

CITY OF TUSCOLA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
STATE OF ILLINOIS
TUSCOLA CITY HALL
February 22, 2021

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order with Brace, Day (virtual), Hoey (virtual), Morris (virtual), Rund, Shoemaker (virtual), 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 February 8, 2021 meeting
- Financial report for January 2021
- Payment of bills totaling \$108,035.55
- Request from Debbie Butts and Michael Jones for live band at Ervin Park June 5, 2021

Day moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Shoemaker seconded. Alderman Hoey asked if the couple requesting the use of the park for a live band were Tuscola residents and whether or not they were expecting to be allowed to have alcohol at their event. Council also wondered if the requester was made aware of the first come, first served rule for the park and pavilion. Administrator Hoel and Treasurer Long both stated they personally had not spoken to the requesters and offered to follow up and report back to council. Staff will make it clear the park cannot be reserved and no alcohol is allowed. Day agreed to rescind his motion to approve the items on the consent agenda. Shoemaker rescinded the second. Day then moved to approve the items on the consent agenda after removing the Ervin Park live band request. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop. Day then moved to approve the amended consent agenda for February 22, 2021. Brace seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

Requested Time on the Agenda - None

Mayor

Mayor Kleiss publicly thanked Foreman Cruzan and the city crews for doing a great job with snow removal while dealing with the extremely cold weather

City Clerk – No Report

City Treasurer

Treasurer Long reported Eddie Boutilier and Red Barn Veterinary Services are delinquent on their TIF loans. Long called council's attention to the tourism report and hotel/motel tax report for the past year. Because we have not been able to host many activities, there will be funds available to support our community once things get back to normal, Long stated.

City Attorney – No Report

City Administrator – No Report

Ordinances

Mayor Kleiss opened discussion on ordinance to dissolve the Ironhorse Special Service Area. Since the city was unable to proceed with the project and no property tax levy was filed, the SSA never went into effect. Attorney Bequette added we tried to do something; it didn't work out, and rather than have it out there it's best to voluntarily dissolve. Day moved to approve ordinance 2021-O-3, an ordinance concerning the dissolution of the Ironhorse Special Service Area of the City of Tuscola. Rund seconded. Mayor Kleiss added any improvements to the area will fall on the individual homeowners or the homeowner's association. Administrator Hoel agreed, adding there was some opposition of the forming of the SSA and it is likely there would be even more if another attempt is made. This has always been a private problem and will remain a private problem, Hoel added. After a question about the layout of the pipes, Hoel stated we did gain a bit more information through this process and the exploratory digging. If the project is ever undertaken again we have a better idea of the design. Hoel added since the line is private, the city will never be able to do anything about the issues there. The SSA was the only way the city could help. Shoemaker asked if there would ever be a chance of forming a smaller SSA. Hoel answered he believes it would be possible to pursue a smaller SSA for the houses most directly affected. Attorney Bequette added he has not seen anything that would prevent forming a smaller SSA should council decide to do this. The vote was then taken on the motion to approve the ordinance to voluntarily dissolve the Ironhorse SSA. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

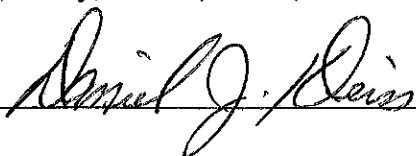
Contracts and Agreements

Treasurer Long spoke to council about an upgrade to the operating software the city uses for all accounts payable, billing, payroll, etc. The current software was purchased in 2001 and upgraded in 2014, Long stated, and this would be another upgrade of the original software. Long added the expense is included in the capital budget. The proposed upgrade includes an annual support fee that will provide automatic upgrades. Hoey moved to accept the proposal from Civic Systems, LLC, in the amount of \$14,275, for updated software for the City's accounting system. Waldrop seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

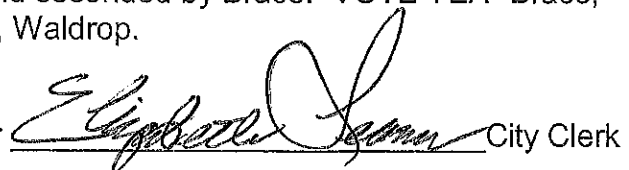
Other

Mayor Kleiss reported the city street shed collapsed last week from the snow weight. We are waiting to hear back from the insurance company regarding repairs but we definitely need the shed, Kleiss stated. Administrator Hoel added the adjuster was here last week and two contractors are coming in later this week to give quotes for repairs. The building is insured at actual cash value and we may need to repair with additional expense or do something different entirely.

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



Mayor

 City Clerk