

MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 3, 2003

Invocation was given by Rob Windes.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor George Woodcock, Commissioners Jack Emmons, Jim Pfeister, John Fearheiley, and Dick Shoaff.

Also Present: City Administrator Merle Weems, Police Chief Jim Seaton, City Attorney Tom Price, City Inspector Don Price, Street Superintendent David Easter, Fire Chief Steve Partee, Water Plant Superintendent Mark Weirich, Waste Water Treatment Manager Rob Windes, Economic Development Manager Bill Maples, and City Engineer Dave Dallas.

Absent: Airport Manager Ken Wood

MAYOR COMMENTS

The Mayor received a nice note from Congressman Tim Johnson who met with City Commissioners and discussed his support about the new bridge over the Wabash River. This past week City Administrator Merle Weems and Police Chief Jim Seaton went to Springfield to the Federal Surplus and purchased a 100 kilowatt generator for \$3,000. The normal price is \$29,000. This new generator will be located at the Sewer Plant.

There has been a sewer break beneath Walnut Street and it will be replaced with no damaging results. There has been an ongoing conversation with representatives from the mine. They were to have started transporting coal today, but that has been put off for a few days. They will be in touch with the City as they indicated at the last meeting all trucks will be within the speed limit and all trucks will be covered. Some of these truck drivers are from the Mt. Carmel, Wabash County area who know the laws of the State.

The Primary election was held last week with 22% of the voters present. Mayor Woodcock urged all city residents to cast their vote on April 1st for the General Election.

- Mayor Woodcock called upon City Attorney Tom Price to discuss the property located at Southgate Industrial Park which the city has put up for sale. The city has received a bid of \$7,500 from Kevin Williams for the property located between #1 Southgate Drive and Illinois Route 15.

A motion was made by Commissioner Emmons and seconded by Commissioner Fearheiley to approve the sale of the land to Kevin Williams for the amount of \$7,500. All present voted Aye.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

COMMISSIONER JACK EMMONS - FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

A motion was made by Commissioner Emmons and seconded by Commissioner Fearheiley to appoint Chester Miles to the Board of Southeastern IL Area Agency on Aging. All present voted Aye.

Commissioner Emmons gave the following report.

Cash Investment balance as of 3/03/03:	\$100,870.00
Receipts:	128,089.00
Expenses:	80,250.00
Cash Investment Balance:	148,709.00
 Recreation Fund:	 28,893.00
Receipts:	0.00
Expenditures:	301.00
Balance:	28,592.00
Accounts Payable:	566.00
 Garbage Fund Account beginning Balance:	 \$19,242.00
Receipts:	8,072.00
Expenses:	2,004.00

Balance:	25,310.00
Accounts Payable:	1,448.00
Airport Fund:	(37,593.00)
Receipts:	1,123.00
Expenditures:	2,451.00
Balance:	(38,921.00)
Accounts Receivable:	1,992.00
Accounts Payable:	1,851.00
Water Fund Account beginning Balance:	\$14,015.00
Receipts:	33,716.00
Expenses:	29,243.00
Balance:	18,489.00
Accounts Payable:	14,322.00
Sewer Fund Account:	\$13,301.00
Receipts:	\$19,819.00
Expenses:	16,578.00
Balance:	16,542.00
Accounts Payable:	12,486.00
Golf Course Fund:	(\$126,977.00)
Receipts:	2,567.00
Expenses:	4,175.00
Balance:	(128,586.00)
Accounts Payable:	4,299.00

COMMISSIONER PFEISTER - STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Pfeister expressed to the council that it has been a wonderful eight years serving the citizens of Mt. Carmel.

Commissioner Pfeister gave the following report. (See attached copy)

COMMISSIONER SHOAFF - FIRE, HEALTH & SAFETY, GARBAGE, CITY HALL AND CIVIL DEFENSE

Commissioner Shoaff welcomed Terry McGuire to the Mt. Carmel Fire Department as a full time paid on call fireman. McGuire, who previously worked as a volunteer firefighter, will take the place of Butch Kingsbury. The Fire Department is in need of at least 3 or 4 more firemen right now. The Fire Department will soon be starting a junior cadet firefighter program in hopes of training future firefighters.

COMMISSIONER FEARHEILEY - WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Fearheiley also gave the following report. (See attached copy)

ADDITIONAL REPORTS

Economic Development Director Bill Maples gave the following report.

Mr. Maples reported that he received a letter of approval from IL Environmental Protection Agency for the grant amendment on the Brownsfield project. The amendment will add \$4,000 to the project. A close out package for the grant was presented to the Mayor for the Water Main Grant. This project was \$200,000 and included the Water Main on Cherry St., Ninth St. and the purchase of the screw pump at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

MEI, a company that Mr. Maples has been working with since July of last year, has a new project to build a new facility in Mt. Carmel. They are also looking at sites in Kentucky and Indiana. They will take recycled plastics and manufacture large trash dumpsters. Mr. Maples presented the council with a letter from Rick Buck of MEI who wishes to be on the agenda for the next council meeting.

Merle Weems gave the following report.

Mr. Weems, Mark Weirich, Bill Reed, and Cecil Bobbitt went to Princeton IN to look at a jet vacuum truck. This truck can hold up to 2,000 gallons of water. The truck is priced at \$50,000.

Tom Price gave the following report.

State officials are now reviewing ownership of properties on the site of the planned new Wabash River Bridge. Mr. Price talked to a state research person at the Wabash County Courthouse last week and he was informed that they are getting names of the property owners from the records as part of the current bridge planning stage.

City Inspector Don Price gave the following report.

Mr. Price provided the city council with a copy of the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Building Department Mutual Aid. The purpose of this agreement involves 44 member communities providing mutual aid for the event we have a natural disaster or an emergency type situation requiring help in assessing the damage of the buildings.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shoaff and seconded by Commissioner Emmons to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement Building Department Mutual Aid of all Municipal Corporations. All present voted Aye.

Police Chief Jim Seaton gave the following report.

Chief Seaton cautioned drivers not to drive off any hard surfaced roadway because it is easy to cause ruts in yards and in non-curbed areas with the current soft ground conditions.

Fire Chief Partee had no report.

Street Superintendent Dave Easter gave the following report.

The last two snowstorms resulted in 81.4 hours in overtime pay for street crews to work weekends and week nights. Mr. Easter cautioned city residents to stay away from the river levees that protect the south end of Mt. Carmel. The ground is very soft so any attempt to drive a vehicle on the levee could cause major damage. Criminal fines are possible under state statutes protecting the flood levees, and that includes ground 25 feet on each side of them.

- Water Plant Superintendent Mark Weirich gave the following report.
(See attached copy)

- Waste Water Treatment Manager Rob Windes gave the following report.
(See attached copy)


City Engineer Dave Dallas had no report.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

A motion was made by Commissioner Emmons and seconded by Commissioner Shoaff to pay all bills bearing the proper signatures. All present vote Aye.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pfeister seconded by Commissioner Fearheiley to approve the minutes from the last City Council Meeting dated February 17, 2003. All present vote Aye.

Meeting was adjourned.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk