

CITY OF TUSCOLA

COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
STATE OF ILLINOIS
TUSCOLA CITY HALL
November 27, 2023

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order with Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop, and Mayor Kleiss in attendance. Brace was absent. Deputy Clerk Lisa Wasiloski was present to perform clerk duties for the meeting in Clerk Leamon's absence. Mayor Kleiss led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Kleiss went over the items on the consent agenda:

- Minutes of the November 13, 2023 meeting
- Payment of bills totaling \$254,916.51
- Pay Requests: Clark Dietz for Downtown Improvements Engineering - \$15,771.68
- Community Building Lease with Alcohol: Douglas County Gobbler Banquet January 27-28, 2024

Hoey moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Rund seconded. VOTE YEA* Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop. Day moved to approve the consent agenda for October 10, 2023. Morris seconded. VOTE YEA* Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

Mayor

Mayor Kleiss reminded council that the Christmas Town Celebration is this weekend in downtown Tuscola.

City Clerk – No Report

City Treasurer – Kaci Magee, with Larsson, Woodyard, & Henson CPA firm was introduced to present the City's annual audited financial statements for FY 23 to the Council. Magee called attention to the pages in the audit showing the termination of TIF 1 and TIF 2 to an escrow account to finalize those terminated funds. Magee stated the city had a "clean" opinion with no noted deficiencies. Long mentioned that after the audit was complete, the annual treasurer's report was completed, copied to council and will be published in the newspaper this week. Additionally, the annual TIF reports have been completed, filed with the Comptroller's office and are available on the City's website.

City Attorney – No Report

City Administrator – No Report

Other

Mayor Kleiss opened discussion on the 2023, payable 2024, property tax levy estimate. Council approved a 4% increase in the levy, over the prior year's extension at the November 13 meeting. Treasurer Long prepared the tax levy ordinance in that amount and the ordinance has been available on the city's website and at city hall since November 14, 2023. Council will be asked to consider the tax levy ordinance at the December 11, 2023 meeting.

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Mayor Kleiss asked Administrator Hoel to inform council of the status of the Former Castle Mall property at 202 S Main ST. Hoel informed council the city had received a judicial deed to the property a couple of weeks ago. The property can now be evaluated for a future potential public purpose, in which case the City would retain the property. If no public use is anticipated for the property, the council may decide to declare it surplus and offer it for bid or auction. Attorney Bequette concurred with Hoel's explanation. Council will contemplate the options and discuss at a later meeting.

The motion to adjourn was made by Hoey and seconded by Shoemaker. VOTE YEA* Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

 _____ Mayor  _____ City Clerk