

MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 10, 2008

Invocation was given by Commissioner Norman Brunson

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Tom Meeks, Commissioners - Jack Emmons, Norman Brunson,
C. Michael Witters and William C. Hudson

Also Present: City Clerk Merle Weems, City Attorney Tom Price, City Inspector Don Price and Economic
Development Director Brandi Stennett

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Tom Meeks brought the city council meeting to order. Mayor Meeks stated that donations are still being accepted for Charlie Boss Memorial Fund (City Park). Mayor Meeks praised Dee Drilling of Mt. Carmel as a recipient last week of "Wildcatter of the Year" award for 2007. The company's 100th well was a highly successful field near Bellmont.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

Airport Manager, Ken Wood approached the city council members in regards to two major improvement projects at the Mt. Carmel Municipal Airport which would receive significant federal funding. Mr. Wood said the airport each year is eligible for \$150,000 federal entitlement and that will be used to build a new hangar. Mt. Carmel Airport will build one large and four smaller hangars with 95% federal funding. The 5% cost balance will be arranged in a hangar rental agreement with businessman, Chris Zanetis, who plans to base his large plane in the larger hangar planned for construction, according to the airport manager's report. The total \$300,000 hangars project will cost city taxpayers nothing, with a prepaid rental agreement by Zanetis covering the \$14,000 local cost share.

Also planned for the Mt. Carmel Airport in the summer of 2009 will be repairing and remarking the taxiway and runway 13-31, which will require a 2.5% local cost share as well as 2.5% from the state to obtain the 97% federal grant for the work. Airport Manager, Ken Wood stated that the paving project will be about \$300,000, depending on asphalt costs, and local share will be \$6,950.

A motion was made by Commissioner Witters and seconded by Commissioner Emmons to approve improvements and expenditures of \$6,950 (city's share) at the Mt. Carmel Airport. All present voted Aye.

Mt. Carmel Ribberfest Committee Leader, Collette Grigsby, approached the city council members and presented the Mayor and Commissioners with souvenir festival T-shirts in appreciation of all their work at last year's Ribberfest and invited them to the 2008 event, which is scheduled September 5th and 6th

A motion was made by Mayor Meeks and seconded by Commissioner Brunson to approve funding for the fireworks display on Friday, July 4th at the cost of \$11,500 before donations. All present voted Aye.

A motion was made by Mayor Meeks and seconded by Commissioner Brunson to approve purchase of a 1996 HME ladder truck at the cost of \$250,000 with a means of purchasing with \$110,000 from Bond Issue, \$50,000 from Foreign Fire Fund, \$75,000 from TIF and balance of \$15,000 out of Capital Improvement. All of this is if unit meets our inspection/approval. All present voted Aye.

A motion was made by Commissioner Emmons and seconded by Commissioner Witters to approve Ordinance No. 909 Amending Chapter 6 Buildings and Building Regulations Article II Section 6-29 Fees and Costs. All present voted Aye.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER JACK EMMONS – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS 02/25/08 – 03/10/08

Cash Investment Balance as of 03/10/08:	687,855.76
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Receipts:	46,535.47
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Expenditures:	124,281.71
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Cash Investment Balance 02/25/08:	765,602.00
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Recreation Fund:	7,009.77
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Receipts:	2,482.36
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Expenditures:	937.36
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Balance:	8,554.77
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Accounts Payable:	168.84
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Garbage Fund Account Beginning Balance:	132,429.49
Receipts:	20,625.77
Expenditures:	3,883.53
Balance:	149,171.73
Accounts Payable:	514.51
Airport Fund:	(58,768.14)
Receipts:	4,445.77
Expenditures:	3,096.77
Balance:	(57,419.14)
Accounts Receivable:	2,965.71
Accounts Payable:	1,222.88
Water Fund Account Beginning Balance:	33,638.92
Receipts:	34,439.46
Expenditures:	41,242.94
Balance:	26,835.44
Accounts Payable:	12,454.55
Sewer Fund Account:	29,431.09
Receipts:	22,784.65
Expenditures:	30,385.15
Balance:	21,830.59
Accounts Payable:	6,528.79
Golf Course Fund:	(350,917.58)
Receipts:	11,471.00
Expenditures:	10,275.26
Balance:	(349,721.84)
Accounts Payable:	5,150.63

COMMISSIONER MIKE WITTERS – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Witters reported that the two new trucks that the Street Department has, worked well in the snow. Commissioner Witters stated that if weather permitting, the Street Department crews will be out next week filling pot holes.

COMMISSIONER NORMAN BRUNSON – FIRE, HEALTH & SAFETY, GARBAGE, CITY HALL AND CIVIL DEFENSE

Commissioner Brunson reported that three or four people have expressed interest in taking the mosquito larviciding test, which would give them a license good for three years. Commissioner Brunson stated that the Mt. Carmel Fire Department made 11 runs in the past two weeks. Commissioner Brunson presented Josh Howard, who is the youngest paid on-call firefighter, with a plaque, "Volunteer of the Year" award for making the most runs in a year. Commissioner Brunson commented on the updates in the foyer at City Hall, including the freshly painted ceiling tiles and lighting fixture improvements, as well as the kitchen sink and water fountain repairs. Commissioner Brunson stated that the Community Room at City Hall will be back in operation soon with some new guidelines.

COMMISSIONER BILL HUDSON – WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Hudson reported that levee pumps have been running daily to protect the city from the above flood stage Wabash River. Commissioner Hudson stated that the Sewer Plant is operating well, with regular duties as well as preventive maintenance orders being performed. The Sewer Plant is currently looking for a qualified operator to fill the vacancy of Charlie Oliver's position, who retired on March 5th after 27 years of service.

City Attorney Tom Price

City Attorney Tom Price presented the drafted Ordinance No. 909 regulating demolition fees for buildings in regards to size and nature of the structures.

Administrative Assistant Merle Weems

Administrative Assistant Merle Weems brought before the city councilmen the contract for the fireworks display on the 4th of July, in the amount of about \$11,500 before donations, which have ranged from \$6,000 to \$10,000. Administrative Assistant Weems approached the city commissioners about purchasing a 1996 ladder truck at the cost of \$250,000. Administrative Assistant Weems addressed the commissioners on the financing of the road work and getting the bids for the engineering of the road on Empire Street.

City Inspector Don Price

City Inspector Don Price stated that Ordinance No. 909 attempts to address problems created by people who try demolition projects themselves and find the efforts dragging out over time “leaving a mess” in the neighborhood. The permits are required for demolition of structures over 180 square feet in size. The ordinance requires clean-up of the site within 60 days, and with a possible 30 day additional extension.

City Economic Development Director Brandi Stennett

No report given.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

A motion was made by Commissioner Brunson and seconded by Commissioner Hudson to pay the bills. All present voted Aye.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hudson and seconded by Commissioner Brunson to accept the Minutes from the last regular meeting of the City Council February 25, 2998. All present voted Aye.

Meeting was adjourned.

Mayor
ATTEST:

City Clerk

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