

CITY OF TUSCOLA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
STATE OF ILLINOIS
TUSCOLA CITY HALL
August 24, 2020

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order with Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop, and Mayor Kleiss in attendance. Mayor Kleiss led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment – None

Mayor Kleiss began the meeting by giving the oath of office to Juanita Brace, Alderwoman from Ward I, and welcoming her to the council table.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Kleiss went over the items on the consent agenda for August 10, 2020:

1. The minutes of the August 10, 2020 meeting
2. Financial reports for July 2020
3. Payment of bills totaling \$127,212.13

Day moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Waldrop seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop. Day moved to approve the consent agenda for August 24, 2020. Morris seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

Requested Time on the Agenda

Carmen Morgan, Tuscola resident, spoke on behalf of a group of citizens who would like to honor Tuscola residents serving in the military. The plan is to set up signage in a prominent location and install 12"x18" metal outdoor signs for each currently active military person. Morgan has set up a website citizens can use to make a sign request. Morgan went on to say this would be at no cost to the family of the servicemen. Issues to be decided include: design and location for display. The cost of proposed signs will be covered by donations from local organizations. The group requests the city assume the cost of the signage structure installation. The local VFW has already made a donation for the military signs, Morgan added. After a brief discussion, council felt this would be a good use of tourism funds. Administrator Hoel will discuss this with them at their next meeting. Council agreed with the plans for the Tuscola Serves Military Signs and thanked Morgan for taking the lead.

Mayor - No Report

City Clerk – No Report

City Treasurer

Treasurer Long reported Eddie Boutilier and Red Barn Veterinary Services are delinquent on their TIF loans. Long added Red Barn Veterinary Services made a very large payment on their loan. It is close to no longer being 'reportable'.

City Attorney - Nothing

City Administrator

Administrator Hoel updated council on the new solid waste contract approved at the last meeting. The company has ordered new totes and recycling bins and will provide the city and

press with more information once they are received. Residents will have plenty of opportunity to ask questions and react before the actual roll out of the new system.

Mayor Kleiss mentioned he has been questioned about some needed property clean up in town. Mike Salmon, owner of the collapsed donut shop building on Park Street, is working with his insurance company and will soon be able to clean up the lot. The city is working with owners of an East Carico property that needs clean up, Kleiss added. He appreciates everyone's cooperation on the property clean up front.

Ordinances

- Administrator Hoel discussed the local CURE program which is the State of Illinois' distribution arm of the Federal COVID-19 relief funds. Under this program, the city is eligible for \$184,814, in reimbursement for eligible expenses. Hoel went on to say the city will not get near that amount as the State of Illinois has put additional restrictions on the distribution of these relief funds. In order to access funds from the CURE program, the city must approve an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to submit a financial support conditions and certification form to the State of Illinois. Shoemaker moved to approve ordinance 2020-0-7, an ordinance pertaining to the local CURE program, and authorizing the Mayor to sign and submit a financial support conditions and certification report. Morris seconded. After a comment from Hoey, Administrator Hoel clarified municipalities would be able to access all of their allotted funds as long as the relief was for approved items/expenses. Hoel went on to say many municipalities are upset about the State of Illinois' restrictions and the IL Municipal League is working to get the restrictions eased. The left over funds from municipalities unable to qualify will be re-allocated to cities needing additional relief funding, Hoel added. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.
- Economic Development Director, Moody, addressed council about an amendment to the Douglas County Enterprise Zone. The amendment would include part of Champaign County and take in the proposed Bay/Wa Prairie Solar One power generation facility near Sidney. Hoey moved to approve ordinance 2020-0-8, an ordinance authorizing the addition of Champaign County as a designating unit of government and related boundary modifications to the area known as The Douglas County Enterprise Zone. Rund seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop. After a question from Administrator Hoel, Moody stated at the end of the solar power project we would make the case to remove Champaign County from the Enterprise Zone. Shoemaker moved to approve the amended agreement to The Douglas County Enterprise Zone. Rund seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

Contracts and Agreements

- As a follow up to ordinance 2020-0-8, Shoemaker moved to approve the amended agreement to The Douglas County Enterprise Zone. Rund seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.
- The sub-irrigation system's pump and control panel at the north sewer plant are original to the system and in need of replacement. The sub-irrigation is used during the winter months when the effluent cannot be sprayed on the land. Administrator Hoel reported this system needs to be replaced before winter and recommends the energy efficient pump proposed by Gasvoda and Associates. Hoey moved to waive formal bidding on the purchase and installation of the sub-irrigation pump at the north sewer plant. Waldrop seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop. Morris moved to approve the proposal from Gasvoda and

Associates for replacement of the sub-irrigation pump at the north sewer plant at a cost of \$34,205. Waldrop seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

- Administrator Hoel opened discussion about upgrades for the city's audio/visual system in council chambers. Hoel added this may be an expense that qualifies for the CURE program we discussed earlier in the meeting. Treasurer Long pointed out the upgrades would add cameras and speaker to our current system, and would improve the experience for everyone taking part in virtual and in person meetings. The upgrades would likely happen in 4-6 weeks. Shoemaker moved to approve the proposal from Picture Perfect Technologies in the amount of \$10,717, for audio/visual upgrades to the city council chambers. Rund seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

Mayor Kleiss cautioned all to be extra careful now that school is in session. Kleiss wished the children, school district, and community well.

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

Samuel G. Kleiss Mayor Elizabeth Johnson City Clerk