

July 5, 2017

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting July 5, 2017 at City Hall. Mayor Rex McIntire called the meeting to order, with the following council members present: Freddie Andrews, Ron Bell, Lawrence Coultas, Randy Fisher, Steve Hoots and City Clerk, Brenda Robinson. Bill Jacquot was absent.

Also in attendance were: Barb Hoots, Deputy City Clerk; Amy Brown, City Treasurer; George Lindsey, Police Chief; John Coonrod, City Attorney; Carmen Ensinger, *Scott County Times*; Reg Benton, Benton & Associates; Chuck Frost, Winchester Civic Group; Larry Robinson, Donna Lawrence and Toby Hammond.

MOTION: Steve Hoots moved and Freddie Andrews seconded to pay bills as presented. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Steve Hoots moved and Randy Fisher seconded to approve the minutes for the squad car public hearing prior to the regular council meeting. Roll call resulted in four (4) yeas and one (1) abstention. Freddie Andrews abstained. Motion carried.

MOTION: Randy Fisher moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to approve and dispense of the reading of the minutes from the June 7, 2017 council meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Chuck Frost, Civic Group gave an update on what is going on. They have applied for 501(c)(3) and received notification their application has been accepted but not approved. After receiving the tax exempt status they can receive gifts. Frost stated the group plans remapping the city. It has not been remapped since 1997. He will check with Rushville about the mapping.

They have started putting the light poles in Douglas Park. The city workers think they can do the wiring on the poles. They would like to get benches in Monument Park to match what is in Douglas Park with trash containers to match. The music in the park has been having good crowds around 110 - 120 a week. Last week it was down some, but it may have been the heat. After the music in the park next week there will be a 2 ½-mile glow run/walk. Cost is \$10 to participate. He is hoping someone will buy the hotel. (Mayor McIntire said someone with deep pockets needs to step forward to purchase the hotel. He has shown it to a couple people.) They have been marketing it along with other buildings. Need to increase tourism around town. There is an educational garden at the school. Events coming up are Paint the Town with owner's permission. This is for buildings that need a touch up. Murals on the old Times Office; Pat VanDeVelde has given permission for the group to put one there. The Civic Group usually meets the 3rd Thursday of the month but with music in the park, it has been moved to the 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m. at Sibert Hall. Everyone is invited to attend. A haunted house is planned again and a night at the museum is planned for November. An online survey about a co-op grocery

store has had some good interest. The final results of the survey have not been completed. There have been positive comments on the farmers market and music in the park.

Mayor McIntire said they hope to hear about the USDA grant in early July. This will help spruce up the square and buildings around the square. There has been a lot of activity around the square: the old post office has a new owner; the old barber shop has been updated; and Odd Fellows have spruced up their building. McIntire said they were looking into getting plaques in Douglas Park to honor Stephen Douglas, like the Lincoln plaque.

Reg Benton, Benton & Associates passed out copies of the MFT program. This is similar to last year's. The amount is \$62,632. This amount includes the engineering fee of \$3,000. The program is for January 1 to December 31, 2017. MFT funds for cities are per capita and MFT funds for county are per mileage.

MOTION: Steve Hoots moved and Ron Bell seconded to approve the MFT Resolution for Maintenance agreement for \$63,000. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Freddie Andrews moved and Steve Hoots seconded to approve the preliminary engineering agreement for \$3,000. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Brenda Robinson talked about her neighbor parking his vehicles in his front yard and it blocks the view of them coming out of their driveway. Hammond said all we had to do was ask him to move them. He also stated he has some vehicles in his back yard that he is working on for a friend. Police Chief George Lindsey went down and talked to him about parking in the street. She stated there were several in town doing the same thing. Hammond ask if he moved the vehicles down one if that would be okay. Mayor McIntire said "no you cannot park out front and on the sidewalks". McIntire said the police would have to keep an eye on this.

Mayor McIntire said every year Neighborhood Guys and Gals 4-H Club plant and water flowers in the parks and in return the city gives them a pool party for their help.

MOTION: Freddie Andrews moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to give Neighborhood Guys and Gals 4-H club a pool party for planting and taking care of the flowers in the city parks. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

McIntire stated tomorrow, July 6, would be Eric Tuey's last day as the animal control officer. It was discussed about maybe contacting the county commissioners and work out a deal with them. It was stated we may have to pay more to get someone to take the job.

The city employees are pouring the bases for the new lights in Douglas Park. They think they can wire the lights up as well as install them.

McIntire said he had talked to Pam Hembrough about the Shive property west of city hall. They are meeting with their lawyer later in the week and would get back with him. McIntire said it would behoove the city to purchase, then they would own the whole block.

McIntire said the old First State Bank building was for sale. The purchasing committee should meet and then schedule an appointment to look at the building.

The 2005 police car has been sitting for 2 months and needs to be fixed. According to Police Chief Lindsey antifreeze has leaked into the front floorboard of the car. He had talked to Marshall's about fixing it. They would have to remove the carpet and seats then clean up the antifreeze. Then put down new carpet and replace the seats. Cost to do this would be \$800. Lawrence Coultas said he thought it was a waste of money.

MOTION: Randy Fisher moved and Ron Bell seconded to fix the 2005 police car with new carpet for the estimate cost of \$800. Roll call resulted in five (5) yeas and one (1) nay. Lawrence Coultas voted nay. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire passed around an estimate to put a white privacy fence on city property (cost \$1,100.27) at South Main Street to keep people and kids out of the gravel piles. There was discussion that the gravel would be moved to the water plant. It was decided to table for next month in case the city would purchase the Shive property.

John Coonrod, City Attorney passed out an ordinance regarding expense reimbursement. This ordinance is an ordinance establishing regulations with respect to allowable travel, meal and lodging expenses. This ordinance would have a maximum of \$1,200 a trip, which would include hotel, meals, parking and travel. Receipts shall be submitted within fourteen (14) days after expenses are incurred. The IML annual meeting is Sept. 21-23 in Chicago.

MOTION: Freddie Andrews moved and Randy Fisher seconded to pass Ordinance 851 – An Ordinance Establishing Regulations with Respect to Allowable Travel, Meal, and Lodging Expenses. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Coonrod presented the prevailing wage ordinance.

MOTION: Lawrence Coultas moved and Freddie Andrews seconded to pass Ordinance 852 – A Prevailing Wage Ordinance of the City of Winchester, Scott County, Illinois. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Coonrod went over resolution for the smoke free policy. This policy will encompass all city owned outdoor properties.

MOTION: Freddie Andrews moved and Steve Hoots seconded to adopt Resolution 2017-07-01 – A Resolution Approving the City of Winchester Smoke-Free Policy Outdoor Recreational Facilities. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Coonrod stated the Maberry's have finally agreed to sign a revised easement for East Hardin Street sewer repairs. The old oak tree is the main concern. The city will try to save the old tree. Brenda Robinson said she knew of someone that could give the city information so they could try to save the tree. John Simmons and Allan Maberry will mark off the 12-foot center line.

MOTION: Steve Hoots moved and Randy Fisher seconded the motion on signing the easement for the Maberry property and move forward. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Coonrod gave an update on the Dobson property. The ad was republished last week. Sealed bids are due by 4 p.m. on August 1 and will be opened at the August council meeting.

Coonrod reported on the dangerous dog compliance. An administrative hearing was held in September of 2016 and the dog was declared to be dangerous. In March of 2017, all three parties were fined for non-compliance and paid fines of \$100 each but still did not comply with the ordinance. Each day of non-compliance can be considered a separate offense. On June 15th a hearing was held on Christina Savage. She was fined \$200, plus \$510 in court costs. Clayton Savage case was continued to June 26th and on that date he was fined \$200, plus \$510 in court costs. Denny Savage requested a trial which is scheduled for next week. A daily fine of \$100 could be imposed for each offense in his case.

Coonrod said he had received a request to prosecute for an inoperable vehicle parked at corner of Cherry and Lashmett Drive; it has a flat tire and no license. A notice to abate has been issued.

Amy Brown, City Treasurer passed out her monthly financial report. Brown said the salt shed loan is coming up and plans are to refinance \$46,000 at 3.25% at Farmers State Bank. The original cost was \$65,035. Brown said the Chris Parker and Alex Brown have paid the city for their hay bales for their first cut of the season.

ALDERMEN REPORTS:

Lawrence Coultas talked about the purchase of the mini excavator. The amount financed is \$50,021.22, with 2.19% at UCB. There will be a down payment of \$4,885 which could come from the water fund. A resolution will have to be prepared to take out a loan for that amount.

MOTION: Lawrence Coultas moved and Ron Bell seconded to authorize a loan for the mini excavator in the amount of \$50,021.22 from UCB at 2.19% interest. Roll call resulted in three (3) yeas and two (2) nays. Freddie Andrews and Steve Hoots voting nay. Motion carried.

Randy Fisher said he received an estimate of \$15,000 to resurface the tennis courts with 2-inch asphalt. It was discussed that maybe the Watt family would donate the money to have this fixed, since Bob Watt was an excellent tennis player and all around athlete. They were going to donate money to build an all weather track at the high school and that fell through.

Ron Bell said Randy Ford wanted him to bring up a potable water supply operators association conference that he would like for Mark Howard to attend. The conference is in Springfield, September 20-22. Cost of the conference is \$225. Mark will drive back and forth.


MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to send Mark Howard to the Potable Water Supply Operators Association Conference in Springfield, September 20-22 costing \$225. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

John Coonrod said nearly 16 years ago Mayor Retha Anders hired him as the City attorney. He now wants to step back by the end of next month and not be involved in day to day City business. He stated that Coonrod Law Office would continue to be available to serve the City with John Paul Connrod being available to handle City matters and mentioned that he had already been involved in assisting with City issues for some time. Coonrod also mentioned that the City had previously followed this procedure with Benton & Associates, as Bob Benton referred the City Engineer work to Reg Benton some time ago.

MOTION: Freddie Andrews moved and Steve Hoots seconded to adjourn the meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.



Rex McIntire, Mayor



Brenda Robinson, City Clerk