

CITY OF OLNEY  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 27, 2012

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The February 27, 2012 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. Larry Weber 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/City Manager 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 February 13, 2012

4-B Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable February 28, 2012-Pooled Cash \$41,077.82

4-C Raffle License - Olney Little League, Inc.

4-D Raffle License - Richland Memorial Hospital

4-E Raffle License - Eagles Rider #2549

4-F Raffle License - Olney Lions Club Foundation, Inc.

4-G Raffle License - First Financial Bank-Walk & Roll

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

AGENDA #6 “CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA” Councilman Foster moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. 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 City received a letter from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources indicating they received the City’s recent billing for the boat dock and ramp project. The bill for \$48,000 has been reviewed and approved. This money should be received within 30 working days.

The Park Department is disassembling the decorative light poles in the City Park for sandblasting and painting. They will also be installing new toilet partitions at the East Fork Lake boat launch restrooms.

The work at the intersection of Mapledale and Brentwood has been completed. The Street Department replaced a culvert and did some concrete work to allow for a larger turn radius.

#### AGENDA #9 “NEW BUSINESS”

9-A “Resolution: DCEO Revised Boone Street Grant Agreement” A revised grant agreement for upgrades to the storm sewer in the Boone Street drainage area is necessary so the grant number can be changed. The terms of the grant agreement are the same as the grant agreement previously approved. The term of the grant ends on September 30, 2013. The grant total is \$294,945.00 consisting of \$16,695.00 for administration and \$278,250.00 for construction. Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission will administer the grant. The City’s match is \$92,750.00 resulting in a total project cost of \$387,695.

Councilman Brown questioned if the City’s match could be in the form of labor. Mr. Taylor answered no, due to the nature of the work that will be done, the construction will be contracted. During this fiscal year \$75,000 was budgeted for Boone Street improvements. About \$20,000 of this money will be spent for additional concrete cloth to be used in this area.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve Resolution 2012-R-09, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. A majority voice vote was received.

9-B “Discussion: Engineering Firm For Boone Street Drainage Project” The City requested statements of qualifications from engineering firms for the Boone Street Drainage Project. Three statements of qualifications were received: Milano & Grunloh Engineers, LLC from Effingham, Illinois; Hurst-Rosche Engineers, Inc. from Hillsboro, Illinois and Charleston Engineering, Inc. from Olney, Illinois. After reviewing the statements of qualifications, Mr. Taylor recommended that the City negotiate a contract with Charleston Engineering, Inc. because of the firm’s familiarity with the history of the drainage problems in the area, the work already done in the area and the studies that have been prepared, as well as the existing relationship with the City of Olney and its location.

Mr. Taylor plans to have an engineering agreement to the Council at the next meeting.

Councilman Foster moved to accept the City Manager’s recommendation to negotiate with Charleston Engineering for engineering services for the Boone Street Drainage Project, seconded by Councilman Ferguson.

Brian O’Neill stated this project needs to be done right this time to save tax payers’ money.

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

9-C “Discussion: LED Street Light Rebate Program” Sarah Mann with Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission advised Mr. Taylor that the rebate for LED street lights may be reduced in June 2012. Currently, the rebate is \$159 per light. Jay Scott estimates that the cost of replacing the 80 lights on Whittle Avenue and Main Street will be approximately \$500 per light. The City will also need to spend approximately \$1,000 to install three disconnects so that the city crews can work on the lights without them being hot. If the wiring along Main Street and Whittle Avenue is in good condition, they will not have to replace it because the demand on the wiring is less with the LED lights. However, there may be some wiring that is not in good condition that may need to be replaced at some time. If this project is approved, the Council needs to amend the budget to provide approximately \$41,000 for the purchase of the lights and the installation of the disconnects. There is \$24,500 left in the contingency line item. There is also approximately \$50,000 left in the Boone Street Drainage line item.

Councilman Ferguson asked about the cost return. Mr. Taylor explained the cost to the City after the rebate will be \$27,280. Energy savings will be \$6,000 per year. The project will have a 4.5 year pay back.

The Council discussed whether this grant should be submitted now or wait to see how the budget looks. Mrs. Stennett thought the grant application needs to be submitted soon to receive the maximum amount of a rebate and complete the project before the deadline.

City crews will provide the labor. Councilman Foster questioned if there were enough crews that could be freed up to complete the project.

Councilman Foster moved to pursue the LED street light grant.

Mr. Taylor commented that a budget amendment will be needed when the materials are purchased. Councilman Brown questioned the standards for LED’s.

Councilman Brown seconded Councilman Foster’s motion. A majority voice vote was received.

9-D “Resolution: US Weight, Inc. Grant Agreement” Mr. Taylor prepared a grant agreement for the Council’s consideration. This grant is to assist US Weight, Inc., doing business as Escalade Sports, for the purchase of equipment associated with a new product line. The grant will be in the amount of \$60,000. US Weight, Inc. is expected to employ at least 27 additional employees as a result of the manufacturing of additional products in its manufacturing facility at 4594 E. Radio Tower Lane. US Weight, Inc. will maintain an employment level of at least 50 permanent employees for a period of two years beginning July 1, 2012. Financial sanctions should be imposed if US Weight, Inc. fails to fulfill the employment obligation. US Weight, Inc. will be required to reimburse the City \$2,500 each month they do not maintain the

required employment levels. They will be required to provide employment evidence through their quarterly employment reports.

The proposed resolution authorizes the execution of the grant agreement and amends the General Corporate budget for \$60,000.

Councilman Ferguson questioned if US Weight, Inc. has seen this agreement. Mr. Taylor indicated US Weight, Inc. has reviewed and approved the agreement.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve Resolution 2012-R-10, seconded by Councilman Brown. Mayor Lambird, Councilwoman Thomas, Councilmen Foster, Brown and Ferguson voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

#### AGENDA #10 “OLD BUSINESS”

10-A “Discussion: Club Liquor License” Mr. Taylor prepared two possible changes to the Liquor Code. Each includes a proposed Class D-S liquor license which would allow the clubs to sell alcoholic liquor at retail for certain types of events that are open to the public. Option 1 would permit such sales at state-licensed bingo and casino night events and events that are held for the purpose of raising funds for charitable organizations, other than the club itself, or for the benefit of specific families or an individual. There would be an annual fee of \$100. Option 2 is similar to the first proposal, except that it would permit the club to have no more than one event open to the public per week which is not covered by the bingo, casino night or fund-raising events.

Councilman Ferguson asked what happens if nothing is done. Mayor Lambird commented the clubs will be in violation if nothing is changed. Councilman Foster asked if the Class D license can be changed without creating a D-S class. Mr. Taylor explained that state statutes define a club as accommodating members and their guests. If the clubs go beyond this definition, the City needs to create an additional license.

Councilman Foster suggested creating a D-S license with no fee. Councilman Brown suggested repricing the Class D license to \$700 and create the Class D-S for \$100.

Councilman Foster was in favor of Councilman Brown’s pricing proposal and preferred option 1 of the proposed ordinances. Mr. Taylor explained the differences between option 1 and option 2. Option 2 would allow a club to have one other type of event per week that is open to the public.

Hank Ginder explained the reason the Knights of Columbus have their fish fries is to raise money to keep their building open.

Councilman Ferguson moved to pass option 1 of the proposed ordinance, but delete “other than the license holder,” seconded by Councilman Foster. A majority voice vote was received. Ordinance 2012-06 will be prepared.

Councilman Brown moved effective May 15 to amend the cost of a Class D liquor to \$700, seconded by Councilman Foster. A majority voice vote was received. Ordinance 2012-07 will be prepared.

10-B “Discussion: Concession Stand Lease” Mr. Taylor made some additional revisions to the proposed concession stand lease for the Council to consider. One of the changes was in respect to the kind of events the concession would serve as well as other league sponsored athletic events upon not less than 48 hours notice of the event given to the operator of the concession stand. If the concession stand is not open for a required event, the league sponsoring the athletic event will be paid \$100 per day by the lessee or the concessionaire as a penalty for failure to open.

The Olney Little League has expressed interest in leasing the concession stand for \$300 a month during May, June and July. This fee includes electricity for the concession stand. This has not been included in the proposed lease agreement.

Councilman Foster talked to Brad Doll and understood his reasoning for wanting Della Budde to operate the concession stand. Olney Little League wants to control the prices of the concessions so they can be afforded. Councilman Foster still believes the Council needs to consider other options before a decision is made. He believed the City would be ahead if the operation of the concession stand was bid out. He wanted to make sure the concession stand is open for the girls’ and boys’ games in addition to tournaments.

Councilman Foster explained how Jasper, Indiana runs their concession stand at their park. They hire a manager and all the workers are volunteers. Profits at the end of the year are divided 65% to the boys’ league, 25% to the girls’ and 10% to the city. Councilman Foster thought something similar could be worked out in Olney.

Mayor Lambird pointed out a decision needs to be made quickly. He suggested a meeting with representatives from Little League and Girls’ Softball League, Babe Ruth and the Council.

Councilman Ferguson believes the City needs to have some sort of guideline for parking especially for out of town tournaments. Mayor Lambird was fine with the leagues charging for parking if the fees go to help finance the teams.

Councilman Foster and Mayor Lambird agreed to meet with the leagues. Councilman Foster requested an update on the progress of the ball park complex and what their plans are for the remaining money.

Mayor Lambird reported that the rest of lights have been set. The Babe Ruth lights have been ordered. The interior of the concession stand is progressing.

AGENDA #11 “PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS”

11-A “Healthcare and Debt/Governor Quinn” Brian O’Neill discussed Governor Quinn’s budget. He stated Governor Quinn is to blame for the state’s debt. Mr. O’Neill expressed concern for individuals in institutions that the Governor plans to close. Governor Quinn is not approaching the debt problem the way Mr. O’Neill would. Mr. O’Neill believed people with disabilities should be able to work without limitations.

AGENDA #12 “REPORT FROM THE MAYOR”

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

Mayor Lambird congratulated Rural King on their new facility, Escalade Sports with their expansion of a new project line and good luck to the Olney Tigers.

AGENDA #13 “REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS” Councilman Foster expressed his concern about the Rotary Park bathroom doors. They are rusted and cannot be closed. This facility needs to be improved if possible. Also, the lights in the entrance ceiling need to be repaired. People are still driving through the grass and tearing up the grounds. He commented it was a sad state of affairs when people tear up property for the fun of tearing up things. He suggested a surveillance system to help stop the vandalism. He also asked the neighbors to report any suspicious activity.

Councilman Brown asked Mr. Taylor to look into the expense of installing wi-fi at the City Park. Mayor Lambird noted that New Wave has agreed to provide wi-fi free of charge at Musgrove Park.

AGENDA #14 “CLOSED SESSION: SALE PRICE OF REAL PROPERTY, ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY, COMPENSATION AND APPOINTMENT OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES AND COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS” Councilman Foster moved to adjourn to closed session to discuss the sale price of real property, acquisition of real property, compensation and appointment of specific employees and collective negotiating matters, seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. A majority voice vote was received.

Councilmen Foster, Brown and Ferguson, Councilwoman Thomas, Mayor Lambird, City Attorney /City Manager Taylor and City Clerk Henton left the Council Chambers at 8:40 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 9:59 p.m.

AGENDA #17 “ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION” No action was taken as a result of the closed session.

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

The meeting of the City Council adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Belinda C. Henton  
City Clerk