

CITY OF TUSCOLA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
STATE OF ILLINOIS
TUSCOLA CITY HALL
December 14, 2020

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

Public Comment - None

Consent Agenda

Mayor Kleiss went over the items on the consent agenda:

- Minutes of the November 23, 2020 meeting
- Payment of bills totaling \$620,435.58
- Pay request in the amount of \$69,971.30 from Barton Electric for Ervin Park lighting (included in bills total)

Waldrop moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop. Rund moved to approve the consent agenda for December 14, 2020. Morris seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

Requested Time on the Agenda - None

Mayor

Mayor Kleiss offered several thank yous to local citizens/groups:

1. A thank you to the Tuscola Ministerial Alliance for the live nativity in Ervin Park during the past week-end.
2. Chad Hausman @ Kelsey Furniture for helping a family in need.
3. Thanks to the Downtown Design Studio, Bill Hill, and the Arts Council for the 'Letters to Santa Mailbox' on Candy Cane Lane.

City Clerk

Clerk Leamon reminded council their nominating petitions can be turned in to City Hall beginning December 14, 7:30 am – 4:30 pm. The final day to file is December 21.

City Treasurer

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

Long introduced Curtis Root, CPA with Larsson, Woodyard & Henson (LWH), LLP. Root spoke to council virtually about the city's audit for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2020 LWH offers a clean opinion, adding that at the end of the fiscal year, the \$270,000. Water and sewer funds both have a good cushion, and the outlay of TIF funds for the Love's project will show up in the FY 21 audit. At the end of the FY, the city's total debt was \$1.3 million. As of today, it is just under \$1 million. This amount represents two IEPA low interest loans. Treasurer Long noted in 2000, the city's debt was \$9.6 million. Root ended his presentation by complimenting council and staff on doing a great job managing the city's budget, funding capital expenses, and paying off debt.

City Attorney – No Report

City Administrator

Administrator Hoel updated council on the continuing water loss issues. Hoel stated this has everyone stumped. All possible avenues have been investigated with no results. The next step will be to replace the meter.

Ordinances

- Rund moved to approve ordinance 2020-O-10, an ordinance for the levy and assessment of taxes for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2020, and ending April 30, 2021, for the City of Tuscola. Morris seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.
- Action is needed to abate the property tax levies on the 2012 MFT bonds which were recently paid off in full. MFT taxes covered the bond payoff and the remaining levies are no longer needed. Morris moved to approve the abatement of property tax levy pursuant to ordinance 2012-O-5 (2012 MFT Bonds). Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

Resolutions

Slaughter moved to approve resolution 2020-R-3, a resolution approving prior executive session minutes and authorizing the destruction of audio recordings. Waldrop seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

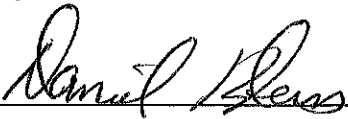
Contracts and Agreements

Administrator Hoel asked council to reject the bid for the Ironhorse drainage project. The one bid received was much higher than the SSA cap of \$325,000, so the project will not move forward. Slaughter moved to reject the bid of \$426,139.24, on the Ironhorse drainage project. Rund seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

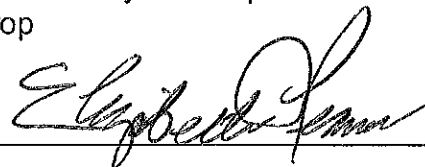
Other

Mayor Kleiss wished everyone a Merry and Safe Christmas and asked all to continue wearing masks, washing their hands, and maintaining social distancing.

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



Mayor



City Clerk