

CITY OF TUSCOLA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
STATE OF ILLINOIS
TUSCOLA CITY HALL
May 11, 2020

Mayor Kleiss called the May 11, 2020, virtual council meeting to order with Day, Hoey, Rund, Morris, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt, Waldrop, and Mayor Kleiss in attendance. Mayor Kleiss led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Administrator Hoel read four letters submitted by citizens regarding the decision to not open the pool this year, and the cancellation of Sparks in the Park. Margie Carter is concerned about the pool not opening and the swim team cancellation. Carter wonders if it would be possible to open the pool for at least part of the summer. Crystal Dixon writes about the pool closing and cancellation of Sparks in the Park. She would also like to hear discussion about the possibility of opening the pool for part of the summer, stating postponing the opening would be better than not opening at all. Dixon also would like council to explore the possibility of a 'social distancing' Sparks in the Park. Kristi Townsend suggests opening the pool as early as June 1, but limiting swimmers, distancing chairs, or allowing swimming in shifts. Townsend also thinks it would be possible to offer private swim lessons at the pool. Janet Dukeman wrote in favor of holding Sparks in the Park, stating the 4th of July is a day for celebrating the independence our ancestors fought and died for. Cancelling this event is like rubbing their face in the grave and saying their lives meant nothing. Mayor Kleiss stated these issues will be discussed later in the meeting.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Kleiss went over the items on the consent agenda for 5/11/20:

1. The minutes of the April 13, 2020 virtual meeting
2. Payment of bills totaling \$280,028.16

Truitt moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Day seconded. VOTE YEA*Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt, Waldrop. Hoey moved to approve the consent agenda for May 11, 2020. Morris seconded. VOTE YEA* Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt, Waldrop.

Mayor

Mayor Kleiss stated the city received a note of thanks from Denny and Sandi Cruzan for a donation made to the Douglas County Animal Shelter in honor of Denny's mother. Mayor Kleiss offered the Cruzan's the city's condolences on the recent passing of his mother.

Mayor Kleiss addressed the car cruises that have been organized to get people out of the house during this time and stated the last two cruises have been more of a drag race around town. Kleiss has received calls about this and has made Chief Hastings aware.

City Clerk – No Report

City Treasurer

Treasurer Long reported Red Barn Veterinary Service and Eddie Boutilier are delinquent on their TIF loans.

City Attorney - Nothing

City Administrator - NothingContracts and Agreements

1. Mayor Kleiss opened discussion on a repair job needed to the sanitary sewer at Progress Boulevard. Administrator Hoel stated the need for repair was discovered during the construction of Love's; however, the repair is outside the scope of the re-development agreement. The existing line they were going to tie into had a fault and would not accept the sewer flow. Day moved to approve the contract with Specialized Construction in the amount of \$27,450, for repairs to the sanitary sewer line at Progress Boulevard. Rund seconded. VOTE YEA* Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt, Waldrop.
2. Hoey moved to approve the payment of \$7350, to M.E. Simpson for leak detection services. Shoemaker seconded. This contract was approved last month and represents the base fee for leak detection in the city's water lines. Administrator Hoel added there will be more payment approvals brought back to council as more leaks are discovered. VOTE YEA* Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt, Waldrop.

Other

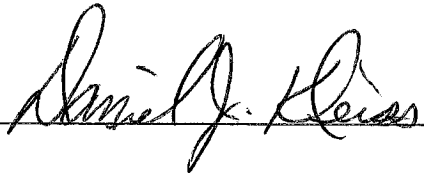
- Mayor Kleiss opened discussion on final payments for 2010 MFT bonds. Hoel reported these bonds have two more payments – June 1 and December 1. The debt service fund is fully funded. Hoel and Treasurer Long recommend making both payments with the June 1 payment and saving a bit of interest. Truitt moved to authorize the final two payments of debt service on the 2010 Motor Fuel Tax bonds. Waldrop seconded. VOTE YEA* Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt, Waldrop.
- Council discussed the two issues brought forward in the public comment section. Mayor Kleiss stated we are way behind on getting the pool ready and have not asked for lifeguard applications. The current Executive Order states phase III can have up to 10 people and phase IV up to 50. We are currently in phase II. June 27 is the earliest possible date we can get to phase IV. Kleiss added he has attended several municipal meetings and swimming pool opening is the last on most lists. Hoel added even in phases III and IV, social distancing is still in effect. Hoel is not sure how we could operate the pool and comply with these guidelines. Also, an initial investment of \$10-\$12,000, for water and chemicals is needed, and certified lifeguards would be difficult to hire. Rund asked if there would be problems with the pool equipment if it sits for another year. Hoel felt the equipment would likely be fine. Council discussed options, expenses, hiring needs, etc. Truitt felt lifeguard training is not in our control at all. Waldrop added she understands but if things change in the next week or so we should delay our decision. There has been enough devastation right now. Administrator Hoel felt we could have the pool ready to open in 3-4 weeks. Mayor Kleiss added when waiting no longer becomes physically or fiscally responsible we'll need to make a decision. Sparks in the Park is another event up for discussion. Mayor Kleiss stated he has kicked around ideas for ways we could hold the event. Every other community has cancelled their celebrations and fireworks. Kleiss feels if we hold ours, everyone would show up on July 4. Administrator Hoel added there is no way we could hold the festival that goes along with Sparks in the Park. This would be an enforcement nightmare, Truitt added. Truitt moved to cancel the Sparks in the Park event and fireworks this year. Waldrop seconded. VOTE YEA* Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt, Waldrop.
- Mayor Kleiss called council's attention to the Douglas County Health Department's open letter to the public and mentioned the Illinois Municipal League has encouraged the Governor to look at the 11 Illinois Emergency Management zones instead of the original

four zones. There are many talks going on to help the situation, but the basic rules are still the best.

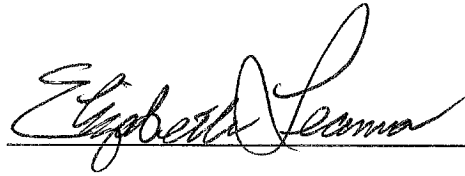
- Truitt offered the city's condolences to the family of Joe Victor. Victor passed away suddenly last week. Mayor Kleiss added there was a very nice service for Joe on Saturday, with a good showing from many communities throughout the state. Joe will be dearly missed, Kleiss added. He has done a lot for this community over the last 35 or 40 years. Rest in Peace, Joe.

Alderman Slaughter announced his niece, Kelsey Slaughter, is Valedictorian of TCHS class of 2020.

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



Mayor



City Clerk