

The February 13th, 2023, Council Meeting was called to order at 6:01p.m. Councilmembers Colomer, Faber, Baker, and Komnick were present along with Mayor Moore.

A motion to go into closed session to discuss Personnel Section 2 (C) (1) and Lease or Sale of Real Estate Section 2 (C) (6) was made by Councilmember Colomer and seconded by Councilmember Faber. Discussion: none. Motion passed 5-0.

A motion to adjourn to regular session was made by Councilmember Baker and seconded by Councilmember Colomer. Discussion: none. Motion passed 5-0. Closed session was adjourned at 6:45p.m.

The February 13th, 2023, Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. Councilmembers Colomer, Faber, Baker, and Komnick were present along with Mayor Moore.

The consent agenda included the following items:

- A. Minutes from the Council Meeting on January 23rd.
- B. Payroll for the pay period ending January 28th in the amount of \$215,479.43.
- C. Staff Reports.
- D. Bock Report.

A motion to approve the consent agenda items was made by Councilmember Komnick and seconded by Councilmember Faber. Discussion: none. Motion passed 5-0.

A motion for Approval of the Bills for Council Meeting of February 13th in the amount of \$359,664.48 was made by Councilmember Baker and seconded by Councilmember Colomer. Discussion: none. Motion passed 5-0.

New Business:

- A. **Street Improvement Program**— Mike Richetta of Chamlin Engineering gave a presentation to the Council regarding the status of the streets in Kewanee and an overview of his suggestions on what needs to be done. This was based on the original street improvement plan from 2017. Different ideas were discussed for funding such projects. It was noted that the Motor Fuel Tax doesn't provide what it used to and it better used for maintenance of roads rather than redoing them in a project like this.
- B. **A motion to table the Consideration of Ordinance #4121** authorizing the execution of a TIF agreement with Cohen Development **was made by Councilmember Colomer and seconded by Councilmember Komnick. Discussion: Parts of the presentation were not yet available, and the Council decided it should wait to have everything available. Motion passed 5-0.**
- C. **Consideration of Resolution #5387** ratifying the extension of an agreement with the State Bank of Toulon for banking services for the City of Kewanee. **Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Faber and seconded by Councilmember Baker. Discussion: Councilmember Colomer asked when we last put this out for bid. That was last done in 2016. City Manager Bradley stated that the plan was to put out an RFP but there was a change in personnel that resulted in the decision to wait and extend the current agreement with the State Bank of Toulon. The plan is still to do that this year**

and this extension gives the City time to properly prepare that. Councilmember Colomer asked if this would be a calendar year change or a fiscal year. Bradley stated that changing at the Fiscal Year could create a mess and confusion with all of the other tasks that come with the new Fiscal Year. Doing it as a calendar year change would allow staff to get the new banking set up and be familiar with the new operations. James Webb, Finance Director agreed that the calendar year would be best. He is happy with the services we are currently receiving, especially for a local bank. Motion passed 5-0.

- D. Consideration of Resolution #5388** authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Revize Software Systems, LLC for professional services. **A motion to approve was made by Councilmember Komnick and seconded by Councilmember Faber. Discussion: Councilmember Colomer asked what this was for. Bradley let him know that they are the ones that built and maintain our website and that it is time for a refresh. This proposal includes a website refresh as well as the addition of functional features like fillable forms and a texting service. Councilmember Komnick stated that it would be good to update the website to be more accessible since we direct people there for many reasons. The City Clerk mentioned that the forms offer translation options that would be beneficial for residents. Motion passed 5-0.**
- E. Downtown Parking** – City Manager Bradley said there is a parking ordinance for our Downtown that is antiquated. The current ordinance states that parking is only for customers and for a maximum of fifteen minutes. It is hard to tell who a customer is and who may be an owner or employee. Also, there are many businesses where a customer may need to be there much longer than 15 minutes. Police Chief Welgat said that a few business owners had reached out asking about the current ordinance because they felt people were parking in front of their businesses when they think those should be reserved for their customers. People who live in the apartments in Downtown are also supposed to apply for a special parking permit. The Chief had discussed it with the City Manager to update the ordinance to allow parking for all. He stated that he would want to include language that would allow them to address issues where someone leaves a car parked in a spot for a long period of time or if someone is deliberately parking somewhere just to “get back” at a business owner. The Council is interested in seeing an updated ordinance proposed to address all these concerns.
- F. Peddlers Permit Bonds** – City Manager Bradley explained that we do currently have a peddler permit and that our ordinance states that we have adopted the State’s guidelines for these types of permits. Someone applied for a permit and the City Clerk did the research to determine what the State regulations are. To receive a permit, a bond is required in the amount of 50% of the wholesale value of the items to be sold with a minimum of \$1,000 to a maximum of \$10,000. This is then held by the Illinois State Attorney General for two years after completion of the peddler’s business in the City. The State statute does say that municipalities can adopt, by ordinance, to opt out of the bond provision. Bradley does not see that it is our responsibility to enforce Consumer Protection, which is what the bond is ultimately for. Customers can still go after a business if they are wronged/harmed by the product they received. That is ultimately done through the State anyways. City Attorney Raver stated that he agreed with the City Manager. It is not our job to vet contractors or businesses. It is not our job to protect consumers. We can utilize our best efforts to make sure the businesses are legitimate before issuing the permit. Scammers are not going to ask for permits or pay bonds. Councilmember Colomer asked

what residents can do if someone knocks on their door and tries to sell them something. Raver said that they can ask to see their permit, which they are required to carry with them and present if requested. If they do not, you can ask them to leave and report them. Raver said that it would be good for the City to verify two forms of identification. The City Clerk told the Council that the permit that prompted this discussion did include a photo ID and a business card. She verified the business and that it was a certified contractor with the State of Illinois for the purpose in which the permit was requested. We can do research on the back end to make sure the businesses are real and in good standing before issuing permits. The Council determined that they would like to see an amended ordinance.

Mayor's Communications:

- On behalf of his wife, Jeanna, he wanted to thank everyone for reaching out offering prayers and support. She was recently diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. There are still not a lot of details, but more will be coming. He appreciates all of the support as it is keeping her spirits strong.
- He offered congratulations to Max Kelley and Will Taylor who are headed to State for wrestling as well as Alex Duarte and Jaxson Hicks who will be attending as alternates.
- Cooper Bates will be headed to the State Finals in Speech for his Original Comedy. He will make Kewanee proud in the competition.
- Congrats to Mya Mirocha who qualified for the State Bowling Tournament. This is her second time qualifying for the State competition.

Council Communications:

- **Faber:** none
- **Baker:** On behalf of Jeanna and the Mayor, he wanted to let everyone know there would be a 50/50 raffle taking place at the next Wethersfield home game.
- **Komnick:** Last week he saw a series of videos for Henry County tourism. While they were well done, he did not see Kewanee represented. He concluded that they were great commercials for Geneseo and Bishop Hill but that they did nothing for Kewanee. The Mayor and Council all agreed that it was disappointing for Kewanee to be left out of such videos. With what Kewanee is being asked to contribute to the future of the Tourism Bureau, it is sad to see that Kewanee is not be promoted as much as the other cities.
- **Colomer:** none

Announcements: City Hall and the Transfer Station will be CLOSED on Monday February 20th. With the nice weather, we wanted to remind residents that Landscape pick up will not resume until March 20th and Burning is not allowed until April.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Faber and seconded by Councilmember Komnick. Discussion: None. Motion passed 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.