

July 12, 2016

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fountain City was called to order at 7:07 pm on Tuesday, July 12, 2016 by Mayor Kevin Hutter. Alderpersons present: Jen Tepovich, Bobbi Farrand, John Sagan, Judith Ganger, Barb Schmidtke and Sol Simon. Absent: None. Others present: Ann Bohri, Judy Wolfe, Fran Burt, Paul Duellman, Dick Wichser, Kay Goyner, Gil Adams, Judy Boehm, Simone Heitman, Claire Waters and Stephanie Foust (video).

Motion Sol, second Judith, all alderpersons agreed to approve the minutes of the May 25th special meeting with the correction that two alderpersons voted no to go into closed session and the minutes of the regular meeting with a typo correction. Motion carried.

Citizens: Judy Boehm thanked the Council for listening and addressing her concerns last month. Dick Wichser asked why Wall Street repairs were at a standstill. The Mayor advised that they had a start date planned of July 20th. Simone asked about a completion date? Judy Wolfe noted that there are still weeds on the sidewalks around town with the Fountain City days coming up. She highly recommends that we need a police officer here, adding that she was speaking for Shirley Steckel as well. Her concern for students was voiced. Simone Heitman stated that the City needs to be computerized totally with financial and ordinance information all computerized and available online. She further noted that we are back in the olden days for our records and it has been a discussion/concern. We need to get up-to-date on the website. Simone concluded that the new bridge to Winona will be finished before Wall Street is.

Committee Discussions: Gil reported that he is working on striping & trimming brush plus required maintenance. Kevin noted that Charlie Cameron had thanked Gil for the water system inspection and thought that Gil has come a long way in the last few years; PPHS is starting to get resumes for a police officer; Barb reported that Wall St. has a start date, recycling issues of problem stops and light bulbs, weed maintenance and LRIP grant; Jen/Judith noted kayakers coming Aug. 5th; runners on Aug. 12th, FCRP play on July 27-31st with plaque dedication for Judee Brone and Jen was partnering with WSU rec. dept. to find an intern to run our open gym in the winter; Jen advised that they will start budgeting once June financials are done; Bobbi reported on a driveway request from Paul Lorenz, property maintenance ordinance, mowing and weed issue, run down properties, and letters were sent out to property owners in cases where the state ordinance was applicable; Sol noted three things Public Works is addressing: 1) scheduling of utility workers hours, 2) rehab of well and 3) new mower; the Mayor reported that Jen's family is moving due to work, and her resignation is effective as of Sept. 13, 2016. We are looking for someone to fill that seat and will have to look at committee structure if we don't find someone right away. The Council President and alderperson seat can be appointed that same September night – filling some very large shoes. An extension of condolence was made to John who lost his mother. August 11th at 6pm there will be a public hearing with Sheriff Schmidtke on hiring an officer for Fountain City – perhaps may need to be in the gym area? Kevin met with Walker and Danou discussing issues – hoping to get some feedback. He also met with Eric Barnard of Winona about tourism and he is hoping to attend the upper river let down that the DNR is hosting.

Salute to Rhubarb event was reviewed by Claire. Only about 50 cookbooks are left of the 300 that were ordered. Revenue of \$690 from cookbooks with potential of more, \$170 from other sources of bake and plant sales, taste testing \$129, spent \$175 on banner which is being store by the vendor, \$80 on entertainment, \$360 on tent, \$50 advertising, with a approximate \$1,700 in the black. Kevin thanked Claire for all her hard work and Claire asked everyone to save the date of June 2nd for next year's festival.

Judith reported that due to an accident by the Fountain, the plan was to take out center (damaged bush) and add spirea or hydrangea to be paid for with insurance proceeds. Denny & Claire Waters and Judith will be taking care of this.

Last year we budgeted \$2,000 for reroofing of a couple buildings at the municipal park. Volunteers will do ball club buildings and City will purchase materials for all the roofs so they are like materials. Donations of: \$1,000 from Salute to Rhubarb festival, \$500 from the Fountain City Community Ball, and \$500 was also given anonymously. Bids were given to the Park-Rec/Tourism/City Properties/Cemetery committee and their recommendation was to accept the proposal from Cochrane Lumber of \$3,396 plus an estimated \$100 for miscellaneous costs. Motion Sol, second Judith, all alderpersons agreed to move forward to purchase the materials per the committee's recommendation. Motion carried.

Motion Sol, second Bobbi, all alderpersons agreed to the Mayoral appointment of Randy Boehm to the Board of Appeals to replace a vacancy. Motion carried.

Sol gave a brief introduction to the proposals review and rehabilitation of well #1, noting we only received two bids and the project should be done by October 1st. A cost of \$13,670 from Municipal Well & Pump and \$19,290 from CTW (different approach) were reviewed. Motion John, second Barb, all alderpersons agreed to the recommendation of the Public Works committee to go with Municipal Pump and Well. Motion carried.

Kevin noted the DNR report on City water supply system about gallons being pumped and its affect if we had an emergency on the system. Sol noted that even if everything goes well, they may need a change order. John read about Gil in the DNR report aloud as he wanted everyone to know this.

Sol advised that the Public Works committee looked at contract mowing vs. the purchase of a rotary mower. Contracting cost is \$90-\$115 per hour. For the first time mowing this year, it is estimated to take about 30 hours for that one time. It was brought up that since we have the staff to mow, we should purchase a new mower. Quote of \$7,000 was given to him a year ago, and it would cost \$2,700 for one time of mowing. Motion Jen, second John, all alderpersons agreed to authorize the Public Works committee to spend up to \$7,500 following the finance committee's recommendation, with a change of amount to be up to \$7,500. Motion carried.

Money we would have spent this quarter to be used for 250 hours of time in the next 90 days; however, the contract with Buffalo County is only for 60 days. 200 hours of time, plus extra administration hours, at approximately \$45/hour. End of July is also the deadline for police officer applications. We will know more about the status of the grant in September. Approximately 15 hours per week of coverage. County officers will be using our equipment, so our presence will be out there. Officer will wear a Buffalo County uniform, and the agreement was passed around for review. Motion John, second Judith, all alderpersons agreed to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with the Buffalo County Sheriff's Department for local law enforcement services for a maximum of 250 hours as amended. Motion carried.

Motion Sol, second Jen, all alderpersons agreed to purchase gym equipment as recommended by the committee for pickle ball. Motion carried. Per Jen, pickle ball is the rage right now and is a cross between tennis, ping pong and badmitten. Open gym for this activity will be on Mondays beginning on Monday, August 8th between 8-11 am.

Motion John, second Sol, all alderpersons agreed to grant a temporary Class B license to Lions Club for August 12th-16th. Motion carried.

Motion Jen, second Bobbi, all alderpersons agreed to grant operator's licenses to: Patrick Stiehl, Jane Jennison, Alexis Stans, Jessica Semling, Tristen Greff and Nicole Campbell. Motion carried.

Motion Jen, second Judith, all alderpersons agreed to pay all the bills presented. Motion carried.

Motion Judith, second Sol, all alderpersons agreed to adjournment at 8:20pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet LaDuke, Clerk-Treasurer