

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

OCTOBER 19, 2020

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 Executive Assistant Julia Biggs. 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**

Mayor Gerald Daugherty and Council members John Weyant, Pat McMahan, Michael Baker, and Walter Battas.

*Absent:* None.

*Other Staff Present:* City Manager Brad Myers, Assistant City Manager Kari Speir, Executive Assistant Julia Biggs, City Attorney Al Paulson, Finance Coordinator Lynn Weidenbenner, City Engineer Tom Quirk, Public Works Director Jesse Carlton and Police Chief Scott Waldrup.

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

**AMEND AGENDA**

None.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the October 5, 2020 regular City Council meeting were presented and approved as presented.

*Motion passed.* Passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Resident Charles Jefferson thanked the Council for continuing virtual meetings. He thanked City Employees and City Manager for all of their hard work. He also said he would like to see more businesses come to Mascoutah. Resident Jessica Erickson stated she was on to observe and find out what all goes on at a Council meeting.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

*Fire Chief Joe Zinck* – No report provided. Email message to Speir said they are still working on the truck specs and reminded that the Mulligan pickup was scheduled for October 25, 2020.

*Police Chief Scott Waldrup* – October 2020 report was provided. Police and EMS are awaiting delivery of the vehicle they ordered. Chief Waldrup stated that the Mascoutah First Responders Highway Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, October 24. He also commented on the new sand volleyball court at Scheve Park and stated it was turning out extremely well.

*Finance Coordinator Lynn Weidenbenner* – Monthly financials provided.

*Public Works Director Jesse Carlton* – October 2020 building and status reports was provided. He stated that the Public Works laborers have performed eight concrete pours, hydrant flushing, and the tornado siren formerly located on City Hall has been moved to the area of the Fire Department and Pump House and is fully functional. Councilman Baker asked if there is a street-sweeping schedule as to how and when roads will be swept or if any will not be swept. Carlton stated that oil and chipped roads would be done before winter. Councilman Battas asked if the work orders included in the report included everything. Carlton stated the work orders did not include daily tasks and jobs. Battas asked if the City was storing the extra rock from the oil and chip program, which Carlton confirmed yes.

*City Engineer Tom Quirk* – Status report on public projects was provided. Main Street is complete and the light poles are in production. Final walkthrough inspection with IDOT is scheduled for October 20. Battas asked how many lights the City would be receiving. Myers said the City would be receiving eleven, which is enough for the project and will have a backup. Weyant asked when the Lebanon Street and Independence/John Street improvements would be taking place. Quirk stated that the project will occur within the next calendar year, and is set to be sent out for bids in the Spring 2021. Myers stated it is part of the City's project money that will roll from year to year.

## **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

### *Mayor*

Attended the following meetings and functions: Mascoutah Chamber of Commerce meeting, meeting with Scott Air Force Base with surrounding communities regarding storm water issues, sold Rotary raffle tickets, Virtual Military Affairs Committee, Mascoutah Parks and Recreation Board, and Mascoutah hosted another COVID testing site.

### *City Council*

Weyant – Attended the following meetings and functions: Sold Rotary raffle tickets.

McMahan – Attended the following meetings and functions: Work has begun on the Rotary sponsored inclusive spinner at Scheve Park, worked at the Noon Lions Club Fish Fry, and the Mascoutah Parks and Recreation Board meeting to present pickleball.

Baker – Attended the following meetings and functions: Worked at Noon Lions Club Fish Fry and fielded numerous resident calls.

Battas – Nothing to report.

*City Manager*

Attended the following meetings and functions: Mascoutah Chamber of Commerce meeting, meeting with Scott Air Force Base with surrounding communities regarding storm water issues, met with Wisper, sold Rotary raffle tickets, met with BHMG regarding SCADA problems, met with Waste Management, met with a company regarding a purchasing consortium, Parks and Recreation Board meeting, and stopped into COVID testing.

*City Attorney* – Nothing to Report.

*City Clerk* – Absent.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**CONSENT CALENDAR (OMNIBUS)**

The September 2020 Fund Balance Report and Claims & Salaries Report were provided under the omnibus consideration.

McMahan moved, seconded by Baker, to accept all items under Omnibus consideration.

***Motion passed.*** AYE's – Weyant, McMahan, Baker, Battas, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

**CODE CHANGE- NO PARKING (SECOND READING)**

City Manager presented report for Council approval and adoption of an Ordinance to amend Schedule E – No Parking Streets. This amendment recommends no parking signs on both sides of Perrin Road from Route 4 to city limits.

There was no further discussion.

Baker moved, seconded by Weyant that the Council approve and adopt Ordinance No. 20-13, amending Chapter 24, Schedule "E"- No Parking Streets.

***Motion passed.*** AYE's – Weyant, McMahan, Baker, Battas, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

**CODE CHANGE- STOP INTERSECTIONS (SECOND READING)**

City Manager presented report for Council approval and adoption of an Ordinance to amend Schedule A – Stop Intersections. This amendment recommends removal of a four-way at S. Railway Ave. and George St. and requests a four-way at S. Railway Ave. and Phillips St.

There was no further discussion.

Weyant moved, seconded by Battas, that the City Council approve and adopt Ordinance 20-14, thereby modifying Chapter 24- Schedule "A"- Stop Intersections.

***Motion passed.*** AYE's – Weyant, McMahan, Baker, Battas, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

## **ITEP RESOLUTION- L&N TRAIL**

City Manager presented report for Council approval and adoption of a Resolution for the ITEP Grant for the L&N Trail. The City is applying for an ITEP grant to pay for approximately 80% of the cost of this project with the remaining 20% to be paid for with local funds. This project would consist of engineering and construction of a new shared use pedestrian and bicycle trail along the south side of town on City owned property that runs along the old L&N Railway corridor. The project would begin on the east side of Brickyard Road and end on the east side of IL Route 4. A new trailhead and parking lot as well as a safe, pedestrian friendly crossing of IL Route 4 would also be constructed.

Councilman Baker asked if this would be up to two million dollars, which Myers stated the project has not been priced out yet, but that is the limit of the grant and the maximum amount, which would mean that the City's 20% would be \$400,000. Mayor Daugherty asked if there is a timeframe for the trail, which Myers stated there is not as of yet, but it would be within the next couple of years. Baker stated he felt this was a great idea.

Councilman Weyant asked if there was a possibility of the map changing, as he questioned why the parking lot is on the north side, when Myers stated the south farmland is a privately owned field, therefore the City would not be able to build the parking lot on it.

There was no further discussion.

McMahan moved, seconded by Weyant, that the Council approve and adopt Resolution No. 20-21-04, a Resolution in support of allocating City funds to pay for the City's match of a potential ITEP Grant for the L&N Trail Project.

***Motion passed.*** AYE's – Weyant, McMahan, Baker, Battas, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

## **CODE CHANGE – SPEED ZONES (FIRST READING)**

City Manager presented report for Council approval and adoption of an Ordinance to amend Schedule D- Speed Zones, thereby changing the speed zone on County Road from Rte. 177 to Rte. 161.

Myers stated that the City would like to increase the speed limit from Fuesser Road to Route 161 from 35 to 45 miles per hour, as that is an awkwardly slow section road. Weyant asked if the City would be reducing the speed limit from Antique Lane to Fuesser Road, which Speir confirmed that section of road would be 30 miles per hour. Speir stated it would be 30 miles per hour all the way to Fuesser Road. Councilman Battas asked if County Road was a City owned road, therefore allowing the City to change the speed limit. County Road is an excluded road for golf carts. He also asked Chief Waldrup if the proposed changes seemed reasonable, which Chief Waldrup stated yes, and the Police do not see any issues with the proposed changes.

There was no further discussion.

## **COUNCIL – MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

Councilman Baker asked about the possibility of reexamining taxing parking at MidAmerica Airport. The State has enacted an exise tax on parking, which excludes counties or municipalities, unless there is a third party operator. Baker brought examples of other cities and what they charge for parking. Paulson stated he was unsure if a tax could be imposed on county property, and the exise tax is something the state charges, which doesn't necessarily give Mascoutah the right to tax parking. Myers stated part of the previous discussion was the fact that then the City would have to designate where to put the funds. Baker stated he feels that Mascoutah should look into it, as other cities or municipalities around airports do this. Councilman McMahan felt this is not necessary, as the City has nothing to do with the airport and does not incur any costs out there. Baker stated many bills, such as Spectrum, include a city tax, which the City does nothing for that. Myers stated that is different. McMahan disagrees and said that this does not need to be pursued. Mayor Daugherty stated he is hesitant to charge a tax on airport parking.

## **CITY MANAGER – MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

City Manager Myers discussed Election Day procedures in the City. Recently, the state legislature mandated that all government offices will be closed for the day. IML asked for a change to that law that grants municipalities the right to decide if they want to close for Election Day or not. Mascoutah will be open for business as usual that day, as well as most all neighboring municipalities, however City employees will be given ample time to exercize their right to vote that day, which Paulson stated is the law.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Resident Charles Jefferson asked for clarification on the earlier discussed financial statements.

Resident Nancy Larson thanked the Council for the position they took on the bike initiative, as many other cities around Mascoutah have these trails and resources, and this is a positive step to getting people out and using the community to stay active.

Resident Kay Connelly agreed with Larson and reiterated thanks. She feels that the bike path on the Berm Trail has been extremely popular, and is happy that the Council is looking at expanding their paths.

## **ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Weyant moved, seconded by McMahan, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss Litigation Section 2(c)(11) and Municipal Utility Operation Section 2(c)(23) at 7:41 p.m.

***Motion passed.*** AYE's – Weyant, McMahan, Baker, Battas, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

Battas moved, seconded by Weyant, to return to regular session at 8:06 p.m.

***Motion passed.*** Motion passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

## **MISCELLANEOUS OR FINAL ACTIONS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

McMahan moved, seconded by Battas, to adjourn at 8:07 p.m.

*Motion passed.* Motion passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

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Julia Biggs, Executive Assistant