

SPECIAL COMMON COUNCIL MEETING – October 3, 2016

Mayor Mielke called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

*Present:* Ken Williamson, Scott Hoffmann, Aaron Schoen, Tom Nolan, Scott Zillmer

*Absent:* Arlyn Fischer

*Others present:* Mike Lefebvre, Jeff Keller, Bob Eggleston, Chief Schultz, Officer Jackson Wilson, Mary Riske, Dave Krueger, Todd Bessette

*Arriving later:* June Lorrig (4:16 p.m.)

m/s/c Zillmer/Schoen to approve the agenda.

m/s/c Schoen/Hoffmann to deviate from the order of agenda if necessary.

**Acknowledgement of Citizens/Open Forum:** High school students would like to host a Haunted Trail event at the disc golf course on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 pm. Item added to the October 10<sup>th</sup> Council agenda.

**New Business:**

- a. Dale Braun Memorial Plaque – Marion Pond Association: Krueger provided a sample of a plaque they want to put on the north side of the dam in honor of Braun as Charter President of the Pond Association. It would be on the railing, facing the flag. Past practice has been for memorials, like trees or benches, to be placed in the parks. The Association doesn't want it at Wallace Park because of vandalism; they want to keep it somewhere around the pond. m/s/c Williamson/Hoffmann to allow them to put the plaque in the area suggested; 4 ayes, voting nay was Zillmer.
- b. Replacement of Veteran's Park Bathroom Doors: Maintenance item. Total cost is \$4,130. m/s/c Schoen/Hoffmann to approve the replacement of the Veteran's Park bathroom doors as presented by Mattes (in his written report).
- c. Cannon Park Lighting: Citizen request. Alliant quote is \$304 + the monthly fee. Mielke stated this is in a residential area and other parks, like Veteran's Park, have the lights going off at park closing so it doesn't annoy the neighbors. Park curfew is 11:00 p.m. Discussion on not being able to see kids hanging around the park after hours. Mielke doesn't want the lights on all night long. m/s/c Zillmer/Schoen to put up a light in Cannon Park with a timer not to go beyond the park curfew.
- d. Consider Options for Lion's Point/Senior Center: Decision needs to be made on whether to include the Lion's Point/Senior Center in on a FEMA grant.
  - If approved, FEMA would pay 75% of the demolition costs plus the Fair Market Value of the current shelter; the city could then put any money left after the demolition towards replacing the shelter
  - Only an open shelter and bathrooms are allowed in the flood plain
  - It has to be a separate application from the W. Garfield application
  - The Fair Market Value of the existing building is unknown; it's not on the tax roll and the assessor has never been in it; the insurance company has the replacement cost at around \$880,000
  - Rogers can check if prevailing wages apply to the demolition and the new construction because money received from FEMA would be used; costs could double if prevailing wages are paid
  - The main issues are with the Sr. Center; the north & south sides are serving their purpose
  - The Lion's would like to keep the Sr. Center area because it's heated and is nice to use at events
  - Discussion on parking space, topsoil and grading; the DNR will likely not let fill be brought in; you also have to be concerned about flooding out other buildings in the area
  - The FIRM map may not be up-to-date; new elevations may be needed

- If a new shelter is being considered in the tennis court area, it needs to be parceled off before applying for the grant
  - The seniors have their meals catered in but they need heat, parking, bathrooms, handicap accessibility and a kitchen with appliances
  - Council is leaning towards leaving the building as is and finding a better location for the seniors
- Item added to the October 10<sup>th</sup> council agenda.
- e. 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan: Draft was reviewed. The plan can be adjusted at any time. Estimated year-end balance of the outlays is \$267,000. Discussion on replacing the old fire tender; it's questionable as to whether it's needed. Discussion on buying a Charger instead of an SUV; there is more room in the back of an SUV and the current equipment can transfer.
  - f. 2017 Fee Schedule: Mielke is proposing to pay the Plan Commission members \$20 a meeting. Consensus is to raise the dollar amount department heads can purchase prior to council approval from \$1,500 to \$5,000.
  - g. Employee Health Insurance: Nothing new.
  - h. Property & Liability Insurance: Representatives from the League Insurance will be at the Finance meeting October 10<sup>th</sup>. Initial draft of their proposal looks good. EMC's proposal was also received and will be discussed at a separate meeting.
  - i. Deviated to: Voluntary Employee PTO Bank: Mielke proposed creating a "bank" for employees to donate vacation and sick time into for employees to use in the case of a catastrophic issue. This would be voluntary. The city does not have any long-term disability. Discussion on how this would be tracked; Rogers would add it to an annual spreadsheet. Discussion on who determines what's catastrophic and who gets to make withdrawals; Rogers recommends the Mayor and Personnel Chair makes those decisions. All PTO time must be exhausted before drawing from the bank. No donation of comp time would be allowed. m/s/c Schoen/Hoffmann to allow a voluntary PTO bank to be created; 3 ayes, voting nay were Nolan and Williamson.
  - j. 2017 Budget: Mielke presented the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of her budget; minor corrections will be made. There are still some unknowns. Mielke proposed raising the levy \$16,156 to \$480,944. Draft shows expenditures increasing .50% which may qualify for the Expenditure Restraint payment. Property & Liability numbers were based on last year. The increase in Net New Construction gives us leeway to increase the levy and the Mayor said the city should take those opportunities when we can because it's not always allowed. The fire tender is included in this budget. Line 190 has the city borrowing \$20,000 for the new squad so it doesn't go into expenses.

m/s/c Schoen/Hoffmann to adjourn. Time: 5:18 p.m.

Mary S. Rogers  
Clerk-Treasurer