

**CITY OF MASCOUTAH
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
#3 WEST MAIN STREET
MASCOUTAH, IL 62258-2030**

APRIL 4, 2016

The minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Mascoutah.

PUBLIC HEARING – FY16/17 BUDGET

Mayor Gerald Daugherty called the public hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Gerald Daugherty and Council members Ben Grodeon, Paul Schorr, and John Weyant.

Council member Pat McMahan arrived at 6:38 p.m.

Absent:

None.

Other Staff Present:

City Manager Cody Hawkins, City Clerk Kari Haas, City Engineer Ron Yeager, and Finance Coordinator Lynn Weidenbenner.

Mayor Gerald Daugherty stated that this public hearing is to consider and review the proposed Fiscal Year 2016/2017 budget for the City of Mascoutah.

City Manager provided an overview of the proposed budget.

Council Discussion:

Councilman Schorr asked about the vehicle purchase for the police department. City Manager stated that the detectives car will be replaced this year but still have payments to be made on previous year's purchases.

Councilman Schorr asked about the township property taxes on roads and if the City gets anything back from that. City Clerk stated that the City does get around \$60,000 a year from the township road tax levy.

Councilman Grodeon asked about the Water/Sewer fund balance going down substantially. City Manager stated that the bulk of the decrease is from the waste water treatment plant project for design engineering and land purchase cost which will occur after plan approval from EPA. City Manager stated that the whole project is around \$10-\$12 million and the total engineering could cost around \$1 million.

Public Comments:

None.

There being no further questions or comments from the Council, Mayor Gerald Daugherty closed the public hearing at 6:49 p.m.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City prayer was delivered by City Clerk Kari Haas. The Council remained standing and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gerald Daugherty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Gerald Daugherty, Council members Ben Grodeon, Paul Schorr, John Weyant and Pat McMahan.

Absent: None.

Other Staff Present: City Manager Cody Hawkins, City Clerk Kari Haas, City Attorney Al Paulson, Assistant City Manager Lisa Koerkenmeier, City Engineer Ron Yeager, and Finance Coordinator Lynn Weidenbenner.

Establishment of a Quorum: A quorum of City Council members was present.

AMEND AGENDA

None.

MINUTES

The minutes of the March 21, 2016 regular City Council meeting were presented and approved as presented. The minutes of the March 14, 2016 Executive Session meeting were presented and approved as presented.

Motion passed. Passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor

Mayor presented proclamation proclaiming April 5, 2016 as National Service Recognition Day.

Attended the following meetings and functions: SWIL Council of Mayors meeting, meeting regarding revitalizing the welcome signs, event at Espenschied Chapel with speaker Judge

Wharton, legislative luncheon in Collinsville with area Mayors, U.S. District Court naturalization ceremony at Mascoutah High School, announced the winners of the Mascoutah Heritage Museum photo contest.

City Council

Grodeon – Attended the following meetings and functions: Participated in the Meals on Wheels program, Evening Lions Easter egg hunt, photo exhibit at Mascoutah Heritage Museum.

Schorr – Attended the following meetings and functions: Participated in the Meals on Wheels program, met with young man regarding obtaining an Eagle Scout badge, Tree Sub-Committee meeting, photo exhibit at Mascoutah Heritage Museum.

Weyant – Attended the following meetings and functions: SWIL Council of Mayors meeting, participated in the Meals on Wheels program.

McMahan – Attended the following meetings and functions: Participated in the Meals on Wheels program, Spring Fest committee meeting.

City Manager – Nothing to report.

City Attorney – Nothing to report.

City Clerk – Nothing to report.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

BUDGET 16/17 – ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE (FIRST READING)

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of approval and adoption of the City's FY16/17 Budget.

First reading. No action required.

CODE CHANGE – ELECTRIC, WATER & SEWER RATES (FIRST READING)

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of approval of revisions to Chapter 11 – Electric System and Chapter 38 – Water and Sewer Rates of the City Code by adoption of ordinance.

Councilman Schorr asked how the heating rate is metered and charged and who that affects. City Clerk explained that it is for residences and businesses that have all electric fuel sources (i.e. electric furnace, electric water heater, etc.).

Councilman Grodeon asked what the City's delta is compared to Ameren's rates. City Manager stated that he will have to pull the new rates.

First reading. No action required.

IDOT RESOLUTION / EXPENDITURE OF MFT FUNDS FOR MAINTENANCE OF STREET AND HIGHWAYS

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of approval of resolution approving the 2016 Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance Program beginning May 1, 2016 and ending April 30, 2017.

Grodeon moved, seconded by Schorr, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 15-16-20, a Resolution for Maintenance of Streets and Highways by Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code.

Motion passed. AYE's – Grodeon, Schorr, Weyant, McMahan, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

SPECIAL CENSUS REQUEST

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of approval and authorization to proceed with partial special census at an estimated cost of \$103,555.

Weyant moved, seconded by Grodeon, to authorize staff to proceed with the partial special census at a cost of \$103,555, and authorize appropriate City officials to execute the required documents.

Motion passed. AYE's – Grodeon, Schorr, Weyant, McMahan, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

CHARTER FRANCHISE AGREEMENT AND AGREEMENT FOR JOINT USE OF POLES AND RIGHT-OF-WAY (FIRST READING)

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of approval of a Franchise Agreement and an Agreement for Joint Use of Poles and Right-of-Way between the City of Mascoutah, Illinois and Charter Communications Entertainment I, LLC, locally known as Charter Communications, by adoption of ordinance.

Councilman Grodeon asked if the increase in fees is going to affect customer's rates for service. City Manager stated that this increase should not affect individual customers. City Attorney stated that they are governed by federal law on how much they can charge and the reasoning for their charges so this should not adversely affect the residents.

Councilman Grodeon asked about the equal protection clause in the contract. City Attorney stated that is to keep any competition equal and that the City would not be any more restrictive or lenient to another provider.

First reading. No action required.

COUNCIL – MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Councilman Grodeon asked about the NGA site selection and if we have any information on what Illinois or St. Clair County is doing. Mayor stated that all parties involved will be submitting information during the comment period.

Councilman Schorr commented on the Safe Routes to School project along 6th Street and the seeding that was done that did not take and has no grass growing. City Engineer stated that the seeding was done out of the spec seeding period so their warranty is probably not valid so the City would have put additional seed down.

Councilman Schorr commented on North 10th Street and getting the seeding done. City Engineer stated that the contractor is supposed to be seeding as weather permits so will make contact again about getting it done.

CITY MANAGER – MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

City Manager provided information regarding the expansion of the Espenschied Chapel as provided by the Mascoutah Cemetery Chapel Committee which includes a 1,500 square foot addition providing accessibility and additional parking. Gary Karasek of U-Studios Incorporated and Jeanne Bullard provided an explanation and concept floor plan design of the building addition to the Espenschied Chapel. Council discussed the plan and voiced concerns over ADA compliance, parking location, how many trees are going to be removed, and future potential liability and maintenance costs. Council discussed the request from the committee for help with funding. City Attorney stated that if the City is going to allow the building addition then the City Council should approve a resolution authorizing the work to be done on a City owned building and terms of funding if there is any funding to be provided by the City. Council was in agreement to fund the expenses for the parking lot. Council discussed expenses for utility relocation; City Manager will include information regarding utility relocation in the resolution for the Council to consider.

City Manager stated that there is a timeline change on the Phase II Electric project and Ameren has asked if the first delivery point can be done in 2018 instead of 2019. City Manager stated that he does not see a problem with the timeline but will need to begin acquisition of the easements now. Council discussed the new timeline and voiced concerns over possible easement acquisition problems. City Attorney stated that they will speak with Troy Fodor of IMEA to ensure that there is a contingency clause in the contract regarding any possible delays in easement acquisition to protect the City.

City Manager provided information on restricting parking on North 10th Street from Hackberry to Winchester on at least one side if not both sides of the street. Council was in agreement to restrict parking on both sides from Hackberry up to Larkspur, Weatherby, or Winchester.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Schorr moved, seconded by Weyant, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss Litigation – Section 2(c)(11) and Personnel – City Manager Annual Evaluation – Section 2(c)(1) at 8:14 p.m.

Motion passed. AYE's – Grodeon, Schorr, Weyant, McMahan, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Schorr moved, seconded by Grodeon, to return to Regular Session at 9:05 p.m.

Motion passed. Motion passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

MISCELLANEOUS OR FINAL ACTIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

McMahan moved, seconded by Schorr, to **adjourn at 9:07 p.m.**

Motion passed. Motion passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

Kari D. Haas, City Clerk