

September 6, 2017

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting September 6, 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, Bill Jacquot and City Clerk, Brenda Robinson.

Also in attendance were: Barb Hoots, Deputy City Clerk; Amy Brown, City Treasurer; George Lindsey, Police Chief; John Simmons, Supt. of Public Works; John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney; Carmen Ensinger, *Scott County Times*; Chuck Frost, Civic Group; and Zane Steckel.

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

MOTION: Lawrence Coultas moved and Freddie Andrews seconded to approve the minutes of the audit meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Steve Hoots moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to approve the minutes of the regular meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Zane Steckel told council he was 68 years old and had never attended a city council meeting before. He had heard the city would pay 50/50 on new sidewalks. He just recently replaced the brick sidewalk in front of his house at 171 South Main, using the bricks that were there. He was told the city workers usually do the concrete work and the homeowner pays for the concrete. The brick sidewalk is a different case. His house is one of 20 plats and is Pre-Civil War construction. A few years ago when he was working on the pillars on his front porch he found a dime dated, he thinks 1848. He thought maybe Douglas or Lincoln walked on this sidewalk. The sidewalk was in bad shape, roots were growing under it and it was a mess. The bricks were 2 to 3 inches underground. A lot of bricks were gone or broken. Mark Tipsord did the work on the bricks. The new sidewalk is 36 inches and he was able to use most of the bricks. He has 12 – 18 inches of gravel on the bottom with landscape sand. Any amount of money would be appreciated. It was very expensive, but well worth it. Ron Bell asked if he had any full bricks left and thought he might give one to museum or Historical Society. He said he could do that. As Zane left the meeting he said he could take attending a Winchester City Council meeting off his bucket list.

Chuck Frost, Civic Group – Cody Wright came to their last meeting and talked about the building that are on the National Historical Register. There are 21 houses on the registry along with downtown district and the city itself is on the register. If you rehab an old building you can get a 20% Federal tax credit, it is a little paperwork work with the State Preservation Committee but worth it. Zoning covers part of it.

Last month talked about Mapping Your Community, cost is \$2,073; this is based on population, travel to and from Macomb, poverty level. They would like some financial help. They also need around 80 or more people to help. They will form a steering committee. They hope to get started in early October. They will be sending out letters to community for help. It will take 5 weeks, 3 hours each week. The last time this was done was in 1997. They want to continue with mural on old Times office. Put it on plywood or sign board in case the building is torn down. Also, they would like to paint the revitalizing the advertisement on the old Lair Hardware building. Santa will be coming to town on Saturday after Thanksgiving and the Christmas Open House will be the first Saturday in December.

Farmers Market is dwindling down, but some new vendors; a gentleman is bringing honey. Mayor McIntire stated he might contact owner of Brandt's about fixing his storefront up. It would be nice to keep front façade on the old Dr. Hynes building.

The next Civic Group meeting will be September 21 at 7 pm at Sibert Hall. Randy Fisher asked Chuck if he had looked at the murals in White Hall; he said they looked nice.

PUBLIC COMMENT – NONE

John Simmons, Supt. of Public Works said he would like to rent Christmas lights like had been done in the past. The current ones are getting nasty and they had to spend a lot of time fixing the lights. The company comes in and puts them up then comes back and takes them down. Each year you will have different decorations. There is no good place to keep them from getting dirty. He was advised to get bids and bring back next week. Barb brought in the cost from before for 1999 cost was \$2,025; 2000 cost was \$1,965; and 2002 cost was \$2,025. Check on how long the lights will be put up and taken down.

Simmons informed council of the Cherry Street project at Donna Montgomery's. There is a 2" water line that went to Buck & Jo's and Brock's Motel (which has been torn down). Have to get a state highway permit to fix this. They will have to saw cut the road. There are lines under Cherry Street. Maybe get Benton's involved (for bid sheet) or just let the contractor know what we want done. Best way to get the job done is to go to the main line and cap it off. It was suggested bid out the project. Bill Jacquot suggested getting a construction crew to do the job. Next you need to get an IDOT permit. Meet with the Water and Sewer Committee and discuss this. Get two (2) bids, maybe from Petersburg and Roland's.

Simmons said he needs rear tires for backhoe. He had a state bid from Marshall's for \$705 each tire and this includes mounted and balanced.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to purchase two (2) rear tires for the backhoe from Marshall's for \$705 each that includes mounting and balancing. Roll call resulted in five (5) yeas and one (1) present. Freddie Andrews voted present. Motion carried.

Simmons passed out pictures of trash at a house on Cherry Street. He wished there was some way to enforce trash cleanup. They did not use the dumpster's during city wide cleanup. What can you do? It was suggested taking in a dumpster and cleaning up the mess then put a lien on the property. Make the city trash pickup mandatory. This is part of a nuisance and was suggested to send notice to abate. The city has cleaned up only two (2) properties. Judge Cherry said what is one man's trash is another man's treasure. It was suggested to use the ordinances we have on file.

John will get some bids on boring under Coultas Road. They have made several cuts across the road.

Mayor McIntire said the two (2) parking spots north of city hall will be made for handicap parking; should be done in a week or so.

The tires on the 2013 squad car are in bad shape, need all four (4) tires replaced. Waid's bid was \$275 and Marshall's was \$270.04 for same tires as on car now and with state bid would be \$105.38 each. Bid is \$420 plus balance, mounting and disposal fee.

George Lindsey said the young part-time officers have been writing tickets.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to purchase four (4) new tires for the 2013 squad car from Marshall's (state bid) is \$105.38 per tire plus balancing, mounting and tire removal, not to exceed \$550. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

McIntire said in the past years the city has contributed to the CEO program and several of the Scott County kids have benefited. The fee for 2017-2018 is \$1,000.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Freddie Andrews seconded to approve the CEO Membership for 2017-2018 program costing \$1,000. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

McIntire received a bill from the Scott County Economic Development Corp (SCED). The membership for 2018 is \$500. The last time membership paid was 2014. They provide the signs on the interstate for the city. Bill Jacquot thought it would be good for the city to be a part of the SCED Corp since we are the county seat.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Randy Fisher seconded to approve membership to the Scott County Economic Development Corp for year 2018, at the cost of \$500. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

McIntire said they had received one (1) bid for the Dobson property. John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney said a resolution was needed and it would have to be published in the newspaper again for three (3) weeks. No will be opened since we have tried this before. Bid will be due before the October council meeting.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Randy Fisher seconded to accept Resolution 2017-9-1 – A Resolution Authorizing Sale of Real Estate Located within the Corporate Limits of the City of Winchester, Illinois. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

McIntire gave council an update on Windsor homes. Someone had asked about the taxation on the properties. These houses qualify for the Pilot program. Now the actual real estate taxes on the current properties is \$6,980.58. The real estate taxes on the proposed properties are estimated to be \$14,370.50, which will be a \$7,000 increase in taxation. After fifteen (15) years they go on the regular taxation. Freddie Andrews said they dug up his property marker at the back of his lot.

Lawrence Coultas said he had people on Coultas Road call him and they are not happy with the way Windsor homes are tearing up their yards, etc. With the road being cut out at least they won't have to worry about speeding on it now.

McIntire was asked about the heating in the homes. It was stated it would be gas. Now we hear it will be all electric heat, except the water heaters will be gas. It was noted if they have electric heat, the people on Coultas Road would not be able to pay the IEC fee.

John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney presented an Intergovernmental Animal Control Agreement between the city and county. A copy of the proposed agreement was given to the county commissioners for consideration. Under the agreement, the City would pay \$200 per month and the County would pay \$300 per month for animal control services, and would each pay their share of mileage and vet bills. It was agreed that the Personnel Committee would meet and interview any applicants pending final approval of the agreement.

Coonrod presented a Request that the Zoning Board consider an amendment to the zoning code at its public hearing set for September 20, 2017. The amendment would rezone the area South of Old US Route 36, North of Nettle Creek, and West of the western boundary line of the George N. Smith subdivision as a Highway Business District, and would also amend the Highway Business District section of the zoning code to allow for mixed-use development.

MOTION: Randy Fisher moved and Steve Hoots seconded to make a proposal to the Zoning Board and authorize the mayor to sign it. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Coonrod presented an Ordinance Adopting a Drug-Free Employment Policy. Each employee will receive a copy of this and must sign and have on file in the office.

MOTION: Freddie Andrews moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to approve Ordinance 853 – An Ordinance Adopting a Drug-Free Employment Policy. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Coonrod presented an Ordinance Adopting a Policy Governing the use of Police-Worn Body Cameras. Two officers have purchased their own camera. All police officers must be aware of the policies for wearing the body camera and sign papers to that effect.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to pass Ordinance 854 – An Ordinance Adopting a Policy Governing the Use of Police-Worn Body Cameras. Roll call resulted in five (5) yeas and one (1) present. Steve Hoots voted present. Motion carried.

Coonrod talked about proposed speed limit changes on Old Route 36 and East Cherry Street. Any speed limit changes in these areas require approval by Illinois DOT. Attorney Coonrod is in contact with IDOT's Bureaus of Local Roads and Streets.

Coonrod updated council on the legal proceedings concerning the Savage family's dangerous dog and noxious odor problems. Dennis Savage was found guilty at trial of violating the nuisance and dangerous dog sections of the municipal code and was fined \$1,200 and as well was ordered to clean up the mess. Savage will only be required to pay half of the total fine if he certifies compliance with the court's order within 10 days. He has not yet certified compliance.

Coonrod presented a Resolution to Accept Project Funding for the squad car. Mayor McIntire would be given authority to sign all necessary paperwork for the squad car grant.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Ron Bell seconded to adopt Resolution 2017-09-02 – A Resolution to Accept Project Funding for squad car. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Coonrod presented a Resolution to Accept Project Funding from Rural Business Development Grant, which would give Mayor McIntire authority to sign all necessary paperwork for the USDA Downtown Rural Business Development Grant.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Ron Bell seconded to adopt Resolution 2017-09-03 – A Resolution to Accept Project Funding from Rural Business Development Grant. Roll call resulted in five (5) yeas and one (1) present. Freddie Andrews voted present. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire passed out a paper on the Rural Business Grant and what can be done. The paper explained how majority of project will be payment "in kind" for city portion.

Ron Bell gave an update from Randy Ford on the Sewer Plant. The grinder is making a noise and needs to be replaced. Randy received a bid from Franklin Miller, in Livingston, NJ. A new Taskmaster Grinder will cost \$30,390 plus \$650 shipping. This will take several weeks to get since it comes from Germany. Randy will have the other grinder repaired and keep for a spare.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to purchase the Taskmaster Grinder for the Sewer Plant. Cost for the grinder is \$31,040 that includes \$650 for shipping. Roll call resulted in five (5) yeas and one (1) present. Freddie Andrews voted present. Motion carried.

Randy Fisher said the air conditioner died at the city library. This was an emergency situation and needed to be taken care because of all the books. They received 3 quotes – Little Heating & Air Conditioning was \$3,920; Larry Vortman was \$2,870.63 and Leach Remmers was \$3,580. Larry Vortman was the low bidder, so they went with him. He installed it yesterday and it is working fine.

Bill Jacquot told John Simmons they didn't come up with any answers about the concrete saw.

Amy Brown, City Treasurer passed out her monthly report. She reported they had received some TIF money; there is \$29,136.80 in that account. That is over \$18,000 more than last year. Brown said they needed to open a special account for the infrastructure grant so the money could be direct deposited. Mayor McIntire, Amy Brown and City Clerk Brenda Robinson will be the signatures on the account.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to open an account at Farmers State Bank so the infrastructure grant money can be direct deposited. Signers on the account will be Mayor McIntire, City Treasurer Amy Brown and City Clerk Brenda Robinson. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Steve Hoots seconded to go into closed session to discuss personnel. Roll call resulted five (5) yeas and one (1) present. Steve Hoots voted present. Motion carried. Went into closed session at 10:40 p.m.

MOTION: Randy Fisher moved and Steve Hoots seconded to go out of closed session. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried. Came out of closed session at 10:55 p.m.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Steve Hoots seconded to adjourn the meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:58 p.m.

Rex McIntire, Mayor

Brenda Robinson, City Clerk