

CITY OF TUSCOLA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
STATE OF ILLINOIS
June 25, 2012
Tuscola City Hall

In the absence of Mayor Kleiss, Seip moved and Cleland seconded Alderman Henderson act as Mayor Pro-Tem for the June 25 meeting. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter. Alderman Henderson abstained. Motion carried. The meeting was called to order with Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, and Slaughter present. Aldermen Hoey and Truitt, as well as Mayor Kleiss were absent. Bob Woodard, Tuscola businessman, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Administrator Hoel went over the following items on the consent agenda:

- Minutes of the June 11, 2012 meeting
- Financial report for May 2012
- Payment of bills totaling \$163,116.47
- Pay request of \$47,713.04, from Howell Paving for the South Main project
- Request from the Douglas County Museum to hold a fundraising activity on the lot at the south Fire Station on August 11

Seip moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter. Maxey moved to approve the consent agenda for June 25, 2012. Cleland seconded. Seip asked for clarification on the museum's use of the fire station lot. Shoemaker stated the museum's plans have changed since their initial request; they now plan to use the lot only for parking during the fundraising event. Both Administrator Hoel and Maxey pointed out the parking would be only on the grassy lot; the tarmac in front of the fire station will be kept open at all times. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker. VOTE NAY* Slaughter. Motion carried.

Time on the Agenda

Carly McCrory addressed council about a possible need for more vendor spots for the Saturday morning Abundant Market. Currently, the market has space for 25 vendors and is averaging 17-20 vendors each week. McCrory would like council permission to close Main Street from the stop sign @ Sale to the Kelsey alley, should the vendor numbers increase. Council agreed with the closure, if needed.

Bob Woodard, Illini Insurance, addressed council about an unsightly property at the corner of Route 36 and Main Street. This property is next to Woodard's insurance business on Route 36. Woodard passed around folders with photos of offenses he's seen on this property. The current tenants have engine blocks, transmissions, tires, and vehicles strewn all over the property. Woodard stated he has contacted the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Agency about possible violations to state and local floodplain regulations. Woodard went on to say this nuisance property is negatively affecting his business and he would like help getting it cleaned up. Woodard has spoken with the owners of the property, Mike and Ginger Campbell, and has received no response. Attorney

Bequette stated he thinks some of what he sees in the pictures could possibly be an ordinance violation. Bequette first learned of this problem last Thursday and stated he asked for something in writing and pictures so the City could look into it. Woodard also contacted Administrator Hoel the same day, according to Bequette, and Chief Hastings went out the same day to assess the situation. Bequette went on to say Woodard has stated this is an ongoing problem of several years; however, today the state agencies have been contacted. There may be ordinance violations there, but if the state is going to be involved, Bequette will probably let the state take care of it. Woodard reported this has been brought to various people within the city many times. Administrator Hoel stated we always try to get a resolution with voluntary compliance. Chief Hastings has been down to this property multiple times and has gotten some improvement. If the tenant fails to comply, they can be cited with an ordinance violation. Attorney Bequette feels some of the complaints Woodard describes seems like a dispute between he and his neighbor and he may end up in a private lawsuit with them. If the State DNR and EPA are going to be coming out and getting involved, Bequette stated his next move will be to wait and see what they do. Woodard added he does not want to create additional burdens for council; however, he is concerned the state has too much going on and he would like to see this resolved soon. Council discussed the zoning and other properties in the area; whether or not the complaints Woodard has brought before council violates our ordinance and whether or not the city has any jurisdiction over properties in the floodplain. Woodard asked council to not let this drop. Mayor Pro-Tem Henderson told Woodard we would keep him posted on what has been done.

Mayor

Pro-Tem Henderson extended the City's condolences to the family of Harlan Henderson on his recent passing. Henderson was a Tuscola business man and served as a council member. Henderson reminded council the sales tax increase goes into effect July 1. Also, he noticed someone threw computer components in the recycle bins located in the IGA parking lot. Electronics are not to be disposed of in the recycling bins, Henderson stated. They should be taken to Bryant Recycling.

City Clerk - Nothing

City Treasurer

Treasurer Long is attending a conference the first part of the week, Hoel reported. The TIF delinquencies are PMG Tuscola, Kristin Winans, and Darrel and Susan Latch. Hoel noted a sale is pending on the Latch property.

City Attorney - Nothing

City Administrator

Administrator Hoel announced a fundraising activity request for the T.K. Martin VFW. The event is planned for July 7 from 8:30 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. at the corner of Main and Sale.

Hoel passed on fireworks reminders he discussed with Chief Hasting and Chief Hettinger. Fireworks are illegal in Illinois and in the City of Tuscola. Snakes or glow worms, smoke devices, sparklers, and corn poppers are the only items allowed. Everything else is illegal. Also, with the dry conditions we are experiencing, all fireworks are a source of concern. The police department will be trying to stop firework activities on the 4th.

Ordinances

Shoemaker moved to approve ordinance 2012-0-11, an ordinance amending section 111.21 to increase the number of Class E liquor licenses in the City of Tuscola from five to eight. Seip seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter.

Contracts and Agreements

1. Maxey moved to terminate for cause the agreement for water main improvements project, T0150065, with Central Subsurface Contracting of Illinois, Inc. Slaughter seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter.
2. Administrator Hoel discussed an Intergovernmental Agreement for GIS services with Douglas County, stating it has a \$10,000 yearly limit and is something the City has done the past several years. Seip asked about the water system GIS and Hoel answered the entire water main system is contracted through Eastern Illinois University. The agreement with Douglas County is used for occasional piecemeal updates. Cleland moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for GIS Survey Services between Douglas County and the City of Tuscola. Maxey seconded, VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter.
3. Administrator Hoel presented an easement agreement with Windstream KDL, Inc., for installation of fiber optic line around the east side of the south sewer plant. Hoel stated several meetings ago council approved a memorandum of understanding for this easement; the actual agreement is now ready for council approval. Cleland moved to approve the easement agreement between the City of Tuscola and Windstream KDL, Inc., for installation of fiber optic cable on the City's property at the south sewer plant. Seip seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter.
4. The annual oil and chip resurfacing project was discussed and acted upon. Administrator Hoel reported the bid for this project exceeds our budget amount by about \$7,000. Based on need and the good bid price, Hoel recommends council approve the increase. A supplemental appropriation of MFT funds to take care of the additional expense will be prepared for council action. Seip moved to issue a notice of award and approve the agreement with Earl Walker Company, for the annual oil and chip, in the amount of \$82,980.00. Cleland seconded. Hoel reported Walker plans to begin the project this week. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter.
5. Hoel asked council permission to renew the employee dental insurance plan, as part of the overall employee health insurance, for the coming year. Maxey moved to approve the renewal of the Delta Dental insurance plan, with a 3% premium increase. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter.

Requests for TIF Assistance

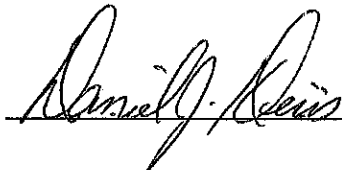
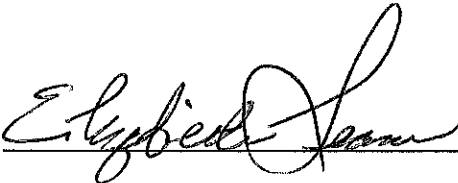
Hoel presented a listing of TIF projects that have unused funds. Either the projects were completed for less than the amount awarded, or they were never undertaken, Hoel stated. Slaughter moved to rescind \$21,440 of the original TIF grant to PMG Tuscola; rescind a \$6,180 grant and \$4,945 loan made to Jim Nees, Pro Hardware; rescind the remaining \$29,616.37 grant and all of the \$30,000 loan made to Chad Hausmann, Kelsey Furniture; rescind the remaining grant amount of \$3,440.60, made to Darrel and Susan Latch; and grant a three year extension to Spirits of Tuscola, LLC, on their redevelopment project. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter.

Other

- Administrator Hoel reported the annual appropriation ordinance is prepared and on file at City Hall. This ordinance sets the absolute legal spending limit for the city; the numbers are inflated and have nothing to do with what we actually plan to spend. A public hearing will be held before the July 9 council meeting, with action taken no later than the July 23 meeting.
- Hoel presented a fireworks display permit for the 'Sparks in the Park' event planned for July 6 and 7. Shoemaker asked if we should consider cancelling or postponing the fireworks because of the extreme dryness. Chief Hettinger stated this is up to the event planners. He is nervous about the dryness and has made all the preparations he can. Hettinger also mentioned our water supply is limited because the tower is down. Brian Moody reported the fire department is well staffed at the golf course and he feels they can take care of any issues there. He is more worried about citizens shooting off fireworks. Chief Hettinger agreed with this statement. Henderson moved to approve the fireworks display permit with Jamaica Pyrotechnics. Maxey seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter.
- Cleland moved to accept the resignation of Jim Nees as part time patrolman for the City of Tuscola. Nees' resignation is effective June 11, 2012. Slaughter seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Henderson, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter.
- Administrator Hoel reported there has been no resolution to the water loss at the pool. He was promised a reply from the contractor late last week, but has not heard from them yet. Hoel has sent an email to the contractor letting him know we expect him to identify and correct the problem. Hoel went on to say he is at a loss and does not know what else to do. We hired a professional to fix the pool and are still experiencing major water loss. Hoel is estimating a water loss of \$2500 during the May 15 – June 15 time period.

- The water tower was isolated last week, Hoel stated, so the back up system could be tested. He is happy to report the system operated well. Even after opening a fire hydrant @ 500 gallons per minute, the pressure only dropped to 38 pounds. Hoel is encouraged by these tests. Fire flow is another matter, Hoel stated, and when the tower is down we will not have sufficient fire flow. In the case of a significant structure fire: (1) firefighters will operate manual booster pumps (2) bypass the meter station (3) use dry hydrants @ mall and the pool water (4) rely on mutual aid. At some point, conservation measure or restrictions may be necessary; however, Hoel does not see this as necessary now. The project time is estimated @ six weeks and the contractor started today. If anyone experiences low pressure, they should contact City Hall.

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

 _____ Mayor  _____ City Clerk