

CITY OF TUSCOLA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Tuscola City Hall
October 27, 2014

A council study session was held at 6:45 P.M., to hear representatives from Clark Dietz explain the status of our floodplain improvement project in the Hayes Branch and review our remapping. Terry Boyer, spokesman for Clark Dietz, went over the project beginning with 2006. Boyer stated the floodplain is better defined on the new maps (approved 2009); 75-80 homes have been taken out of the floodplain. Also, the watershed has been improved; a wetland created; sediment removed from the Prairie Street Bridge; and more drainage improvements have been installed. After additional investigation, Clark Dietz has identified some other areas that could be improved – a shelf on the opposite side of the watershed shelf currently in place, railroad bridge modifications, and improvements to the I 57 embankment. Boyer summarized the project outcome:

- 1) Better floodplain maps. These were approved in 2009 and Boyer does not recommend re-mapping.
- 2) Improved channel
- 3) Wetland pond
- 4) Barker/Prairie subdivision can proceed as planned

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order with Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter, and Mayor Kleiss in attendance. Alderwoman Truitt was absent. Mayor Kleiss led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Kleiss went over the items on the consent agenda:

1. Minutes of the October 14, 2014 meeting
2. Payment of bills totaling \$252,932.30
3. Financial report for September 2014

Henderson moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter. Maxey moved to approve the consent agenda for October 27, 2014. Cleland seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter.

Mayor

Mayor Kleiss offered the City's condolences to the family of Leo Plaszczynski. Plaszczynski served as an alderman from Ward I for many years.

City Clerk – No Report

City Treasurer

Treasurer Long reported Eddie Boutilier is the only TIF delinquency. Hoey asked for an update on this loan. Administrator Hoel reported he spoke with Boutilier and learned his tenant has moved out of the building. Boutilier is actively trying to find a new tenant for the building and is interested in getting back on a payment schedule.

City Attorney – Nothing

City Administrator

Hoel reported the Boy Scouts have requested the use of Wimple Park for a week-end camp out November 7 – 9, 2014. Council gave their consent to the scouts.

Ordinances

Administrator Hoel reported the new F350 pickup truck has been delivered and will go into service as Denny's truck. The 1996 Ford F250 pickup used for the leaf vacuum will be offered for sale by sealed bids and the next oldest pickup will be used with the leaf vacuum. Cleland moved to approve ordinance 2014-0-14, an ordinance declaring a pickup truck surplus property and authorizing sale of the same. Maxey seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter.

Contracts and Agreements

Chastain and Associates has submitted a PSA for engineering services related to the Court Street parking south of US 36. The businesses involved are Carle Clinic, Monical's Pizza, and Dr.'s Boyd and Hemmer. The project plan is to install additional parking areas, provide additional drainage, and repave the private parking areas. Hoel reported Carle management is very supportive of this project and they are willing to give the city a permanent easement to add public parking on their property. The TIF committee recommends the city do the engineering portion of the entire project, the public portion – Court Street and parking along Court Street. The committee also recommends offering an incentive to the private property owners to repave their parking lots. Maxey questioned the traffic flow in some areas. Hoel explained it could go either way. Shoemaker asked if the parking would be all public parking. Hoel answered the private parking areas will remain private. The Carle parking and along the Court Street right of way will be public parking. Hoel estimates this plan will add approximately 20 additional parking spaces. Hoel went on to say the plan is design and permit this winter; construction in the spring. Henderson moved to approve a Professional Services Agreement with Chastain and Associates for engineering surveys, designs, permits, and construction observation on the South Court Street parking project at a cost of \$44,000.00. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter.

Other

Hoey moved to approve \$125 holiday bonuses for all full-time and permanent part-time employees and all fire department personnel. Henderson seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Shoemaker, Slaughter. Alderman Maxey abstained. Motion carried.

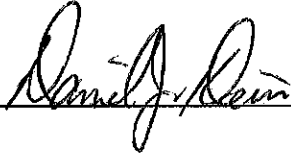
Treasurer Long discussed the annual tax levy and estimate with council. If the levy is to be increased by less than 5%, the only decision to make tonight would be the percentage increase to set up. Long would calculate the formal levy estimate and bring it back for the November 10 meeting for action. After approval, it is open for public inspection; with approval at the December 8 meeting. Long added changes can be made until approval. Long then showed a history of the City's levy, stating the last several years, we've been at 75 - 80 cents per \$100. Adding the library levy to this keeps the levy below \$1. Long reported the County does not expect to have the EAV from the state for several weeks. Mayor Kleiss stated he would like to keep the tax rate flat. Administrator Hoel pointed out we have tried to keep the tax rate flat the last 10-12 years. If we don't do a small increase in the levy, we will not benefit from the growth. Kleiss suggests Treasurer Long run a projection of an increase of 3-4%. Hoel pointed out we have to announce a formal estimate by the next

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meeting. He would like to announce an estimate of a 4% increase, anticipating an increase in the EAV that will off-set this. Once the EAV is received, we can fine tune our estimate, Hoel added.

Mayor Kleiss read an email from Governor Quinn and Cronus inviting him to attend an announcement scheduled for Wednesday, October 29 @ 9:30 A.M. The purpose of the announcement is to name Tuscola as the site of a fertilizer plant.

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



Mayor



Deputy
City Clerk