

February 7, 2018

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting February 7, 2018 at City Hall. Mayor Rex McIntire called the meeting to order, with the following council members present: Ron Bell, Lawrence Coultas, Randy Fisher, Bill Jacquot and City Clerk, Brenda Robinson.

Also in attendance were: Amy Brown, City Treasurer; George Lindsey, Police Chief; John Simmons, Supt. of Public Works; John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney; Carmen Ensinger, *Scott County Times*; Ryan Hembrough, Terry Gregory, Larry Robinson, Emery Wood and Chuck Frost, Civic Group.

Mayor McIntire stated after all the bills were reviewed and signed off on, there should be a better way to streamline the review of bills. Lawrence Coultas said they didn't do that at the school district. There is a spreadsheet and everyone looks over it and if they have questions they ask at that time. McIntire stated we had just wasted almost 25 minutes going over it. Randy Fisher suggested a spreadsheet sent out before the meeting for everyone to look over. We know Cindi Foote (auditor) said we needed to look over all the bills and sign off.

MOTION: Lawrence Coultas moved and Randy Fisher seconded to pay bills as presented. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to approve and dispense with the reading the minutes from the January 3 meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes from the January 24 meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Randy Fisher moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes from the January 29 meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire stated Freddie Andrews resigned from the council to become fire chief. At this time, I would like to appoint Terry Gregory to fulfill Freddie's seat on the council in Ward III.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to appoint Terry Gregory to fill the unexpired term of Freddie Andrews seat in Ward III. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Brenda Robinson, City Clerk gave the oath to Terry Gregory and swore her in. All the council members welcomed Terry.

Ryan Hembrough, Cub Scout leader Pack 140 asked permission to use Douglas Park on May 12 for a potluck. They will be inviting packs from the surrounding area. The boys will have a cooking experience beginning in the early a.m. and ending around 3 p.m. They will have recipes and even cook desserts. Jacksonville has 1 or 2 packs, Greenfield has 1 pact and Pittsfield has 1, that will be invited.

MOTION: Randy Fisher moved and Ron Bell seconded to allow Cub Scout Pack 140 use Douglas Park, May 12 for a cooking event. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Chuck Frost, Civic Group addressed the council stating the group were postponing the Mapping project until next month. He was asked what surrounding town would be most comparable to Winchester. Some towns mentioned were Virginia, Rushville, White Hall, Barry, Roodhouse. The council decided Virginia was most like Winchester, since it was the county seat. The Civic Group will discuss this at their meeting next Wednesday. The mapping will begin March 14, 21, 28, April 4 & 11. They need 40 – 60 people to help with the mapping as well as everyone's input and the meeting will be 6 – 9 p.m. with a meal served. The mapping people will come the week before the carnival with their final report. We need to move the town to the future.

Frost will be attending the Annual Rural Community & Economic Development Conference in Springfield, March 7 & 8. The cost of this conference is \$160. He urged any council members to attend. One of the sessions is Creative Uses of Buildings in Small Towns, Designing our Future to New Heights, Repurposing Downtown Buildings and Tax Finance. Last year he attended the session on Coop Grocery Stores. Several state and federal agencies will be in attendance. The meeting will be 9 am to 5:15 pm. These sessions are a good program for success.

Music in the park will begin Thursday, June 7 and run for 9 weeks. The Farmer's Market will begin in May and run every Thursday until October. Frost would like to get better signage to let people know about it on the square.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

George Lindsey, Police Chief passed out his monthly report as well as the report from the Animal Control Officer. Police report is as follows: Suspicious vehicles – 6; Well-being checks 4; Speak to officer – 7; Noise complaints – 2; Domestic – 3; Repo vehicle (stand by) – 1; Battery – 1; Arrest W/warrant – 1; Theft – 3; Burglar alarm – 2; Civil matters – 2.

Animal Control Officer report: Dog calls received – 8 – none to vet; Cat calls - 1 – none to vet; Other – 1 skunk.

McIntire said Bruce Dahman had come to him and said he had cleaned up the property on Cherry St. and wanted George to stay on top of it. McIntire commended Bruce Dahman for cleaning up the mess at his own expense.

Randy Fisher told Lindsey there was a lot of traffic behind the pool and he said they were aware of it and are checking it out.

Bill Jacquot said some firewood had been stolen in the neighborhood. Lindsey said he was on top of it. There was a mix-up and the person who took it thought it was ok. Problem solved. **Lindsey** said the new police car is nice and is the most hi-tech car in the county.

John Simmons, Supt of Public Works said he would like to attend the Gas Utilities Alliance (GUA) in Springfield, March 22 at the Northfield Inn. He would like for Leland to attend also. The cost to attend is \$100 per person. Deadline to sign up is February 28.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Terry Gregory approved for 2 city employees to attend the GUA meeting in Springfield, March 22, 8:30 am – 3:00 pm. Cost is \$100 per person. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Simmons said he had ordered the Public Works magazine for several council members. This month there was a good article in it about Public Works employees, which he gave each one a copy.

Simmons said the guy from USDI, gas management has been in town and has to evaluate each employee that works with gas. He spent the last 2 days with Bill McNeece and will be going with Mark. If everyone does not pass, they will not be able to work with the gas.

Simmons was asked how many burst pipes they had. He said surprisingly not that many. There was a hydrant that had a line come loose.

McIntire said John Simmons had a double knee replacement on Dec. 1 and returned to light duty on January 16. McIntire thought that was amazing.

Mayor Rex McIntire said there were still Christmas trees in Douglas Park. He talked to Tina Brown and they had sold the trees as a fund raiser and some of the people did not want their trees. They wanted to donate them to the city to plant around the town. It was suggested to plant them at the softener plant as a wind break.

McIntire said the membership to the Scott County Economic Development Council is due. The annual membership is \$500. The Scott County Economic Development Council meets at noon the 1st Wednesday of the month at First National Bank meeting room. They help bring growth to the community.

MOTION: Lawrence Coultas moved and Ron Bell seconded to pay the \$500 membership fee to the Scott County Economic Development Council. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried

McIntire brought up the payment to Becky Lashmett for \$450. She served as animal control officer before Leigh Winner. She does a great service to the city. She loves animals and knows most of the dogs & owners. She covers a lot when Leigh is not around. It would be nice to support the Dog Rescue, maybe \$100 a month. He said there would be not action tonight. Terry Gregory asked if the owners had to pay a fine when their dogs are picked up. If she doesn't have to board them there is no cost.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to pay Becky Lashmett \$450 for helping when there was no animal control officer. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried. **McIntire** would like to see some reforms to the employee handbook to address accounting discrepancies. He has talked to City Attorney Coonrod, since in a small town there is a segregation of duties, which could lead to temptation. Changes need to be done in the deputy clerk's office. Perhaps there could be some proposal in the employee handbook. He would like to have a formal request. Maybe the council could direct the clerk to come up with some. He had received some information at the last IML meeting he will share.

It was brought up about getting a City credit or debit card for the guys to take when they go to a meeting. At the present time there is none. The City Clerk will look into this. It was noted there are some FS credit cards but no one know where they are. At the present time gas can be charged at Scotty's and FS during the day. Materials from the previous IML Chicago Conference on the subject are available to the clerk if wanted. McIntire said he would get Robinson the material. McIntire requested a key to the city clerk's office be presented to him.

John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney had only one (1) ordinance for council approval. It was pertaining to the city water taps. Council went over this and has some revisions, so he will bring it back next month with revisions for approval.

ALDERMAN REPORTS

Ron Bell said Randy Ford needs to go to the Watercon 2018 Water Conference in Effingham. The conference cost is \$250 and is March 19-22.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to send Randy Ford to the Watercon 2018 Water Conference in Effingham on March 19 – 22. Cost is \$250 and other incurred cost. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Bell said the water pickup needs two (2) new front tires. The state bid, from Marshall's will be about \$274.74 and may have to purchase some stems.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to purchase two (2) front tires for the 2006 water truck from Marshall's. State bid will be about \$274.74. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Randy Fisher said the money from the Tracy Foundation went into the general fund and needs to make sure it goes into the library fund. (Amy Brown, City Treasurer, said it has already been moved)

Bill Jacquot talked to John Simmons about surplus city equipment. They talked about it last year and decided it was time to list the items. Simmons had given him a handwritten list and Jacquot will get it typed up. Some of the items are as follows: 2014 John Deere 1445 4-wheel drive riding mower; 2007 John Deere 1445 2-wheel drive riding mower (may keep for extra mower); 5 push mowers; Billy Goat leaf vac; home light chainsaws; 2001 trencher; 2010 Chevy ½-ton pickup and several other items. The city will keep the 60" Gravely zero turn riding mower and 6 weed trimmers. It was decided to put ads in the Scott County Times and Greene County Shopper,

stating the city will accept sealed bids and has the right to reject any or all bids. Open the sealed bids March 7.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Randy Fisher seconded to request sealed bids on surplus equipment such as, mowing equipment, leaf vac, trencher, chainsaws; with the right to reject any or all bids. Open the bids on March 7 at the regular council meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Jacquot said an ad in the Scott County Times and Greene County Shopper is needed for mowing one (1) year for Monument Park, Douglas Park and City Library. Jacquot suggested sending letter to previous bidders.

Jacquot stated the Shive property the City recently purchased could have some items of value. There are cinder blocks (city can use) 100 amp breaker box, French doors, antique light fixtures, furnace and water heater. It was suggested having an open house with a tag sale. Again state the City has the right to reject any or all bids. Ron Bell suggested maybe taking things out of the house and taking to the Monument Park Pavilion so people can look at them. The building and grounds committee will be in charge.

Amy Brown, City Treasurer passed out her monthly report. She stated the general fund was down this month since the deposits have not been posted.

George Lindsey stated one (1) of the laptop computer had been updated so the extra help could use it since Barb's computer is not back yet.


Brenda Robinson, City Clerk, read a thank you note from the Historical Society for the donation to the Depot for gas purchase.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Terry Gregory seconded to go into executive session to discuss the purchase of the Coultas Property. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

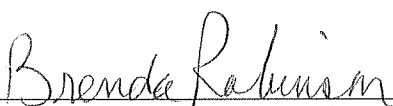
MOTION: Randy Fisher moved and Ron Bell seconded to go out of executive session. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Randy Fisher moved and Ron Bell seconded to bid up to and not to exceed \$7,500 an acre for the Coultas property tract 2 – 27.95 acres. Attorney Coonrod presented Ordinance 863 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase of Real Estate and for Borrowing of Funds. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Randy Fisher seconded to adjourn. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:08 p.m.



Rex McIntire, Mayor



Brenda Robinson, City Clerk