



**CITY OF MONMOUTH  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**



**Date:** Monday, December 5, 2016      **Time:** 7:00 p.m.      **Location:** 100 East Broadway  
Monmouth, Illinois

**I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Rod Davies called the meeting to order in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 100 East Broadway at 7:00 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**II. ROLL CALL**

City Clerk Susan S. Trevor called the roll and those answering **Present were:** Alderwoman Dawn Johnson, Aldermen Dave Rutledge, Brian Daw, Bob Wells, Dennis Willhardt, Dan Heatherly and Joe Clark **Absent:** Alderwoman Susan Twomey **Also Present:** Mayor Rod Davies, City Administrator Lowell Crow, City Attorney Marcum Spears, City Clerk Susan Trevor, MFD Chief Casey Rexroat, MPD Chief Bill Feithen, Community Development Director Paul Schuytema and Director of Building and Zoning Wade Woodward

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. November 21, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes**

It was moved by Alderwoman Johnson and seconded by Alderman Wells to approve the November 21, 2016 minutes as presented. It was then moved by Alderwoman Johnson to amend her previous motion to add into the minutes the question by Justin Thomas concerning pension payment schedule and the answer by Mayor Davies. The amendment was seconded by Alderman Rutledge **AYE:** Alderwoman Johnson, Aldermen Rutledge, Aldermen Daw, Wells, Willhardt, Heatherly and Clark **NAY:** none **ABSENT:** Alderwoman Twomey **MOTION CARRIED.**

**IV. PRESENTATION TO THE COUNCIL**

**A. Presentations or Citizen Inquiries**

**1. Rotary Presentation – Rotarian Chris Gavin**

Mr. Gavin explained to Council that in 2018 it will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rotary organization. Each chapter is choosing a project in their community to commemorate the event. The Monmouth Chapter chose replacing the fountain in the downtown square. The Monmouth Rotary employed an architect to give preliminary drawings and costs. The estimated cost of the project is \$150,000. There would be three phases of the project with the 1<sup>st</sup> phase being a Club fundraiser with a goal of \$60,000. The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase would be a Community fundraiser with a goal of \$40,000. The 3<sup>rd</sup> phase would be the City's portion of \$50,000 to fund the infrastructure demolition and repairs. The City would also be responsible for maintaining the fountain just as it is doing for the current fountain. According to Mr. Gavin, the Rotary Club is looking for a commitment from the City to participate in the project and if that is not possible, then the Club will re-consider two other suggested projects. Mayor Davies thanked Mr. Gavin for his presentation and said that the City would like to do some engineering studies of its own through their engineers from Woodard and Curran. This may very well be an opportune time to replace some aging infrastructure and the deteriorating fountain according to Mayor Davies. He asked if mid-January would be an acceptable time frame in which to respond to the Rotary request to which Mr. Gavin agreed would be fine.

## **B. Consent Agenda**

### **1. Approval of Bills** (Items on Consent Agenda will not be discussed unless a request is made to remove an item for discussion)

**It was moved by Alderwoman Heatherly and seconded by Alderman Rutledge to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the approval of the bills being the only item to be considered. AYE:** Aldermen Rutledge, Daw, Wells, Willhardt, Heatherly, Clark and Alderwoman Johnson **NAY:** none **ABSENT:** Alderwoman Twomey **MOTION CARRIED.**

## **C. Committee of the Whole Discussion Items – possible action to follow**

### **1. Community Development November Report – Director Schuytema**

- ✚ Director Schuytema attended the annual Tri-State summit made up of 36 counties around the Mississippi River area. Directors of Transportation from Illinois, Iowa and Missouri gave input as to how quickly automated trucking is developing and will come into play on the state highways. Some states are already doing road work in order to be ready for the implementation of automated trucking. This will certainly give importance to making Routes 67 and 34 four lanes. Not entirely surprising is the fact that Iowa is far out-pacing Illinois in Economic Development according to the presentations from the Iowa and Illinois Economic Directors.
- ✚ The CEO Board is now filled and applications for the program will be start to be accepted in January.
- ✚ The seventh intern to work on developing web-sites for local non-profit organizations finished developing the web-site for Lake Warren and it is up and running. The client is very happy with the site. This has been a successful internship program.
- ✚ The survey results on the street-scaping design for the downtown area show that the enhancement of a round-about entering the square won out over the other design and creating diagonal parking was the preference of the people responding to the survey. A surprising fact that came from the survey was that people believe that there is sufficient parking in the downtown area. Administrator Crow reminded the Council that the City is under a consent order from the EPA to green-up the downtown area.

### **2. Building and Zoning November Report – Director Woodward**

- Two residential demolition permits were taken out this last month.
- Demolition of the old Clark gas station at 1125 N. Main has begun.
- The final inspection of the addition to the Y.M.C.A. is this coming Friday.
- Next week, December 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, Wade will be gone to a 40 hour asbestos remediation training class.
- The weekly inspection for the demolition of the fire damaged rendering section of Smithfield is a slow process and is ongoing.

### 3. Woodard and Curran October Report – Director Jackson

- ❖ Well #10 drilling rig had a failure on the gear box and had to be pulled for repairs. It is back on-site as of today and the target date for completion of the drilling is December 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> with a depth of 2,450 feet. A yield test will then have to be conducted for 24 hours. The City is waiting on a construction permit from the EPA to be able to complete the project with an estimated completion date of sometime in May of 2017.
- ❖ The Sludge and Application Contractor removed sludge from the Smithfield lagoon and will bill the City which will then in turn bill Smithfield for reimbursement.
- ❖ The first significant snow removal went well even though it was a surprise event.
- ❖ Leaf pick-up will go through December 14<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Concrete pouring has begun on the Monmouth College parking lot as well as the start of the sewer work.

### 4. Approval of TIF Board's Recommendations for Pattee Plaza Sidewalk

Administrator Crow explained that the Pattee Foundation and the Buchanan Center for the Arts demolished the Romano building to create a green space. The B.C.A. approached the TIF Board about helping to pay for ADA curbs and ramps to be installed. The only taxing body not present to vote was the Park District. Leary Construction submitted the low bid of \$3,500. The TIF Board is recommending approval of the Leary Construction bid. **It was moved by Alderman Daw and seconded by Alderman Wells to accept the recommendation of the TIF Board and approve the bid of \$3,500 by Leary Construction for the sidewalk repair.** AYE: Aldermen Daw, Wells, Willhardt, Heatherly, Clark, Alderwoman Johnson and Alderman Rutledge NAY: none ABSENT: Alderwoman Twomey **MOTION CARRIED.**

### 5. 2017-2018 Tax Levy Discussion

Mayor Davies explained that the City had two actuarial studies done for the Fire and Police Pensions, which noted that the City was in good shape with the Fire levy, but with several officers due to retire the levy for the Police Pension fund needs to be adjusted. It should also be noted, according to Mayor Davies that when the old Enterprise Zone expired at the end of December 2015 it increased our EAV by approximately 12.3 million dollars, but those final figures will not be available until next spring. Currently our City tax levy is 2.8% and it will then decrease to 2.5% on the tax bills. The total increase will go 100% to the Police Pension fund in the amount of \$76,969. Having our own actuaries will see that our portion of the Police and Fire Pensions is 100% funded and not the 90% that was happening with the State hired actuaries. Mayor Davies added that the State of Illinois sets the retirement benefits and the investments that can be done while all the municipalities can do is to fund the pensions.

## V. ORDINANCES

### A. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

#### 1. 16-026, Rezoning of Property at 303 N. 11<sup>th</sup> to Neighborhood Commercial

Building and Zoning Director Wade Woodward explained that the property at 303 N. 11<sup>th</sup> Street was currently zoned Public Service and in order to allow for building construction and a new parking lot the zoning needed to be changed to B-2, Neighborhood Commercial. The Plan Commission held a hearing and recommended approving the above-stated change in zoning. **It was moved by Alderman Heatherly and seconded by Alderman Rutledge to approve rezoning 303 N. 11<sup>th</sup> Street from Public Service to B-2, Neighborhood Commercial.** **AYE:** Aldermen Daw, Wells, Willhardt, Heatherly, Clark, Alderwoman Johnson and Alderman Rutledge. **NAY:** none **ABSENT:** Alderwoman Twomey **MOTION CARRIED.**

2. 16-028, Abating Tax Levied for 2016 on \$4,065,000 G.O.B., Series 2015B

3. 16-029, Abating Tax Levied for 2016 on \$7,200,000 G.O.B., Series 2015A

4. 16-030, Abating Tax Levied for 2016 on \$8,335,000 G.O.B., Series 2014

5. 16-031, Abating Tax Levied for 2016 on \$1,550,000 G.O.B., Series 2010A&B

6. 16-032, Abating Tax Levied for 2016 on \$5,000,000 G.O.B., Series 2007

7. 16-033, Abating Tax Levied for 2016 on \$5,000,000 G.O.B., Series 2011

8. 16-035, Abating Tax Levied for 2016 on \$665,000 G.O.B. Series 1999A

**It was moved by Alderman Heatherly and seconded by Alderman Daw to approve the above-stated ordinances collectively.** **AYE:** Aldermen Wells, Willhardt, Heatherly, Clark, Alderwoman Johnson, Aldermen Rutledge and Daw **NAY:** none **ABSENT:** Alderwoman Twomey **MOTION CARRIED.**

### VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### A. Per Illinois Statute 5 ILCS 120/2 to consider sale of Real Estate

1. **It was moved by Alderman Heatherly and seconded by Alderman Wells to go into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. to consider possible sale of Real Estate.** **AYE:** Aldermen Willhardt, Heatherly, Clark, Alderwoman Johnson, Aldermen Rutledge, Daw and Wells **NAY:** none **ABSENT:** Alderwoman Twomey **MOTION CARRIED.**

2. **It was moved by Alderman Willhardt and seconded by Alderman Wells to return to Regular Session at 8:35 p.m.** **AYE:** Aldermen Heatherly, Clark, Alderwoman Johnson, Aldermen Rutledge, Daw, Wells and Willhardt **NAY:** none **ABSENT:** Alderwoman Twomey **MOTION CARRIED.**

### VII. OTHER BUSINESS

#### A. Administrator Crow Updates

1. There were no updates for this meeting.

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

**It was moved by Alderman Heatherly and seconded by Alderman Rutledge to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. MOTION CARRIED by unanimous voice vote with the exception of Alderwoman Twomey, who was absent.**

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Mayor Rod Davies

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City Clerk Susan S. Trevor