

September 23, 2013

CITY OF TUSCOLA  
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
September 23, 2013  
Tuscola City Hall

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

#### Consent Agenda

Mayor Kleiss went over the items on the consent agenda:

- Minutes of the September 9, 2013 meeting
- Financial reports for August 2013
- Payment of bills totaling \$628,198.52
- Pay request in the amount of \$233,257.50, submitted by Stark Excavating for work on the Scattering Forks project
- Fundraising request from the Kiwanis Club for their annual Peanut Days on November 8 & 9
- Community Building lease request from Ryan Spencer for a wedding reception on November 2

Henderson moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Truitt seconded. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt. Maxey moved to approve the consent agenda for September 23, 2013. Hoey seconded. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

#### Time on the Agenda

1. Frank Lincoln addressed council on behalf of the Tri-County Shriners Club. The Shriners will collect donations downtown and at the mall on Saturday, October 19. The funds will go to the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, according to Lincoln. The closest hospital is in St. Louis and the Shriners take a lot of Douglas County children there.
2. Jim Harbaugh asked council's permission for the Lions Club Candy Day collections on October 11 & 12. The club will collect downtown, at Prairie and North line, and perhaps IGA or ShopKo.
3. Harbaugh addressed council on behalf of the TK Martin VFW Post 10009. The Post would like to have a Veteran's Day parade this year, Harbaugh stated. It has been 20+ years since the last parade. The parade will begin at the park and go down Main Street, turning east on Houghton to the Courthouse for a memorial. Harbaugh went on to say several Reserves and National Guard units, as well as a group from the Lincoln's Challenge will take part in the parade. Paul Wisovaty added the Post would really like to have a City Council, Mayor, and staff entry in the parade. This would give citizens the opportunity to show their appreciation for the city employees.

Mayor

Mayor Kleiss designated Thursday, October 31, from 5:30 – 7:30 PM, as the official 'Trick or Treat' hours. Kleiss thanked Lyondell for their donation of \$3000 to the Tuscola Fire Department. These funds will be used for training. The city received a thank you from ARTCO for allowing the use of the Community Building for their summer theatre and camp activities. The Tuscola schools thanked the city for helping with the 5K run/walk.

City Clerk – Nothing

City Treasurer

TIF delinquencies over 60 days are PMG Tuscola, LLC; Jeff Winans and Kristin Winans; Eddie Bouttelier; and Bruce and Andrea Robinson.

Treasurer Long opened discussion on the annual audit report submitted by Bray, Drake, Liles & Richardson LLP. Long reported the city is doing well financially and nothing negative was found in the audit. The city's 'net position' (net worth) has increased by over \$10 million in the last eight years. During that same time period, our tax levy was level, Long added. Our debt increased slightly this past year; however, we spent over \$2 million on capital projects and equipment. The city's capital assets are valued at more than \$850,000 over last year. We are actually putting money into and increasing the value of our assets at a faster rate. Our cash position is good; we have very solid procedures for maintaining a savings account for a 'rainy day fund' and a capital spending fund. The rainy day fund has enabled us to do the swimming pool project and the Washington Street re-paving. The capital spending account allowed us to buy an almost new fire truck and pay cash this year. The water and sewer accounts were negative in cash position last year because of the projects we've done. Long expects these funds will turn around in the next year or two. The auditors report no negative findings and no material misstatements in our audit. For the first time this year, Long asked the auditors to review the section 125 and HRA records. These are not part of the audit, Long added, but were done in conjunction with the audit. The reason Long asked for an audit of these records is because the 125 and HRA are done in house. Long added no discrepancies were found in the section 125 and HRA records. Treasurer Long ended by letting council know she would be happy to answer any questions.

City Attorney – Nothing

City Administrator

Administrator Hoel announced Chief Hastings had surgery on his shoulder last week. We will be without his full services for a while.

Contracts and Agreements

1. Mayor Kleiss announced the Peace Meal program will continue to operate as is has in the past. Sarah Bush has been awarded the FY 2014 funding for this program and will continue to operate out of the Senior Citizen's Center. Hoey moved to approve the Peace Meal host site agreement between Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center and the City of Tuscola. Maxey seconded. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt. Seip asked about the stucco planned for the west

side of the Senior Citizens Center. He suggests bidding that out now rather than waiting and combining with another project.

2. Administrator Hoel reported the five agencies involved in the Arrow Ambulance agreement – Tuscola, Tuscola Township, Garrett Township, and the villages of Garrett and Atwood – have all agreed to an extension of the current ambulance agreement with Arrow Ambulance LLC. Henderson moved to approve the extension of the agreement with Arrow Ambulance, LLC for another three years, ending September 30, 2016. Slaughter seconded. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.
3. Hoel reported IDOT suggested design changes to the route 36 sidewalk project and removal of the landscaping portion of the bid have necessitated an amendment to the engineering agreement with Chastain and Associates. Cleland moved to amend the engineering agreement with Chastain and Associates to include an additional \$19,454, for design changes and alterations to the bid documents for the route 36 sidewalk project. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

#### Other

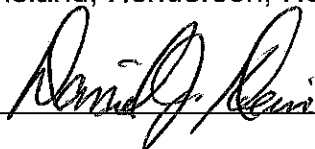
Administrator Hoel reported there has been increased interest in the sidewalk reimbursement program this year. The current budget has \$1000 for this program; however, we have requests that would exceed the budget by \$1200. Hoel added he did not believe it was council's intent to turn anyone away from this program and suggests exceeding the budget for sidewalk reimbursement to \$3000 max.

Hoel will take part in the municipal electric aggregation bids this Wednesday, along with the other municipalities. The bids will not be disclosed until this date. Mayor Kleiss stated he does not have a huge preference for requiring more of our supply come from renewable sources. Any supplier has some renewable sources in their bid, Hoel stated, but some communities prefer more. Hoel will go with the best price offered.

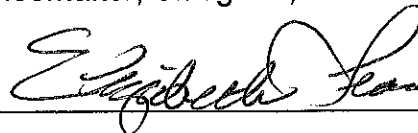
Mayor Kleiss presented the Planning Commission recommendation to allow a special use permit at 935 East US Highway 36 (Bud Rice home). Administrator Hoel reported our code requires a special use permit for residential use of less than five acres in the transitional zone. The home has been on this property for many years, Hoel added, and the special use is required by the lender. Seip moved to approve the Planning Commission recommendation to allow a Special Use Permit for 935 US Highway 36. Truitt seconded. Kleiss commented he is glad the city can approve this in less than six months. Many council members agreed. VOTE YEA\* Cleland, Henderson, Hoey, Maxey, Seip, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Truitt.

Truitt opened discussion about dog droppings at Wimple Park and reported geese droppings are also a big problem. Truitt stated she has been told geese can be shot, but only if they are used as food. Administrator Hoel pointed out firearms cannot be discharged in city limits without a special permit. Truitt added many citizens attending the Tuscola Classic commented on how nice the Wimple Park area is.

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



Mayor



City Clerk