

CITY OF TUSCOLA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Tuscola City Hall
October 14, 2014

Treasurer Long opened a council study session at 7:00 p.m. Long went over the results of the audited financial statements, which were compiled by Bray, Drake, Liles & Richardson LLP. Long began by saying the audit process lasts 4 ½ months. Once she gets everything together, the auditors come in and go over the transactions. They randomly look at 10% of the transactions, and look at all transactions over \$20,000. The auditor's report states the City is financially sound and there were no negative findings. Items pointed out by Long include:

- Cash is in good shape; however we are currently loaning to TIF. This will change once the new TIF debt is issued.
- The water and sewer funds (formerly negative balances) are now showing positive balances.
- The water and sewer bonds will be paid off in 2017 and 2018.
- The general fund reserve has been building for the last 10 years. Now our unrestricted funds are more than 50% of our expenditures.
- Our capital assets are \$1.3 million higher than last year.
- Sales tax makes up 52% of our overall revenue.
- Economic Development (primarily funded with TIF funds) is the city's largest expense, followed by Public Works and Public Safety.
- The pension plan is 90.71% funded.
- TIF will end in eight years. Council needs to think ahead and make plans for this.

In the absence of Mayor Kleiss, Hoey moved and Shoemaker seconded Alderman Henderson act as Mayor Pro-Tem for the October 14, 2014 meeting. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt. Henderson abstained. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Henderson called the meeting to order with Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter, and Truitt in attendance. Alderman Day led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Henderson went over the items on the consent agenda:

1. Minutes of the September 22, 2014 meeting
2. Payment of bills totaling \$228,399.98
3. Request 5K run route for Erin's race for CFF, June 6, 2015

Hoey moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Cleland seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt. Truitt moved to approve the consent agenda for October 14, 2014. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

Requested Time on the Agenda

A representative from the American Legion Post 27 presented a certificate of appreciation plaque to the City of Tuscola in sincere appreciation of outstanding service and assistance contributing to the advancement of American Legion Post 27.

Eric Shangraw, municipal marketing manager for AREA Disposal, Peoria, Illinois, addressed council about the City's waste disposal agreement. AREA Disposal has seven hauling companies, three landfills, 250 trucks, and 550 employees. Shangraw is in charge of municipal contracts. AREA currently has 40 contracts - Peoria is the largest and Ellisville is the smallest. AREA is interested in bidding on our contract when it comes up for renewal in July. Tuscola would be serviced out of their Clinton facility, which has a landfill and hauling company based there. Shangraw left a packet of information for Administrator Hoel. After a question from Hoey, Shangraw stated the closest municipalities serviced by AREA are Bement and Monticello. Shoemaker asked how recyclables are handled. Shangraw explained recyclables are picked up and taken to Midwest Fiber in Morton, Illinois, where the recyclables are sorted. The frequency of recyclable pick up can be determined by the municipality. AREA will also supply community bins, but these are more problematic than curbside recycling, Shangraw stated.

Mayor – No Report

City Clerk – No Report

City Treasurer

Treasurer Long reported Eddie Boutilier is the only TIF delinquency. Administrator Hoel spoke with Boutilier and learned Boutilier plans to clear this up soon. Council should all have a copy of the Annual Treasurer's Report. This will be published in the local newspaper.

City Attorney – Absent

City Administrator

Hoel reported the annual TIF report will soon be available for viewing at City Hall. The report will also be posted to the State Comptroller's website by the end of the month.

Requests for TIF Assistance

- Aldridge Collectibles has requested TIF assistance for repairs to their building at 131 West Sale Street. Truitt moved to approve the TIF committee's recommendation of a TIF grant in the amount of \$10,157, and a TIF loan of \$1,155, to Lynnita Brown for repairs to the Aldridge Collectibles building. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.
- The Douglas County Museum has requested TIF assistance for some foundation, tuck pointing, and masonry repairs. Maxey moved to approve the TIF committee's recommendation for a \$2500 TIF grant to the Douglas County Museum for these repairs. Cleland seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

- Administrator Hoel asked council to consider one additional TIF request that was not completely finalized in time for the TIF committee to discuss at their recent meeting. Brian Moody addressed council and stated he has been working with Rachel Puckett and Lyn Selen for the past few months. Selen has agreed to lease 102 and 104 West Sale (after renovation) to Ms Puckett for an antique and repurposed items shop. Moody went on to say repairs needed to the building are replacing doors, painting, replace lighting, replace flooring, and a small amount of outside work. The estimated cost for these repairs is \$41,100. Moody recommends a \$20,000 TIF grant, and \$15,000 TIF loan. The remaining \$6100 would be Puckett's labor contribution. Hoey asked Rachel Puckett if she has been in business before. She answered this would be her first antique shop. She owned a tattoo shop about 10 years ago, and her mother had an antique store in Marion, Illinois for seven years. Puckett plans to use her mother's contracts and suppliers for this business. Henderson asked about consignment. Puckett answered she plans to offer consignment at \$1 to \$1.25 per square foot. Shoemaker asked about other owners and workers. Puckett will be the sole proprietor and only employee at first. She may offer less expensive consignment rates if consigners are willing to work the shop a day or two a week. Puckett will have a two year lease with Selen. Maxey asked about the repairs to the building. Moody reported these are repairs that would have to be made to the building no matter what type of business goes in the building. Hoey asked if the renovation was for Selen. Moody answered the renovation is for Puckett. Truitt moved to approve a TIF grant of \$20,000, and a TIF loan of \$15,000, to Rachel Puckett for renovations to 102-104 West Sale. Maxey seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

Other

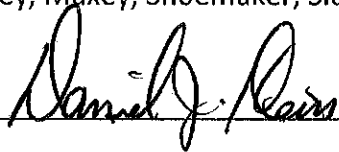
Administrator Hoel discussed the Christmas holiday schedule with council. December 26 falls on a Friday this year, Hoel stated, and employees are off the 24th and 25th for their regular Christmas time off. Almost every city employee has asked to take personal time off on the 26th. Hoel went on to say when this happened in the past, the City closed the offices for the day and let the employees use their personal time to take the day off. If council would rather not close for the day, Hoel will try to get a skeleton crew together to work that day. Maxey moved to close the city offices, except for police, on December 26 and allow employees to use their personal time. Henderson seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

Mayor Pro-Tem Henderson set Trick or Treat for October 31, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

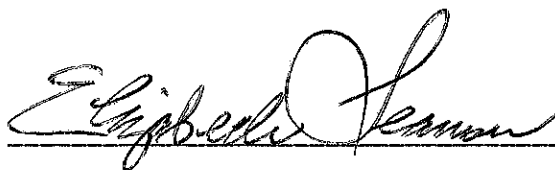
Hoel announced police officer Matt Reed has resigned his position with the TPD. Reed gave notice two weeks ago; this past Friday was his last day. Truitt moved to accept the resignation of Matt Reed from the Tuscola Police Department, effective October 10, 2014. Henderson seconded. VOTE YEA* Cleland, Day, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt. Administrator Hoel will advertise Reed's position and other positions the police department is trying to fill.

Mark Maxey reported the volunteer fire department has been recognized by the General Assembly for their fire prevention efforts. Tuscola is one of eight departments in the state to receive this designation 13 years in a row. Maxey added this is due largely to the department's outreach efforts with school children.

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



Mayor



City Clerk