

Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gerald Waltrip.

I. Roll Call. Present – Mayor Waltrip, Council members Melonis, Corcoran, Paterson, Cumberledge and Schomer. Also present – Attorney Mike O’Bradovich and Deputy Clerk Lisa Ruehle.

II. Approval of the Agenda – The Mayor would like to delete item 4b under his name since the Interim Clerk is sick today so he will introduce her at another time. Moved by council member Melonis seconded by council member Cumberledge to approve the agenda with the deletion. Ayes: Unanimous.

III. Consent Agenda – Moved by council member Cumberledge seconded by council member Corcoran to approve the consent agenda. Ayes: Unanimous.

IV. New Business

A. Communications from the Public

1. Scott Stevenson of DA Davidson was present to discuss refinancing of the outstanding 2008 G.O. Bonds. This is the first time that they will be callable which will be June 1, 2016 so the first time we have the option to refinance. The amount is \$610,000. The analysis done by Mr. Stevenson will net us approximately a \$35,000 savings over the next five years at today’s interest rates. It does take about 60 days to complete the refinance so the rate could change some. The approximate \$10,000 premium is figured in to the analysis. Mike O’Bradovich asked if this new value will go against the bonded indebtedness of the City. It will but there is still a little room left. Moved by council member Cumberledge seconded by council member Melonis to refinance the 2008 G.O. Bonds as presented. Ayes: Unanimous.
2. Bill Dahlheimer – not present
3. Liquor license renewal for Dollar General. Moved by council member Cumberledge seconded by council member Paterson to approve the liquor license renewal for the Dollar General Store. Ayes: Unanimous.

B. Communications from the Departments

1. Library Board. The Library Director and Library Board wants clarity on the program coordinator position. In the current union contract this position is to receive \$16.74 per hour beginning July 1, 2016 so they want to know that it will be done. Also, the position of Social Media/Office Assistant/Newsletter is not in the union contract and they would like an amendment to the union contract to add that job description with the pay of \$13 per hour to begin July 1, 2016. These job descriptions were updated in 2014 and the newsletter addition was added in November and the current pay is about \$9.30 per hour. Mike O’Bradovich clarified that they are asking the City to bridge the gap between the Union and Library Board since they couldn’t come to an agreement before. Mr. O’Bradovich indicated that the City is obligated to open discussions before they meet with the union representatives. The Mayor indicated we would do that through Mr. O’Bradovich.

2. Fire Department – new member application. Moved by council member Melonis seconded by council member Cumberlandedge to approve the new application for the Fire Department. Ayes: Unanimous.
3. Planning Board. No update.
4. Mayor Waltrip
 - a. The Stormwater Committee has two openings and the Mayor would like to appoint Bill Dahlheimer and Carl Coffman to the committee. Moved by council member Corcoran seconded by council member Melonis to approve the appointments. Ayes: Unanimous.
 - b. deleted
 - c. The Mayor would like permission to meet with developers on helping to negotiate the use of City property. He would make no decisions or offers just see what they are looking for and then bring it back to the Council. Moved by council member Cumberlandedge seconded by council member Paterson to have the Mayor associate with developers and an abutting property owner on how they could use the City right of way. Ayes: Unanimous. There was discussion of having a committee for future items like this.
 - d. Tighten Tool Project. The Mayor stated that we need to work on the zoning for that area. Mike O’Bradovich will research what we have done so far on this issue, but cautioned against spot zoning. The Deputy Clerk stated that the zoning has been addressed and what they are asking about is TIF. It was suggested that it was out of the ordinary to ask for TIF when it is not a new development or an expansion. Mike will research and then we can meet with them to discuss what they are wanting and bring it back here.
 - e. Previous City Clerk benefit package. Council member Cumberlandedge stated that he and council member Paterson did some figuring on what was entitled according to the City benefits package and based on the Union contract. They indicated she should be entitled to 320 hours of unused sick time and 160 hours of earned vacation time for a total of 480 hours which would come to about \$16,944. This does not take into consideration the Letter of Understanding that she had with the City. There was discussion of the Letter of Understanding with citizens stating that it should also be used to figure her final payment and pending litigation would probably cost more. The only other benefit due is the offer of COBRA insurance but that is to be paid by the former employee if they choose it. Moved by council member Cumberlandedge seconded by council member Paterson to approve the payment as figured for a total of 480 hours of unused sick and vacation pay. Ayes: Paterson, Corcoran, Cumberlandedge and Schomer. Nays: Melonis.
5. Council member Paterson
 - a. It was again stated by council member Paterson that the Boys and Girls Club is a great benefit to the City and right now they have 110 paid memberships. He offered to meet with any parent at the Boys & Girls Club with the Director about any concerns they may have. He is fully supportive of the club.
 - b. No lake update

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6. Deputy City Clerk – The Deputy Clerk indicated that there is a bill from Smith Peterson law firm for work that the former attorney did and the Mayor has an issue with some of the items on the bill. The Mayor indicated that there are several items on the bill that include the issue of Mary Schomer’s election to the City Council. He wanted to know who gave permission for the attorney to get involved in that. There was discussion on this issue that then escalated into the issue of the election. Mike indicated that the Council all has to vote to ask for him to render an opinion on something. Moved by council member Melonis seconded by council member Paterson to have the Mayor delete the questionable items from the bill and pay the rest. The firm can then seek payment on the rest if they so choose. Ayes: Unanimous.

V. Resolutions.

Moved by council member Melonis seconded by council member Cumberledge to approve the resolution to place liens for unpaid utility bills. Ayes: Unanimous.

VI. Comments

Mayor – No comments.

Council member Paterson – no comments.

Council member Melonis asked if there were any budget meetings scheduled. Council member Paterson stated that there is one scheduled for February 17th at 3pm. Council member Melonis asked how the information gets circulated because she was not notified of that meeting. That was an oversight. Council member Melonis that in budget considerations she would like us to be mindful of the programs that we had at the Resource Center and try and be sure we are not neglecting those programs. The Mayor stated that we had a better Halloween event this year and it was run by volunteers instead of the Resource Center. The Newsletter is being taken over by the Library. Others programs are already being handled by the Boys and Girls Club or the school.

Council member Cumberledge thanked all for coming to the meeting and stated that we have a great group of volunteers in the community.

Council member Schomer stated that she had to call a private ambulance company over the weekend to transport her husband to the hospital and they couldn’t get a gurney into the house to get him so she ended up calling our volunteer rescue squad and they came out and helped get him in the ambulance. Then we he came home the next day they also helped to get him back into the house. She is very appreciative of what the volunteers on the Fire Department do.

The meeting was adjourned 8:17 PM.

Lisa Ruehle, Deputy City Clerk

Gerald Waltrip, Mayor