

CITY OF TUSCOLA

COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
STATE OF ILLINOIS
TUSCOLA CITY HALL
November 8, 2021

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order with Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, and Mayor Kleiss in attendance. Aldermen Slaughter and Waldrop were absent. 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 October 25, 2021 meeting
- Payment of bills totaling \$436,477.02
- Pay request from Beniach Construction in the amount of \$306,881.38, for North Progress Boulevard extension (included in above amount)
- Christmas town 5K run and parade route

Rund moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker. Day moved to approve the consent agenda for November 8, 2021. Hoey seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker.

Mayor

Mayor Kleiss reported he learned last week the city would be receiving a \$100,000 grant from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Senator Chapin Rose called to let him know these funds are part of the Build Illinois fund and can be used for projects throughout the city.

City Clerk – No Report

City Treasurer

Treasurer Long reported no TIF delinquencies. Mayor Kleiss commented Attorney Bequette sent a follow up to council about the settlement with Boutilier regarding the sale of his properties on West Sale Street. Both mortgages have been released and the city holds a note on the current balances on these properties.

Curtis Root, Larsson, Woodyard & Henson, LLP, spoke to council about the results of the city's 2021 audit. Root reported the audit materials were properly presented and internal controls are good. Highlights include: cash and investments increased \$1.2 million; available TIF cash as of April 30, 2021, was \$1.3 million; and a \$1.8 million TIF liability on the books for awards not yet paid out. The gift of Moore Avenue to the city shows up as an asset valued at \$770,000, Root stated, and the \$147,000 in Rebuild Illinois funds went into MFT and shows as restricted cash. Sales tax is up \$40,000; income tax is up \$100,000; and money due from Illinois is up \$320,000. The city's statement this year shows a \$185,000 COVID grant. Park improvements totaled \$671,000 for asphalt, and lighting. The city received \$164,000 in grants for these improvements. City overall cost for the park improvements is in the red by \$418,000. Root added the Motor fuel bonds were paid off

this year and TIF loan balances are down to \$150,000. Treasurer Long added by end of next month almost all the TIF loans will be paid off.

City Attorney – No Report

City Administrator – No Report

Ordinances

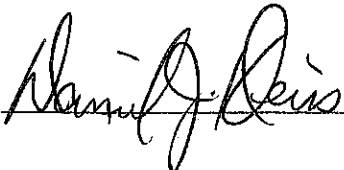
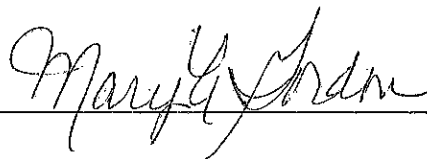
Administrator Hoel spoke to council about quotes for the city's property, liability, and work comp insurance. The city has gone with the IL Municipal League Risk Management Association (IMLRMA) for the past 23 years for this coverage. Hoel has received quotes from two other companies this year and would like to compare these with the IMLRMA quote and check references. Hoel went on to say the quote from IMLRMA came in at \$16,000 below last year's cost. In order to take advantage of the early pay discount with IMLRMA action has to be taken by November 19. Hoel would like council to approve the ordinance for the IMLRMA Min/Max insurance so we can take advantage of the early pay discount if this proves to be our best option for insurance. If IMLRMA is not the best option, Hoel will bring his insurance carrier recommendation to the next council meeting. Hoey moved to approve ordinance 2021-0-12, an ordinance authorizing the execution of the IMLRMA minimum/maximum contribution agreement for property, liability, and work comp insurance at a cost of \$123,202.34. Morris seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker.

Other

Treasurer Long discussed the annual property tax levy estimate and has a prepared spreadsheet showing increases from 0.50 -- 4.0%. Long believes we do not need to increase the levy by much at all this year (0 - <5%); however, next year will be the end of TIF and a much larger increase will be necessary. Any increase in the levy below 5% can be put in place without a hearing, Long added, and recommends a minimal increase. Hoel added next year when TIF expires, the TIF EAV will come back into the general fund EAV. We won't raise property taxes but to tax the new value it will necessarily cause an increase. Day moved to set the property tax levy estimate for 2021 at the same dollar amount as last year's tax levy estimate. Rund seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker.

Administrator Hoel announced the leaf vac has been repaired. Leaf clean-up will take place on Mondays in the north end of town and Wednesdays in the south end.

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

 Mayor  Deputy
City Clerk