

CITY OF TUSCOLA  
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
March 12, 2012  
Tuscola City Hall

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

### Consent Agenda

Administrator Hoel went over the items on the consent agenda:

- Minutes of the February 27, 2012-meeting
- Payment of bills totaling \$185,327.96.
- Request from Becky's Buddies for Relay for Life fundraising events on May 12, 2012
- Requested approval of a 5K run route for September 29, 2012
- Request for cook-out and overnight camping for the Cub Scouts at Wimple Park, May 19&20, 2012
- Chamber of Commerce request to hold Easter Egg Hunt at Ervin park on March 31, 2012

Hoey moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Truitt seconded. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt. Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda for March 12, 2012. Cleland seconded. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

Before the public comment section, Mayor Kleiss presented a Special Use Permit request and Plan Commission recommendation for a personal salon at 604 North Center Street. Hoey moved to approve the Plan Commission's recommendation and allow a Special Use Permit at 604 North Center. Henderson seconded. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

### Time on the Agenda

Dr. Sally Foote, local Veterinarian, addressed council about the possibility of using the vacant downtown lot as a dog park. Dr. Foote spoke on what points make a successful dog park and cited research and specs from various organizations. Foote presented a power point outlining why a dog park downtown is a good idea and how it would increase traffic in the area. Dr. Foote showed examples of dog parks in other communities and plans she has in mind for the Tuscola dog park. She also spoke about some negative comments she has heard and stated she felt they could all be addressed. Foote estimates the expense involved at \$60,000 - \$70,000, and recommends charging membership and day-use fees. Profits would be distributed between the city, shelter, and Hands for Paws. During questions after the presentation, Foote spoke about dog manners classes, screenings, and monitoring who is allowed in the dog park. Several citizens in the audience spoke about their experiences at area dog parks and how entrance is monitored. Mayor Kleiss stated he feels the empty lot downtown looks a lot better than it has in the last 15 years and interest is picking up on this

site. The city's goal is to try and do something with the site; not just leave it as gravel. Kleiss stated he personally does not have a strong desire to put a dog park in this location. Truitt agreed with Mayor Kleiss, stating this is not what she envisions for downtown.

Nancy Snook, chairman of Hands for Paws, spoke in favor of the dog park and stated we would be surprised at how much use it would get. Ashley Henson, employee of Jumpin' Jimmy's, has inquiries from people passing through town about a place to let dogs run. Mayor Kleiss advised her to encourage these travelers to use one of the two parks we have now. Tom Wold addressed council and said it would be great for someone to put up a building and bring a new business to town. He also feels the dog park would add life and energy to the area. Mike Griffith is in favor of the downtown dog park; a lot of people use the ball diamonds and don't clean up afterwards. Shoemaker thanked Dr. Foote for educating council about dog parks. Right now, council has options to look at for downtown; however, he thinks a dog park is a good idea. TEDI Director Moody suggests looking at some other possibilities for a dog park as several things are coming together for the lot downtown. Hoey added he appreciates Dr. Foote coming before council tonight. He thinks a dog park is a good idea, but not on this lot. Hoey has had several citizens tell him they don't think this is a good spot for a dog park either. Candace Winslow spoke in favor of the dog park. She would rather drive from her home in Villa Grove to Tuscola to use the dog park instead of going to Urbana.

#### Mayor

Kleiss announced council received a thank you from Kathryn McCumber, Tuscola Women's Club. The Club appreciates the use of the Community Building for the ARTCO Mardi Gras fundraiser.

Mayor Kleiss presented his committee appointments effective March 12, 2012. Hoey moved to approve the following committee appointments: Mark Maxey and Dave Slaughter – Finance and Administration; Boyd Henderson and Tim Hoey – Public Safety; Tim Seip and Danny Cleland – Public Works; Phyllis Truitt and Alan Shoemaker – Development/TIF. Slaughter seconded. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

City Clerk - Nothing

#### City Treasurer

Treasurer Long reported PMG Tuscola LLC and Darrel and Susan Latch are delinquent on their TIF loans.

City Attorney - Nothing

#### City Administrator

Administrator Hoel announced he would like to schedule budget committee meetings as soon as possible. Council should let him know if they can meet on March 26 and 27 or April 2, 3, and 4.

### Ordinances

Mayor Kleiss presented an ordinance prohibiting the use of groundwater as a potable water supply. Some time ago, council approved a resolution stating we intend to approve an ordinance in regard to the clean up of the Dixie Truck Stop property, Administrator Hoel explained. This ordinance affects the immediate adjacent neighbors to the property and states they would not be able to have a groundwater well for drinking water. Henderson moved to approve ordinance 2012-0-2, an ordinance prohibiting the use of groundwater as a potable water supply by the installation of use of potable water supply wells or by any other method within certain areas in the City of Tuscola. Seip seconded. Hoel pointed out the ordinance also authorizes Mayor Kleiss to execute a memorandum of understanding with the Illinois EPA for ongoing monitoring requirements. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

### Resolutions

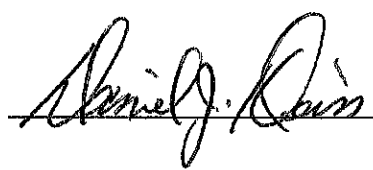
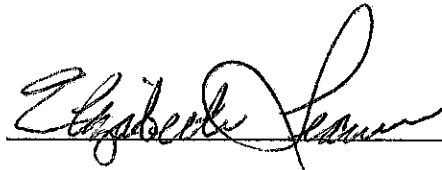
Administrator Hoel presented an IDOT resolution appropriating \$75,000 MFT funds for the annual oil and chip. Hoel informed council this is \$20,000 more than previous years and the resolution allows expenditures up to the \$75,000. Cleland moved to approve resolution 2012-R-4, appropriating \$75,000 of MFT funds for the purpose of maintaining streets and highways under the applicable provisions of the IL Highway Code from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012. Truitt seconded. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

### Contracts and Agreements

1. Mayor Kleiss called council's attention to the revised sales tax sharing agreement between the City and School District. In the revised agreement, the term was changed from 20 to 10 years and a definition of durable equipment (Section 3) was added. Shoemaker asked if the school district had any changes to include. Hoel stated the district asked for monthly transfers of the sales tax receipts; clarification that the capital plan is intended for planning and informational purposes only; clarification that technology infrastructure is an appropriate use and technological devices are not; and a clarification in section 5 on when the city's disbursement would terminate if the County should ever implement a County School Facilities Sales Tax. Hoel reported he hopes to have the agreement in final form soon. The next council meeting will be our only chance to enact this for the July 1, 2012 implementation.
2. Mayor Kleiss announced we are close to having a finalized development proposal on the bank property at 100 North Main Street. It looks like the first floor will be completely filled, with the second floor used as living space. Truitt moved to extend the option agreement on the property at 100 North Main Street for 30 days at a price of \$2500.00. Seip seconded. Attorney Bequette pointed out if the City does purchase the property, the money we have paid on the options will go toward the purchase price. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

Kyle Bunch addressed council and apologized for missing the meeting. Kyle stated he has turned in the money from the school sign fundraising to the school district. Council thanked him for his efforts.

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