

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

FEBRUARY 17, 2015

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

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 and 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, City Engineer Ron Yeager, Police Chief Bruce Fleshren, Fire Chief Joe Zinck, Finance Coordinator Lynn Weidenbenner, and Assistant City Manager Lisa Koerkenmeier.

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

AMEND AGENDA

None.

MINUTES

The minutes of the February 2, 2015 regular City Council meeting were presented and stood as presented.

Motion passed. Passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Al Goepfert, Oates Associates – spoke regarding the Harnett Street road improvement project and stated that in their opinion it was a very successful project and spoke regarding the cooperation with the City and the contractor. Stated that there are a few minor clean up items to do in the Spring that will be handled mostly by City Engineer Ron Yeager. Thanked the Council for choosing them to engineer the project and looks forward to working with the City again in the future.

Michael Speir, resident of Indian Prairie Estates – spoke regarding the new snow removal policy stating that when more than 2” of snow has fallen that snow removal will commence but there was no snow removal done when there was more than 2” of snow at his house and the weather service registered 3.2” and 3.4” and there was 4” at his house. Stated that he thought it should be looked at and how the snowfall is measured. Mayor stated that they will look into it.

Ron Majka, Harnett Street resident – spoke regarding the snow removal and with the school district removing bus routes, asked if clearing sidewalks was going to be looked at to be done by City to help the kids having to walk to school. Mayor stated that they will review it.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Fire Chief Joe Zinck – January 2015 report was provided and the annual 2015 report was provided. Councilman Grodeon asked what the utilization has been on the ladder truck. Fire Chief stated that it is run first out on structure fires and has been used a few times for ventilation and assists to other departments.

Public Safety Director Bruce Fleshren – January 2015 report was provided.

Finance Coordinator Lynn Weidenbenner – Monthly financials provided. Councilman Weyant asked about the budget for streets/sidewalks/sidewalk program and that it is only 15% used and is there a way to get the word out so that program gets used more. City Manager stated that him and the City Engineer are looking at different areas to do for the City and also about public relations regarding the program. Councilman Weyant asked about the bullet proof vests budget being at 12%. Police Chief stated that more will be ordered in the Spring.

City Engineer/Director of Public Works Ron Yeager – Status report on public projects and monthly building permits report provided. Councilman Weyant asked what kind of antenna would be \$20,000. City Clerk stated that it is for a cell phone antenna.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor

Mayor recommended appointing Doug Elbe to the Parks & Recreation Commission to fill the vacancy. Weyant moved, seconded by Schorr, to ratify the appointment of Doug Elbe to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Motion passed. Passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

Attended the following meetings and functions: Chamber meeting, luncheon at Scott AFB for a Civic Leader Group orientation, Sweetie Pie Day judge, meeting at IDOT regarding repaving of Route 177 from Route 4 to 6th Street, St. Clair County Transportation Committee meeting at IDOT offices, volunteer appreciation breakfast at Senior Center, stated that March 16th-20th is National Wheel on Meals days.

City Council

Grodeon – Attended the following meetings and functions: Sweetie Pie Day.

Schorr – Attended the following meetings and functions: Chamber meeting, Sweetie Pie Day.

Weyant – Attended the following meetings and functions: Chamber meeting.

McMahan – Attended the following meetings and functions: Working on Springfest which is May 15th, working on scorecards for the Frisbee Golf.

City Manager – Nothing to report.

City Attorney – Nothing to report.

City Clerk – Nothing to report.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

CONSENT CALENDAR (OMNIBUS)

The January 2015 Fund Balance Report and Claims & Salaries Report were provided under the omnibus consideration.

Councilman Grodeon commented on the fund balance report with regards to the General Fund doing well. Councilman Grodeon asked about the TIF 2B fund balance increasing. City Manager stated that the TIF 2B fund balance is being kept on reserve to save for the Route 4 and Route 177 intersection improvement since the City's portion of the project is around \$800,000. City Manager stated that the first two payments on the loan draw down will be paid out of TIF 2B funds since a portion of Harnett Street was located within the TIF 2B District.

Weyant moved, seconded by Grodeon, to accept all items under Omnibus consideration.

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

SWIDA BOND CAP REALLOCATION RESOLUTION

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of resolution allowing the transfer of Private Activity Industrial Revenue bond Volume Cap to SWIDA.

Councilman Weyant asked if we could find out what the bonds are being used for. City Attorney stated that typically it is used for private projects.

Schorr moved, seconded by McMahan, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 14-15-19, thereby relinquishing the City of Mascoutah's Private Activity Industrial Revenue Bond Volume Cap to SWIDA.

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

ST. CLAIR COUNTY CONTRACTS FOR DISPATCHING SERVICES

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of approval of three contracts with St. Clair County, Illinois for Coordinated Communications Services (dispatching services) provided for the year of 2015 for the Police, EMS and Fire Departments.

McMahan moved, seconded by Schorr, to approve the three contracts with St. Clair County for dispatching services and authorize the appropriate City officials to execute the required documents.

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

GROUND STORAGE TANK INTERIOR PAINTING – BID AWARD

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of approval and authorization of bids for furnishing all labor, materials and equipment to paint the repair the interior of the Ground Storage Tank on Railway Street.

Councilman Schorr asked about the two lower bidders and if they had physically reviewed the tower especially with the problems that occurred with the last water tower project. City Engineer stated that the big tower had a lot of spot repairs that weren't visible until after the power washing which increased the pricing. City Engineer stated that a video was taken of the inside of the tank and was provided to the contractors upon request so they could review the scope of the project.

Councilman Grodeon asked if the period of performance specified in the contract and what happens if they don't complete the project within those time frames. City Engineer stated that they chose the spring and the fall because of the water demands in the summer. City Engineer stated that once they begin they have 40 days to complete the project. City Engineer stated that the contract documents don't have any liquidated damages that he is aware of but the contractor we have chosen has the experience in this type of work so doesn't foresee any problems.

Grodeon moved, seconded by Schorr, to approve the low bid of \$108,750.00 to Quality Assured Industrial Coatings of Alton, IL for furnishing all labor, materials and equipment for the Ground Storage Tank Interior Painting Project and authorize appropriate officials to execute the necessary documents.

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

SCHEVE PARK SKATE PARK EQUIPMENT – BID AWARD

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of approval and authorization of bid for equipment and hardware at the new skatepark in Scheve Park.

Councilman Grodeon asked if it is maintenance free. City Manager stated that it is as maintenance free as it can be. City Manager stated that there is a schedule within their packet regarding items that need to be checked on a monthly basis and there is a maintenance repair kit that can be requested to fix scratches.

Councilman Weyant asked about liability. City Attorney stated that liability should not be an issue and would be the same as with any other recreational facility.

Councilman Schorr asked if this pricing included installation. City Manager stated that we will be installing the equipment in house. Councilman Schorr asked about the difference in the bids. City Manager stated that the lowest bidder American Ramp Company manufactures all their own products which made their price lower since it cuts out the middle man.

Weyant moved, seconded by McMahan to approve the low bid for furnishing equipment and hardware for the new skatepark in Scheve Park in the amount of \$24,199.99 to American Ramp Company of Joplin, MO and authorize appropriate officials to execute the necessary documents.

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

CODE CHANGE – RECREATION AND PARKS CODE

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of approval of revisions to Chapter 31 – Recreation and Parks of the City Code by adoption of ordinance.

Councilman Weyant asked about extra charge for electric usage especially for ball fields. City Manager stated that electric usage for the ball fields is already being billed to the organizations using the ball fields.

Councilman Grodeon asked about the runners on roadway signs and not being picked up for a couple days and who's responsible for removing the signs. City Manager stated that the signs are placed and removed by the City Street Department and is done during normal business hours so as not to pay overtime which is why when the event happens on the weekend the signs are not picked up until Monday.

Councilman Schorr commented on the proof of liability insurance requirement and doesn't understand and requirement for mainly out-of-town sponsors. Council discussed this requirement and decided that it should be for any organization, both local and out-of-town.

Councilman Schorr commented on the clean-up costs and asked what a reasonable fee would be. City Manager explained that the fee would be for the actual costs such as use of equipment and labor. Council discussed the wording and decided to change the wording to reflect actual cost instead of reasonable fee.

Councilman Schorr commented on the fee for the “Runners on Roadway” signs and the fee being only \$50. City Manager stated that the signs are placed during working hours. City Manager stated that they can increase that fee if Council wishes.

First reading. No action required.

COUNCIL – MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Councilman Grodeon commented on the accident that occurred on Route 4 and if we can approach IDOT again about the speed limit. City Manager stated that they can approach IDOT again.

Councilman Schorr commented on the flags being put out for President’s Day and thought it was really nice.

Mayor stated that there will be a military ball held on May 8th.

Ben Trout and Jerry Kroner with EPM presented the City’s first annual report. Council discussed the annual report.

CITY MANAGER – MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

City Manager provided updated information regarding the Phase II Electric project after the meeting with Ameren. City Manager stated that he needs to know going forward with the thought that Phase II will need to occur but will probably be pushed off for a couple more years (possibly 2018) and if the Council wants staff to start acquiring the easements that will be needed with the budgeted funds that are in the current budget and if there should be funds budgeted in the next fiscal year. City Manager stated that there is a possible plan for Ameren to do an upgrade to the north which could change our plans for capacity but there will be additional upfront and long-term costs with Ameren to tap on to that north feed. Council discussed the easement acquisitions and were split on whether to wait on the easements or start to acquire the easements especially with the fact that the prices are going to keep increasing and also with the possibility of a north tap in point. Council also discussed the electric rates but will discuss further after the rate study is presented at the next meeting. Council was in agreement to go ahead with working on any easement acquisitions that are going to be needed regardless of which route or scenarios is chosen.

City Manager stated that last week requests for quotes were received for possibly outsourcing the Cemetery mowing again and there were two quotes received. City Manager stated that there are several issues with hiring part-time mowers especially with getting quality, reliable workers. City Manager stated that our cost is around \$1,200-\$1,250 per week in expenses which includes labor, equipment, fuel etc. City Manager stated that the lowest quote came in at \$1,500 per week from Vasquez Outdoor Services out of Fayetteville which would be around \$6,000-\$7,000 more per year. Council was in agreement to try a private mowing company again. Councilman Weyant asked who does

the mowing for the catholic cemetery. City Manager stated that he will find out who the church contracts with for the catholic cemetery and look at them for a possibility too.

City Manager stated that they have been trying to move the CMAQ grant from Fuesser Road to the berm and were denied. City Manager stated that they have been talking with East-West Gateway regarding the CMAQ funds but it is not going to be possible to move the funds for the berm project. City Manager stated that there are STP funds that can be applied for to use for the berm trail which would be a 75/25 matching program and East-West Gateway has stated that they can help us to try to fast-track the application. Council was in agreement to try for the STP funds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

MISCELLANEOUS OR FINAL ACTIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

McMahan moved, seconded by Grodeon, to **adjourn at 8:29 p.m.**

Motion passed. Motion passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

Kari D. Haas, City Clerk