

CITY OF TUSCOLA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
STATE OF ILLINOIS
September 24, 2012
Tuscola City Hall

Council held an informal study session at the South Fire House beginning at 6:30 P.M. The session was held so members could look over the fire house and equipment and begin to make plans for updates/upgrades to both.

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order with Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt, and Mayor Kleiss present. Mayor Kleiss led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Administrator Hoel went over the items on the consent agenda:

- Minutes of the September 20, 2012 meeting
- August 2012 financial report
- Payment of bills totaling \$290,234.28
- Pay request of \$17,901, from Mid-States General & Mechanical for sewer improvements
- A request from the Lion's Club to hold a 'Sight Check' on September 28
- A request from the Lion's Club for their annual candy sales October 5&6
- Community Building lease request from Travis Brown for a reception with alcohol on October 19-21.

Hoey moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Maxey seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt. Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda for September 24, 2012. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt. Administrator Hoel called council's attention to a request from the Ironhorse Homeowner's Association. The association requests a temporary closure of Lakeshore Drive for a block party on October 13, from 3:00 – 7:00 P.M.

Mayor

Mayor Kleiss commented on the good discussion at the fire house tonight. He would like to see the fire equipment on the agenda for action soon. Kleiss added he was encouraged to learn we are around a \$700,000 price range for equipment that will work with the building instead of the \$1,000,000 price we originally thought.

City Clerk - Nothing

City Treasurer

Treasurer Long reported PMG Tuscola LLC and Jeff and Kristin Winans are delinquent on their TIF loans. Long added Winans' recently paid the city a substantial amount and are now 90 days in arrears.

City Attorney - Nothing

City Administrator - Nothing

Ordinances

Mayor Kleiss presented an ordinance that would change the yield intersections at Embarras and Ohio, as they intersect with Daggy, to stop intersections. Cleland moved to approve ordinance 2012-0-15, an ordinance amending chapter 75: traffic schedules of the City of Tuscola code of ordinances to create stop intersections on Embarras and Ohio Streets at intersection with Daggy Street. Seip seconded. Maxey asked why these two intersections were identified and not Carico and Daggy. Cleland answered because of wrecks at these intersections and to maintain conformity with the other stop intersections. Maxey stated the Carico and Daggy meets the criteria of conformity and wrecks. Maxey then read a letter from Mr. Robert Kellogg, 801 East Daggy Street. Kellogg believes a stop sign at Carico and Daggy is necessary, as there are many near misses at that intersection. Kellogg and Maxey are concerned for the safety of children walking to the schools. Cleland pointed out Van Allen and Carico is a two way stop. Maxey stated he would not object to making that intersection a four-way stop either. Maxey added he has not responded to any accidents at Carico and Van Allen; however, he has responded to three at Carico and Daggy. Chief Hastings pointed out thru streets are needed; Carico and Niles are both thru streets because of the railroad crossing. Maxey stated the Carico/Daggy intersection is very near where the school zone starts; the sidewalk is used heavily by children going to school. Maxey added again he is concerned for the safety of the children. Council discussed traffic in the area and where the school zones actually are. Administrator Hoel does not believe it is council's discretion to define the school zones; he believes it is defined for us. Maxey agrees with the ordinance on the table, but would like council to also address the Carico/Daggy intersection. Council discussed thru streets, being uniform, which streets have more speeding, and school zone designations. Shoemaker pointed out we are discussing this because of safety concerns. Is there documentation of hazardous areas such as speeding, accidents, excessive tickets? Chief Hastings pointed out speeding tickets are always going to be written on thru streets. Also, people turning right or left off Carico onto Daggy will have to slow down. Hastings added most of the complaints he has had at this intersection have come from Mr. Kellogg. After more discussion, roll was taken on the motion to approve ordinance 2012-0-15 to create stop intersections on Embarras and Ohio at intersection with Daggy. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

Contracts and Agreements

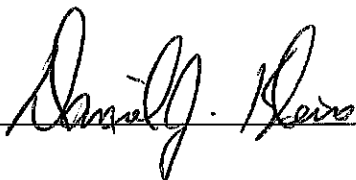
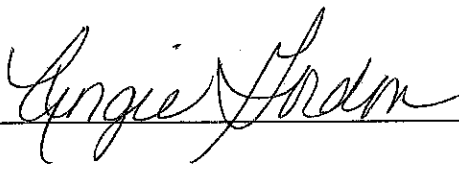
Treasurer Long reported on the employee health insurance renewal through Health Alliance/American Central Insurance. The increase with the current provider will be 7%, Long stated. The city has been relatively happy with the new provider and broker. Since leaving the state's insurance plan 2 ½ years ago and going with an independent broker, the city has saved well over \$200,000, Long reported. This renewal rate is better than Long anticipated and is the only single digit renewal our broker had. Truitt moved to approve the employee health insurance renewal with Health Alliance/American Central Insurance as presented. Cleland seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

Other

Administrator Hoel updated council on the swimming pool leak. After plugging the main drain line, Hoel stated, the pool itself held water. We are fairly confident the pool liner is not leaking. Hoel went on to say, a valve on the wet well side was tested in the spring and it held water. After repeating the test this week, the valve did not hold water. Hoel believes a lot of this has to do with groundwater conditions and we are less sure than we were that the problem is in the main drain. The vault that is the wet well has no obvious cracks and staff cannot see water coming in. During renovation, the contractor penetrated the vault with some new lines and sealed around them, Hoel stated. The city staff is trying to diagnose the leak, as the contractor has not been all that helpful. Hoel believes the leak could potentially be in the wet well or more likely the new penetrations into the wet well for the lines. Hoel added if the leak is in the main drain, it will be easy to say who is responsible; however, the fix would be extremely difficult. If the leak is in the wet well, the fix would be easier, but it is harder to diagnose.

Truitt reported a street light is out in the Ironhorse subdivision. Administrator Hoel will contact Ameren and let them know the light needs attention.

The motion to adjourn was made by Henderson and seconded by Shoemaker. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

 _____ Mayor  _____ City Clerk