should be taken out or remain.

AGENDA #11 “PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS”

11-A “Brian O’Neill-911 Safety Tax Fund, Ambulance and Law Enforcement” Brian O’Neill expressed his concern with the 911 system and the response time for emergency vehicles.

George Hostettler expressed his concern with drainage in the area of Lathrop Street, Fritschle Street and Lee Avenue. Mr. Hostettler explained after years of oiling and chipping and settling, the gutters do not drain causing water to pool in certain areas.

Street Supervisor Jay Scott explained this area has no storm sewers. The curbs need to be removed and replaced.

Mr. Hostettler commented on the vandalism in the City Park. He suggested that surveillance cameras be installed similar to what is used by hunters. Police Officer Holly

Hamilton commented the cameras would probably be stolen. The Council thought it would be worth checking into the use of cameras to discourage vandals.

AGENDA #12 “REPORT FROM THE MAYOR”

12-A “Appointment to Various Boards and Commissions” Mayor Lambird made no appointments.

12-B “Thank You Proclamation for Donations to Musgrove Ball Complex” A proclamation was prepared for the Council thanking all the people that have donated money, time and materials to the Musgrove Ball Complex.

Councilwoman Thomas moved to approve the thank you proclamation, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. A majority voice vote was received.

Mayor Lambird welcomed Chuck Sanders to his first City Council meeting as City Treasurer.

AGENDA #13 “REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS”

Councilman Brown questioned the management of the concession stand at Musgrove Ball Complex. Mr. Taylor commented this issue has not been discussed. He suggested that this be discussed in January.

Councilman Foster questioned the fuel expenses for the fiscal year. There was \$95,650 budgeted and so far \$75,000 has been spent in 7 months. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Sanders were asked to check into this matter.

AGENDA #14 “CLOSED SESSION: APPOINTMENT, COMPENSATION AND PERFORMANCE OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES ” Councilwoman Brown moved to adjourn to closed session to discuss the appointment, compensation and performance of specific employees, seconded by Councilman Foster. A majority voice vote was received.

Councilmen Foster, Brown and Ferguson, Councilwoman Thomas, Mayor Lambird, City Attorney Taylor and City Clerk Henton left the Council Chambers at 8:36 p.m.

AGENDA #16 “RECONVENE OPEN SESSION” Upon the return of those who were in closed session to the Council Chambers, Councilman Foster moved to enter back into open session, seconded by Councilman Brown. A majority voice vote was received. Open session resumed at 9:40 p.m.

AGENDA #17 “ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION”

Councilman Ferguson moved to enter into an employment contract with Larry Taylor as City Manager, seconded by Councilman Foster. Councilwoman Thomas, Councilmen Foster, Brown, Ferguson and Mayor Lambird voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried. Resolution 2011-R-86 will be prepared.

Mayor Lambird announced he has contacted a company in Minnesota that sells equipment that crushes glass. The equipment cost is approximately \$10,000. The equipment can turn glass into sand which can be used for various projects. Secure Processors is not interested in recycling glass.

AGENDA #18 “ADJOURN” Councilman Foster moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. A majority voice vote was received.

The meeting of the City Council adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Belinda C. Henton
City Clerk