

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PINCKNEYVILLE CITY COUNCIL

HELD MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.

IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

ROLL CALL

Mayor Robert L. Spencer called the regular meeting of the Pinckneyville City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall. Members present: Commissioners Ricky J. Cicardi, Kevin B. Hicks, Sammy D. Peradotta, William B. Stotlar, and Mayor Robert L. Spencer. Mayor Spencer declared a quorum present. Mayor Spencer announced the agenda was set. Administrative staff present: City Clerk Melissa S. Kellerman, City Attorney Don Bigham, Police Chief Kenny Kelley, and Fire Chief Jim Gielow. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Hicks.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Hicks to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2020, regular council meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cicardi. On roll call: Commissioners Cicardi, Hicks, Peradotta, Stotlar, and Mayor Spencer voted YEA. NAYS: None. Motion declared carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Stotlar reviewed the treasurer's report and stated that Total Gross Payroll was \$140,021.16 for the payroll January 2020, up from last year. Total Hours Paid were down from last year while Overtime Hours were up from last year. Commissioner Stotlar made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peradotta. On roll call: Commissioners Cicardi, Hicks, Peradotta, Stotlar, and Mayor Spencer voted YEA. NAYS: None. Motion declared carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Commissioner Cicardi noted that a bill in the amount of \$47.29 from Frontier needed to be deleted from the Accounts Payable. This was for phone service at the City Park which has now been disconnected. Commissioner Stotlar made a motion to approve the accounts payable with the Frontier bill being taken out. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hicks. On roll call: Commissioners Cicardi, Hicks, Peradotta, Stotlar, and Mayor Spencer voted YEA. NAYS: None. Motion declared carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Cicardi stated that the restrooms at the Fairgrounds, especially by the east gate, have been damaged. He asked Thomas Garner to shut down the restroom by the east gate from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. while the rest remain open. He also asked the City Police to patrol that area more often. He stated he's gone by there in the mornings and evenings and there are always people out there. Repairs to the restroom are scheduled soon.

Commissioner Peradotta noted that the Panther Showcase is Saturday, February 1, 2020, starting at 9:30 a.m. Pinckneyville plays the last game at 8:00 p.m. There are eight games, which should bring a lot of teams and people to town.

Commissioner Hicks mentioned that the Freshmen won the Conference Basketball Tournament last week and the Varsity Basketball Team won the Benton Tournament for the second year in a row.

ACCEPT RESIGNATION FROM RON HELVEY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 5, 2020

Commissioner Cicardi made a motion to accept the resignation from Ron Helvey effective January 5, 2020. Ron has worked for the City numerous years and he congratulated Ron on his retirement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peradotta. On roll call: Commissioners Cicardi, Hicks, Peradotta, Stotlar, and Mayor Spencer voted YEA. NAYS: None. Motion declared carried.

EMERGENCY ORDER FOR GODWINN PUMP

Commissioner Cicardi requested an emergency order for a Godwinn Pump that sits out at the railroad tracks. That pump quit a few weeks ago. The Mayor gave the emergency approval to order parts to get the pump up and running so the City wouldn't have to continue to pay rent on the one sitting at the fairgrounds. Commissioner Cicardi made a motion to approve the emergency order. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hicks. On roll call: Commissioners Cicardi, Hicks, Peradotta, Stotlar, and Mayor Spencer voted YEA. NAYS: None. Motion declared carried.

AUTHORIZE HMG TO PROCEED WITH PLANS TO ELIMINATE EAST SEWER PLANT

Commissioner Cicardi introduced Jesse Maynard, Project Engineer, of HMG. They have discussed eliminating the East Sewer Plant when the City builds the new sewer plant due to the condition of that plant. Mr. Maynard presented his report and, given the condition of the East Sewer Plant, they looked into what it would take to eliminate that plant in conjunction with the construction of the new sewer plant. Two major pieces of equipment at the new plant would need to be enlarged in order to accommodate everything from the East Sewer Plant, an additional one-half acre would need to be purchased in order to build one large lift station, which would be the only mechanical thing left east of Beaucoup Creek. Everything would be pumped into one plant, and the only maintenance east of the Beaucoup would be the lift station.

Commissioner Cicardi stated electrical costs at this plant have decreased since the installation of the solar panels in 2017. The additional cost to eliminate the East Sewer Plant is estimated between \$1.5 - \$2 million. This includes the installation of The Beast which can help with the septic waste. HMG has talked to EPA and funding is reserved and on the list for 2021.

Commissioner Peradotta asked if it was looked at what it would cost to completely renovate the building. Mr. Maynard stated the equipment and building are in poor condition, and it would take a complete study, but the structural engineer looked at the building and estimated it would be at least \$100,000 to repair the building.

Commissioner Hicks asked about the nearby solar farm. It was his understanding that this was built to supply power to the East Sewer Plant. Attorney Bigham stated the City has a contract with the solar farm to purchase power for 25 years and, at the end of seven years, the City has the option to purchase the facility. He will check the contract to see if the power can be used elsewhere or credited back to the City in some way. Commissioner Cicardi stated the City is currently saving 30% on current power bills for that plant from the solar power. Commissioner Cicardi stated there would also be less manpower spent to check the lift station at Amber Lane twice a day and test the water from the East Sewer Plant.

The existing plant was built in 1937. The new sewer plant would have new separate labs for drinking water and waste water. Mr. Maynard would have to update the current grant to add the elimination of the East Sewer Plant. That plant can be left alone or he can add the clean-up cost to the application. Demolition is eligible for forgiveness. He stated HMG needs to know how to proceed: with or without demolition to get on the next year's funding list. Pinckneyville is in the Top 5 for needing funds.

Commissioner Cicardi stated he had planned to take a vote on this, but maybe everyone needed a chance to think about it. He also wasn't aware the demolition wasn't on the quote.

REQUEST APPROVAL TO PURCHASE 120 NEW GAS METERS

Commissioner Cicardi made a motion to purchase 120 new gas meters because 119 of the old meters wouldn't work with the Zenner radios. There were 16 in the shop so this will still leave us a few in the shop. The cost is \$11,220 plus shipping. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stotlar. Mayor Spencer stated he understood that they were supposed to go around and check how many were needed and they knew some of them weren't compatible. Commissioner Cicardi said he wasn't involved in that part. Commissioner Peradotta said we could check contract. If they knew, they can reimburse us if it's in the contract. Attorney Bigham stated he'd look at the contract. On roll call: Commissioners Cicardi, Hicks, Peradotta, Stotlar, and Mayor Spencer voted YEA. NAYS: None. Motion declared carried.

**REQUEST APPROVAL OF CONTRACTOR’S APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT NO. 3 – FINAL
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO HAIER PLUMBING & HEATING**

Commissioner Cicardi requested approval of Contractor’s Application for Payment No. 3 – Final – authorizing payment to Haier Plumbing & Heating Inc. for \$9,863.03 for sewer line improvements in connection with the CDBG grant project. Jesse Maynard of HMG stated there were settling issues they are required to handle up to one year and that the project came in under budget. Commissioner Cicardi made a motion to make the payment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stotlar. On roll call: Commissioners Cicardi, Hicks, Peradotta, Stotlar, and Mayor Spencer voted YEA. NAYS: None. Motion declared carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. R-2020-02 ESTABLISHING AND DESIGNATING SPEED LIMITS WITHIN
THE CITY OF PINCKNEYVILLE, PERRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

Commissioner Hicks made a motion to approve Resolution No. R-2020-02, a resolution establishing and designating speed limits within the City of Pinckneyville, Perry County, Illinois. This is for a 10 mph speed limit in the mobile home park at Sunny Lane. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peradotta. On roll call: Commissioners Cicardi, Hicks, Peradotta, Stotlar, and Mayor Spencer voted YEA. NAYS: None. Motion declared carried.

BARBARA STOTLAR – SIDEWALK AND STREET DRAINAGE ON DOUGLAS STREET

Ms. Stotlar passed out a packet of information to the Commissioners and Mayor, some of which, she stated, was obsolete as of this afternoon. On December 17, 2019, the City cut down a tree near her home. She wrote a letter to Mr. Peradotta on December 20, 2019. In her letter, she asked what were the plans with the sidewalk and when would repairs begin. She was thankful that the stump removal had begun earlier that day. She asked how the tree was chosen for removal and were there any other options discussed. She also asked how much it cost the City to remove the tree. She asked when the removal of the tree root would begin and noted that the tree roots run under the sidewalk and her retaining wall and into her yard. She stated it is not okay to enter her yard. She asked when work would begin on Douglas and South Streets to remove the drainage issue. She finally asked what would be the future oversight of Commissioner Peradotta.

Commissioner Peradotta responded that they had planned on cutting that tree and two other trees down for over a year. One tree on West South Street and the other in the Cemetery which was uprooting tombstones. He stated the tree near her home was on City property and was hollow in the center. He stated that he wanted all the trees to be removed at the same time. He put out bids and the winning bid from Ridgeway Tree Service was \$900 for all three trees. The original removal date was postponed due to weather and too wet in the cemetery, so when the weather was better, the trees were removed. The person removing the stumps wanted to do all three at the same time as well. This work started today. He will get Scott Driskell to assist with the sidewalk so they will stay away from her wall. Kim Stotlar spoke up and stated it would have been a courtesy to let her know this was going to happen. Commissioner Peradotta stated he was sorry he didn’t think it would make that much difference. He stated they would fix the sidewalk when the weather is right and Scott Driskell can help. He said as far as the drainage goes, it will be address when money and time allows. He stated the root will be taken out underneath the sidewalk when the weather is warmer. He stated he will call her because there will be a backhoe down there. He will try to give a day or two notice. He stated the City is responsible for the tree if it’s on the City’s property. There have been complaints about sidewalks so they wanted to get that one fixed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Stotlar to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. On roll call: Commissioners Cicardi, Hicks, Peradotta, Stotlar, and Mayor Spencer voted YEA. NAYS: None. Motion declared carried.