

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, January 29, 2018

5:00 pm

Invocation was given by Reverend Joy Sherman.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Bill Hudson Commissioners – Eric Ikemire, Joe Judge,  
Justin Dulgar, Rod Rodriguez

Also, Present: City Administrative Assistant Rudy Witsman, City Attorney Kelli Storckman

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Hudson brought the city council meeting to order.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Darin Bailey, who was in attendance at the council meeting to introduce himself and to announce his candidacy for a position as a State of Illinois Representative. Mr. Bailey stated everyone is welcome to and should please feel free to contact him.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Melissa Strine with the Rockets Foundation, who was seeking council approval for the ninth annual Saint Mary's School Mardi Gras 5K/10K Run and Kids Fun Run Celebration on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Strine stated the race route will be the same as the previous years and the dinner celebration will be held at the Elks Club. Mayor Hudson advised the Mardi Gras Committee to contact the police department with the race route.

Mayor Hudson thanked the Street Department for taking down the Christmas decorations along Market Street, as the crew had to wait until the weather cooperated for the removal.

Mayor Hudson reported this winter has been hard on the water maintenance department due to the water line breaks. Mayor Hudson stated he is appreciative for all their hard work and efforts. Mayor Hudson thanked the residents, who are affected by the water breaks and the boil orders for their patience.

### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

#### **COMMISSIONER ERIC IKEMIRE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS**

Commissioner Ikemire reported in the last two weeks the street department worked on servicing the mowers for the parks department; plowed and salted city streets; hauled sand to blend in with the salt for the city streets during the recent snow storms; performed maintenance work on a city truck, street sweeper, and the loader; took down the Christmas decorations on Market Street; and hauled the Santa house back to storage. Commissioner Ikemire thanked the street department for all their efforts, as well as for all the long hours and late nights spent working, during the past snow storm.

Commissioner Ikemire stated he had met with City Administrative Assistant Witsman several times regarding the cemetery bids and did an analysis on potential ways to save the city money on the mowing. Commissioner Ikemire reiterated the bids were in the amount of \$22,000 and \$22,222, with his initial thoughts being to bring the mowing "inhouse" through the street department. Commissioner Ikemire reported due to time constraints the city will consider bringing the mowing "inhouse" next year and he recommended accepting a one-year contract with G-L Services, who submitted the lower bid.

#### **COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS**

Statement of Receipts and Expenditures – See attached agenda with financials.

Commissioner Judge reported he had met with the Southeastern Area Agency on the Aging regarding the Wabash County Senior Citizens Center and no more funding has been released from the State of Illinois. Commissioner Judge stated the city also received a notification if the federal government has another shut down there will be delays in the funding the center receives from other title grants. Commissioner Judge announced the Wabash County Senior Citizens Center will have a

chili supper fundraiser on Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Commissioner Judge stated the City of Mount Carmel wishes Terry Dardeen a happy retirement from the Wabash County Senior Citizens Center, after nine years of employment. Commissioner Judge reported, at this time, the city will not fill her position and those duties will be disbursed to other employees at the center.

Commissioner Judge stated he was been working with Fire Chief Francis Speth on submitting an American Firefighter Grant through the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission in the amount of \$202,420 for the purchase of eight air tanks and air masks for the fire department.

### **COMMISSIONER JUSTIN DULGAR – WATER AND SEWER**

Commissioner Dulgar thanked the water maintenance department for all their hard work and efforts during the past month with all the water line breaks.

Commissioner Dulgar announced the Wabash Valley Regional Water Commission will have a meeting at Albion on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 pm. Commissioner Dulgar stated Mike Wallace, the State of Illinois Program Director will be in attendance to answer any questions and to discuss the project. Commissioner Dulgar reported the commission is at the phase of applying for a full grant application as soon as the engineering report is approved.

Commissioner Dulgar reported the water treatment plant started a new chemical test today in the hopes of being more efficient by using fewer chemicals.

Commissioner Dulgar stated the wastewater plant has started the upgrade at the Pecan Avenue Area Lift Station and the Ficklin Street Area Lift Station equipment has been ordered with those repairs being done soon. Commissioner Dulgar reported work is being done in preparation for the bid letting for the outfall project at the wastewater plant. Commissioner Dulgar reiterated the Scada System bids that were submitted the latter part of last year are still being evaluated at this time.

### **COMMISSIONER ROD RODRIGUEZ – FIRE, HEALTH & SAFETY, GARBAGE, CITY HALL AND CIVIL DEFENSE**

Commissioner Rodriguez reported during the month of January the fire department had a total of twelve runs and has been conducting several refresher course training sessions.

### **CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN**

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated contained within the consent agenda is the second reading of Ordinance 1084, authorizing a loan agreement with IEPA for the wastewater plant. City Administrative Assistant reiterated work is ongoing to complete all the required paperwork for the wastewater plant project.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported within the last few weeks, Republic Services had denied requests from residents for a second trash tote. City Administrative Assistant stated after contacting Republic Services and some serious discussions regarding the second tote requests; Republic Services has agreed to continue to offer two totes to residents that request them, at no additional charge, until their contract ends.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated due to the thawing snow and rain over the past two weeks, City Hall has developed a major roof leak and Linson's Seamless Roof Systems was contacted to temporarily patch the roof. City Administrative Assistant Witsman presented to the council a bid from Linson's for a total replacement of the roof, as it is beyond being repaired or patched.

### **CITY ATTORNEY – KELLI STORCKMAN**

City Attorney Storckman no report.

### **CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB**

City Inspector Gidcumb absent.

**BUSINESS MOTIONS**

Commissioner Judge motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to accept the bid from Linson Roofing of \$30,168 for the replacement of the City Hall roof. This was done on an emergency basis. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Ikemire motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to accept a one-year bid for \$22,000 to mow the city cemeteries from G-L Services. The term of the bid was reduced to one-year from two years, which was accepted by the contractor. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Mayor Hudson and the Council approved the Consent Agenda, as presented in the agenda dated January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The consent agenda includes the second reading of Ordinance 1084 Authorizing a Loan Agreement with IEPA for the wastewater plant; approval of the minutes for the council meeting held on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and approval of paying all bills bearing the proper signatures.

Meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk