

CITY OF OLNEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2011

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The February 28, 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. Larry Weber led the group in a prayer.

AGENDA #3 “ROLL CALL” The following Council members were present: Gary Foster, Brad Brown, Pete Weber, Bob Ferguson and Mark Lambird. Also present were City Manager Randy Bukas, City Attorney Larry Taylor, City Engineer Roger Charleston, City Treasurer Brad Yockey and City Clerk Belinda Henton.

AGENDA #4 “PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA”

4-A Approve Minutes of Council Meeting on February 14, 2011

4-B Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable March 1, 2011-Pooled Cash
\$37,932.67

4-C Raffle Application - Olney Lions Club Foundation, Inc.

4-D Raffle Application-Trinity Lutheran Church-Relay for Life

4-E Raffle Application-Olney Little League

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 Weber. A unanimous 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 - Status Report” Mr. Bukas reported that background checks are being conducted on the top two candidates being considered for the two firefighter positions. Checks should be completed by the end of this week.

The grant application for the Boone Street Drainage Project Phase II has been submitted to DCEO.

Residents are being allowed to opt-out of curbside recycling until March 31. Residents are being reminded that the recycling bins need to be set out at the curb by 6:00 a.m.

The oil burning furnace has been installed and is working in the Mechanic's shop.

Councilman Ferguson questioned the status of the City's reimbursement from EDA for the East Industrial Park. Mr. Bukas was informed by Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission that EDA has drafted a letter which is being reviewed. The reimbursement is expected at any time.

8-B "City Manager - Appointment of Fire Chief" Mr. Bukas announced that Rusty Holmes will be appointed as Fire Chief effective April 1, 2011. Norm Bissey will be retiring as of March 31, 2011. Mr. Holmes has been a firefighter with the City of Olney since August 2, 1987.

8-C "City Treasurer - Financial Report" Mr. Yockey presented his monthly financial report. As of January 31, the total revenues minus expenses for General Corporate was \$67,201.73 compared to a year ago of \$95,714.74.

The total revenues minus expenses for the Water Fund was \$113,536.56 compared to a year ago of \$65,450.58.

The total revenues minus expenses for the Sewer Fund was \$113,364.00 compared to a year ago of \$68,301.48. There are still a few bills that need to be paid for the Park Lift Station.

Mr. Yockey noted some items of interest. As of January 25, 2011, the total sales and use tax was \$1,360,247.84 as compared to the same time last year of \$1,292,525.09. The sales and use tax budget is \$36,467.85 above budget for the year.

The total income tax as of February 25 was \$627,290.40 as compared to the same time last year of \$514,290.66. The income tax budget is \$48,983.44 above budget for this year. Currently, the state is only two payments behind.

As of February 25, 2011, the telecommunications tax total was \$149,495.22 as compared to the same time last year of \$153,725.42 which is \$14,202.43 below budget for this year.

The Council also received a spreadsheet detailing General Corporate, Water and Sewer year to date revenues and expenses compared to last year.

8-D "City Attorney - Joint Review Board Report" The Council was provided with the minutes from the February 15, 2011 Joint Review Board meeting. Mr. Taylor explained the purpose of the meeting was for the representatives from the various taxing bodies to review, discuss and evaluate the proposed TIF plan and determine if the statutory requirements have been achieved. The proposed TIF district includes 481 acres. Mr. Weber from PGAV explained during the Joint Review Board meeting the eligibility requirements. The proposed area does meet the requirements. The budget for the proposed district is set at \$15,000,000. Three ordinances were presented for review to the Joint Review Board and will eventually be presented to the Council when the TIF district is being considered for approval. A public hearing is

scheduled for March 8 at which time public input will be received. The Joint Review Board unanimously voted to recommend approval of the plan.

AGENDA #9 “NEW BUSINESS”

9-A “Ordinance: Utz/Jones/St. Joseph Annexations” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance annexing 36.75 acres which includes property owned by Fred and Patricia Utz; St. Joseph Catholic Church; Steve and Jane Jones and CSX Transportation, Inc. These properties are wholly surrounded by the corporate limits and all statute requirements have been met.

Fred Utz asked if a plat of his property that is being annexed was available for review. Mr. Utz was provided with a copy of the plat attached to the proposed ordinance. Mr. Utz asked the cost of the city tax. Mr. Taylor explained it will be approximately 25%, but will be based on the tax levy which varies. Mr. Utz asked if he could connect to city water. Mr. Taylor replied it was very likely.

Councilman Foster moved to pass Ordinance 2011-07, seconded by Councilman Weber. Councilmen Brown, Weber, Ferguson, Mayor Lambird and Councilman Foster voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

9-B “Ordinance: Amending Olney Industry TIF District” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance amending the U.S. Route 50 TIF District. With the potential creation of the State Route 130 TIF Corridor, the Council was asked to withdraw The Holiday Motel from the U.S. Route 50 TIF district and incorporate it in the proposed TIF district. The U.S. Route 50 and State Route 130 districts will be adjoining. It is possible to share money between the two districts. This amendment will benefit the new TIF district because of the assessed value of The Holiday.

Councilman Ferguson moved to pass Ordinance 2011-08, seconded by Councilman Weber. Councilmen Weber, Ferguson, Mayor Lambird, Councilmen Foster and Brown voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

9-C “Ordinance: Amending Fire Chief Salary” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance setting the salary for the Fire Chief at \$60,000 per year effective April 1, 2011. Appointing a full time Fire Chief will be a part of the reorganization in the Fire Department.

Councilman Foster moved to pass Ordinance 2011-09, seconded by Councilman Weber. Councilman Ferguson, Mayor Lambird, Councilmen Foster, Brown and Weber voted yes. There were no opposing votes. The motion carried.

9-D “Resolution: Accept Bid for Purchase of Fixtures and Ballasts” The City has received approval for a grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to retrofit T-12 to T-8 lighting fixtures in all the Public Works facilities and City Hall. Two quotes were received with the lower being received from J. D. Hurn & Son from Olney in the amount of

\$18,240.28. The City's cost will be \$4,942.28 and City crews will do the work. Staff recommended approved of the lowest quote.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve Resolution 2011-R-08, seconded by Councilman Brown.

Councilman Weber questioned why only two quotes were received, but was happy the purchases would be local.

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

AGENDA #10 "OLD BUSINESS"

10-A "Ordinance: Regulating Trailer Parks" The Council was provided with a revised ordinance regulating trailer parks. The revisions relate to reinspection fees and trailer park owners being required to supply their state license and most recent state license inspection report when applying or reapplying for a trailer park license. It would not be necessary for the City to reinspect the park unless there are complaints or deficiencies noted in the state inspection. The reinspection would cost \$50 and \$5 for each lot in violation.

All trailer park owners were sent the original proposal after the last meeting, but not with the two minor changes made since. Only one trailer park owner contacted Mr. Taylor concerning the proposed ordinance.

Councilman Brown requested a decision be delayed until all trailer park owners are provided with the latest proposal.

10-B "Ordinance: Amend Requirements to Extend or Continue Utilities Outside City Limits" At the last meeting the Council tabled the proposed ordinance amending requirements to extend utilities outside city limits to allow time for review. Mr. Taylor explained annexation agreements are good for 20 years, and they are costly to publish and time consuming. The proposed change would make the process easier and homeowners wanting utility services would be on more of a contractual basis. The contracts will require that customers pay on time or they will be subject to termination. If properties with a contract for services become contiguous, they would have three months to petition for annexation. If they choose not to annex, they would be subject to termination of services.

Councilman Brown asked if this process could be waived or services could be extended without annexation. Mr. Taylor had a problem treating individual customers differently, but water districts would be different than individual customers.

Councilman Weber stated the City has few tools for annexation except the extension of utility services. He felt this was a good, standard agreement.

The Council discussed the merits of extending water services to residents around Vernor Lake, Borah Lake and on the north side of East Fork Lake.

Councilman Foster moved to pass Ordinance 2011-10, seconded by Councilman Weber. Councilmen Foster, Weber, Ferguson and Mayor Lambird voted yes. Councilman Brown voted no. The motion carried.

10-C “Discussion: Maple Dale Cemetery Plot Plan” The Council was provided with two plot plans for the Maple Dale Cemetery expansion project which will consist of 1.5 acres. Mr. Bukas described both plans and felt alternate 1 would be more serviceable because there is an U-shaped road accessing the expansion area. Alternate 1 allows for 213 lots whereas alternative 2 allows for 220 lots.

Councilman Foster questioned drainage in the new area. Mr. Charleston explained surface drainage and grade improvements could be used because there are no storm sewers in this area. He suggested that the tree line on the south side of this area, between the cemetery and the residential housing, should be preserved as a barrier.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve alternative 1 plot plan for Maple Dale Cemetery, seconded by Councilman Brown. A unanimous voice vote was received.

10-D “Discussion: Combined Dispatch” Mr. Taylor reviewed the two combined dispatch agreements.

In both agreements combined dispatch will be housed at the Richland County Detention Center. The first agreement will be managed by the Richland County Emergency Telephone System Board. The proposed agreement includes provisions for reorganizing that board which will consist of seven members. Three members will represent the City of Olney which will include one member from the Police Department, one from the Fire Department and one member recommended by the Council. Three members will represent Richland County and one member will be a member from the public. The agreement also stipulates there will be not less than three positions and coordinated dispatching staff providing two telecommunicators on duty twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The agreement does not dictate how many full-time or part-time telecommunicators are to be used. The agreement is for an indeterminate length of time and can be terminated by either party with a six-month notice.

The ETSB will contribute \$50,000 in each fiscal year toward the operations of the joint dispatch center which is in addition to equipment costs. Richland County will contribute funds received from Richland Memorial Hospital for dispatch services toward the operations of the joint dispatch center. The City of Olney and Richland County will be responsible for the remaining operations budget and expenses of the joint dispatch center on an equal basis. Funding for the joint dispatch center for each fiscal year beginning December 1, 2012 will consist of funds from Richland Memorial Hospital for dispatch services and the remaining operating budget and expenses for the center will be shared on a pro-rata basis between the ETSB, the City of Olney and Richland County based on call volume for the one-year period

ending September 30. The ETSB's pro-rata share will be the ratio of all 911 calls, excluding ambulance calls. The City's pro-rata share will be the ratio of all non-911 calls, excluding ambulance calls, resulting in a call for service within the corporate limits of Olney. Richland County's pro-rata share will be the ratio of all non-911 calls, excluding ambulance calls, resulting in a call for service in Richland County.

The parties specifically agree that all full-time telecommunicators with Richland County and the City of Olney will be extended an offer of full-time employment by the ETSB. Salaries will remain the same until the expiration of the Richland County Sheriff's Department's FOP contract for telecommunicators on November 30, 2011. After that time salaries will be negotiated by the ETSB.

The proposed agreement also includes protocol for handing complaints.

The second proposed agreement proposes that the Richland County Joint Emergency Dispatch System will oversee the operations of the dispatch center. The JEDS Board would consist of two City representatives, two Richland County representatives and one member to chair the board and vote on ties. The number of positions and terms are the same. The lead agency would be Richland County who would be responsible for day to day operations of the dispatch center. Salaries and benefits would be the same as in the first proposed agreement.

Councilman Brown questioned the cost saving if the center if manned by two telecommunicators twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Mr. Bukas commented it would depend on whom they employ and whether they are full-time or part-time. Councilman Brown felt the agreement would be better if it did not stipulate how many telecommunicators are on duty at all times.

Councilman Foster commented if telecommunicators are dropped below two on duty twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week it is going to drop protection considerably for the citizens of Olney. He believed that was the only way to saving money by combining dispatch centers, but he was not prepared to save money at the risk of lives.

Councilman Weber commented that reducing overtime would be a huge cost savings. Also with the proposed changes to the Emergency Telephone System Board it will become a trustworthy body to run an economical, well-managed dispatch center. He preferred the agreement to require two telecommunicators on duty at all times.

Currently, the City only has one representative on the Richland County Emergency Telephone System Board.

Richland County Board Chairman Leo Ledeker was present and expressed his opinion on the proposed agreements. He favored the agreement with the Richland County Emergency Telephone System Board managing the joint dispatch center, but he was not in total agreement of requiring two telecommunicators on duty at all times.

Councilman Brown believed the Richland County Emergency Telephone System Board should make the decision on how many telecommunicators are needed to run the dispatch center.

Council Brown moved to approve the proposed agreement between the City of Olney and Richland Emergency Telephone System Board with the deletion of a portion of Section 3 requiring two telecommunicators on duty twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. Councilmen Weber and Foster voted no. Councilman Ferguson, Mayor Lambird and Councilman Brown voted yes. The motion carried.

AGENDA #11 “Public Comments/Presentations”

11-A “Request: Use of City Park for Shrine Circus” Galen Schwartz representing the Olney Center Shrine Club requested the use of the City Park on June 8, 2011 for the Shrine Circus. Last year the City required \$2,000,000 of liability coverage for the event. Mr. Schwartz reported that permission has been received from the fair board to use their facilities. All children involved in boys’ or girls’ ball leagues will be given a free ticket to the circus.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve the request for the use of the City Park on June 8, 2011 for the Shrine Circus, seconded by Councilman Foster. A unanimous voice vote was received.

Elizabeth Craig questioned what is being done about a street sweeper. She reported problems with residents blowing grass and leaves into the street causing gutters to clog. She felt residents should be responsible for maintaining gutters in front of their homes.

George Young expressed his concern again about cats being allowed to run at large. The cats in his neighborhood are chasing the squirrels and they are disappearing. Councilman Foster agreed the same thing is happening in his neighborhood.

Mayor Lambird asked Mr. Taylor if he was any closer to drafting an ordinance restricting the feeding of cats and dogs outside. Mr. Taylor indicated one could be prepared. Councilman Foster pointed out the ordinance prohibiting cats from running at large is not being enforced.

Animal Control Officer Sandy Millman reported they have been setting traps, but she has a limited amount of space. Because of the limited space, some cats may have to be euthanized before the allowable time. She was concerned with getting sued if an owner came to claim their cat and it had been euthanized.

Councilman Ferguson asked if dogs would be held the required days. Ms. Millman explained she has foster care for dogs, but not for cats.

Councilman Foster stated something has to be done about cats running at large, the situation is getting way out of hand. Ms. Millman commented foxes also kill squirrels. Councilman Foster acknowledged that fact, but pointed out something can be done with cats running at large according to the ordinance.

Angie Allen addressed the Council concerning the street and ditch in the 700 block of E. Locust. Mrs. Allen explained this street is heavily traveled by many. The street width is decreasing because of the ditch. It is hard to see the edge of the road when it is snow covered. She asked for the City's consideration to improve the street in this area. Mr. Bukas reported he and the Street Department Supervisor have discussed installing a culvert with catch basins to improve the conditions.

AGENDA #12 "REPORT FROM THE MAYOR" Mayor Lambird reported that the U.S. Census revealed that Olney experienced more than a 5% growth since 2000 which is something few other Illinois communities experienced. Olney needs to be commended for being a place people want to live.

AGENDA #13 "REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS" The Councilmen had nothing further to report.

AGENDA #14 "ADJOURN" Councilman Weber moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Foster. A unanimous voice vote was received.

The meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Belinda C. Henton
City Clerk