

MINUTES
WOODSTOCK CITY COUNCIL
January 21, 2014
City Council Chambers

The regular meeting of the Woodstock City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Brian Sager on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 in Council Chambers at City Hall. He explained the consent calendar process and invited public participation.

A roll call was taken.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Julie Dillon, Maureen Larson, Mayor Brian Sager, Mark Saladin, Joseph Starzynski, Michael Turner

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: RB Thompson

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Roscoe Stelford, City Attorney Richard Flood, Chief of Police Robert Lowen, Deputy Chief John Lieb, Sergeant Tino Cipolla, Sergeant Dennis Leard, Officer Ray Lanz, Officer Dave Dempsey, Financial Director Paul Christensen, Economic Development Cort Carlson, HR Director Deb Schober, Director of Public Works Paul Ruscko, Pam Morehouse, Deputy City Clerk Cindy Smiley

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk Dianne Mitchell

A. FLOOR DISCUSSION:

1.) Proclamation Honoring Officer Ray Lanz and Brinx

Mayor Sager invited Officer Lanz, his family and Brinx to the podium where he presented a proclamation recognizing the many years of service of Officer Lanz and Brinx who are retiring from their positions as the Police Canine Unit of Woodstock. He thanked him for his dedication and for forwarding the canine unit in the City of Woodstock. Chief Lowen presented a framed photo to Officer Lanz and he noted that the frames were donated by the Fox Frame Shop on Judd St. He thanked the representatives from Tops Kennel who trained Brinx and Jax and expressed appreciation for the support from the K-9 community in the County.

2.) Proclamation Honoring Joann and Jason Randall DVM

Mayor Sager invited veterinarians Dr. Joann and Dr. Jason Randall with the Animal Hospital of Woodstock, who provided veterinary care for Brinx, to the podium where he presented them a proclamation honoring their work with the Woodstock Canine Unit for more than seven years. Chief Lowen presented a framed photo to them. Dr. Joann Randall stated that they have enjoyed working with Officer Lanz and Brinx. She stated that it is a big honor for them to have the opportunity to take care of the police dogs noting that it is the least they can do for the service that the police officers provide. She stated that they look forward to working with Officer Dempsey and Jax.

Chief Lowen presented a photo to Chet Hollister in recognition of his and his late wife's support of the vest program and noted that they bought the vest for Brinx which will now be transferred to Jax. Mayor Sager thanked the O'Conner's from Fox Frame Shop for the donation of the picture frames.

3.) Groundhog Day Proclamation

Mayor Sager invited Pam Moorhouse, Craig Krandel and Rick Bellairs from the Groundhog Day Committee where he presented a proclamation declaring Feb. 2, 2014 Groundhog Day in the City of Woodstock. C. Krandel expressed their appreciation of all the support that the City gives them. R. Bellairs reported that Danny Rubin who wrote the original screenplay for "Groundhog Day" will be

attending this year's festivities. The group presented Woodstock Willie hot sauce and groundhog cookies from Jaci's Cookies to the Council.

Public Comments

No comments from the public.

Council Comments

Mayor Sager stated that on February 2, 2014, The Education Foundation of D200 will be holding their annual dinner and auction at the Donnelly's Wild West Town.

Mayor Sager stated that the Family Health Partnership Clinic will be having their annual thank-you open house at the Sage Center for Care, which is now the new name of the Family Health Partnership Clinic. He noted that it is located at 401 E Congress Parkway in Crystal Lake.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by J. Dillon, second by M. Turner to concur with Consent Agenda Items B-E5

- In reference to Item E1, M. Turner asked for clarification. R. Stelford advised that the City has issued alternate revenue bonds in the past to finance a number of the City's facility expansion improvements. He stated that the City must adopt ordinances that say the property taxes required to pay the bonds are not necessary and that the City has sufficient funds to make the payments. He advised that the ordinances have to be filed with the County Clerk otherwise under law the County Clerk is required to levy the property taxes on the City's behalf to make sure the bonds are properly paid. He reported that Finance Director P. Christensen reviewed the City's finances and determined that there are sufficient funds available to make the payments so the City is going through the steps required to abate them.
- In reference to Item E5, M. Saladin questioned how the request from Walmart to have the City supervise and enforce on their property came about. R. Stelford stated that it isn't an uncommon occurrence with the retailers. He stated that the City doesn't have the ability to enforce traffic laws on a private property without a vehicle control contract in place. He advised that Walmart doesn't have that contract as of yet and once it is passed certain ordinances that the City has in place can also be enforced on the Walmart parking lot. He advised that the City has always let the retailers be the drivers on this and noted that Walmart has decided to approach the City to ask them to take on the responsibility.

M. Saladin questioned what types of things the police can enforce and Chief Lowen advised that they could enforce abandoned cars, fire lanes, handicap parking, drunk driving and reckless driving. He advised that the City has these agreements in place with several private apartment complexes, the school district, Farm and Fleet and other commercial establishments. He stated that the retailer has to abide by State law for signage and noted that the Police Department can enforce stop signs and speed limits if the retailer posts it properly.

M. Larson questioned if this will stretch the police force by requiring more area to be covered. Chief Lowen stated that it does not and advised that as it stands now the police couldn't enforce fire lanes. He stated that it all came to light when Walmart had an abandoned car in their parking lot that they couldn't deal with without having this process. J. Starzynski questioned if a police officer will regularly roll through the Walmart parking lot and Chief Lowen advised that they already do because there is a lot of vehicular and

customer traffic. He advised that the City gets the fine money and it gives the Police Department the ability to enforce laws there.

B. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

December 17, 2013 Regular Meeting

December 17, 2013 Executive Session

C. WARRANTS: 3597 3598 3599 3600 MFT #529

D. MINUTES AND REPORTS:

Police Department Report – November 2013

Police Pension Board Minutes – October 22, 2013

Library Board Minutes – November 7, 2013

Transportation Commission Minutes – December 18, 2013

E. MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 16

1. Property Tax Abatement Ordinance – Adoption of the following:

- a.) Ordinance 14-O-01 abating the additional tax imposed by Ordinance 02- O-108 and supplemented by Ordinance 04-O-26 and further supplemented by Ordinance 13-O-42;
- b.) Ordinance 14-O-02 abating the additional tax imposed by Ordinance 02- O-108 and supplemented by Ordinance 04-O-15;
- c.) Ordinance 14-O-03 abating the additional tax imposed by Ordinance 05- O-70 and modified by Ordinance 05-O-99;
- d.) Ordinance 14-O-04 abating the additional tax imposed by Ordinance 08-O-41;
- e.) Ordinance 14-O-05 abating the additional tax imposed by Ordinance 10-O-34;
- f.) Ordinance 14-O-06 abating the additional tax imposed by Ordinance 10-O-34 refunding a portion of the Series 2000D Alternate Revenue Bonds;
- g.) Ordinance 14-O-07 abating the additional tax imposed by Ordinance 10-O-34 refunding a portion of the Series 2002E Alternate Revenue Source Bonds;
- h.) Ordinance 14-O-08 abating the additional tax imposed by Ordinance 10-O-34 refunding a portion of the Series 2002F Alternate Revenue Source Bonds; and
- i.) Ordinance 14-O-09 abating the additional tax imposed by Ordinance 10-O-34 refunding a portion of the Series 2002G Alternate Revenue Source Bonds.

2. Zoning Variation - 1701 Sebastian Drive – Adoption of Ordinance 14-O-10 varying the Unified Development Ordinance to allow the construction of an addition to extend two feet into the required rear yard setback.

3. Parking – Alleys- Adoption of Ordinance 14-O-11 amending the Woodstock City Code pertaining to Alleys 1, 2, 3 and 4 as identified.

4. Northwest Area Arts Council Agreement – Adoption of Ordinance 14-O-12 authorizing an agreement between the City of Woodstock and the Northwest Area Arts Council.

5. Walmart Vehicular Contract – Adoption of Ordinance 14-O-13 authorizing a Vehicular Control Contract between the City of Woodstock and the Woodstock Walmart.

A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: M. Larson, J. Dillon, M. Saladin, Mayor Sager, M. Turner, J. Starzynski. Nays: None. Absentees: RB Thompson. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

6. Community Event Discussion

Mayor Sager reminded Council that as a result of their Strategic Planning Workshop there was discussion held in regards to the possible creation of a community event. He reported that there is a strong group of individuals within the community who are interested in forwarding such an effort and noted that it comes from Gavers Barndance which has a very successful event during the summer to raise funds for cancer research and awareness.

Mayor Sager stated that over the last few years the City has had informal discussion with them about the possibility of tagging on some community activities centered around the Barndance to provide another opportunity for activities that would be attractive to families and children. He advised that Cindy Smiley has met with Steve Gavers, Ralph Webster and Denise Graff-Ponstein to come up with a basic outline.

Mayor Sager reported that the idea is to take a look at adding a community picnic and noted that there are some efforts to bring in a large, well-known food purveyor. He stated that the idea also includes pulling the Movie in the Park into the event and bringing in music. He stated that Barndance is on Saturday and the idea is to start on Friday and continue through Sunday. He reported that it could include swimming and bouncy games and the Rec Staff can work in some competitions. He noted that there will be an alcohol concession which would be managed and operated by Gavers Barndance.

Mayor Sager advised that the two questions on the table are if Council is willing to support the idea to proceed with planning by giving temporary consent and if Council supports the idea of utilizing some of the income generated by the video gaming as seed money to get things going.

M. Saladin stated that he likes the idea and noted that he would like to have a central theme developed. He stated that it is a nice central location with all the amenities possibly already being in place. Mayor Sager stated that if it is going to be a family picnic type of thing then the idea is to keep it cost efficient so a family can do it rather economically.

J. Dillon stated that she thinks it is an interesting idea but believes that Woodstock already has a lot going on in the summer so she isn't one hundred percent behind the idea. She stated that between Fourth of July, the Concerts on the Square, Fair Diddley, Farmer's Market, Cruise Night in August, Movies in the Park, and Gavers there are so many things that are happening. She stated that if there are funds available to do something to benefit the community then she would like to see the pool stay open longer.

Mayor Sager stated that he has heard the comment from other individuals within the community that Woodstock has a lot of events all summer long so why do we need to have a community oriented event, but he noted that others have said that it is a part of the identity and when you think of McHenry you think of Fiesta Days or Harvard and Milk Days. He stated that some residents ask why Woodstock doesn't have a celebration.

M. Larson stated that she was more hesitant before she knew that Gavers was on board because of logistics and diluting their one night, but since they don't have concerns it

eased some of her concerns. She thinks it is great that Gavers is interested and willing to do the event and the names behind it do a lot to put her mind at ease in terms of individuals that follows through and will do a good job. She is supportive of it.

Mayor Sager stated that they have discussed it with Gavers in the context that it isn't the City's desire to compete or pull anything away but just to add the community flair to it. He believes they are excited for it and noted that the individuals pushing it have said they have to do more because the tent is out there, that expense is there, so they need to take advantage of it a little bit more.

M. Turner stated that the connect with Barndance makes perfect sense and noted that it is the right thing to consider as far as expanding on what is available. He stated that Gavers Barndance already pulls people from other communities and it is the kind of thing that gives Woodstock identity. He thinks the City should be aggressive with it and involve the private sector. He believes this is aiming high which is what Woodstock should be aiming for. He noted that it is exactly the kind of thing that should be occurring in the City of Woodstock. He stated that Mayor Sager did a fabulous job in getting the Barndance back in Woodstock and he thinks the City needs to extend upon it. He stated that he supports doing it and doing it right.

In response to J. Dillon's question, M. Turner stated that he wants to see Woodstock put itself on the map even more so then it currently is. He stated that when people come to Woodstock they discover new things about the community, they discover new places on the Square and they discover the positives that exist within this town. He thinks that anything the City does to pull visitors into the community for something that is family oriented fun, revenue generating and builds community awareness is something that he believes is worth doing.

J. Starzynski stated that anytime you have Denise Graff-Ponstein on something it will get done. Mayor Sager stated that one of the considerations they have talked about a lot is volunteers and noted that you can't just rely on Gavers' volunteers. He reiterated that the question on the table is if Council believes the City should continue to move forward with the idea. Council conceded that they wanted to keep talking about it.

Mayor Sager reiterated that the second question is whether Council thinks it is appropriate for the City, in terms of planning some funding, to take a look at video gaming income generation. M. Larson questioned if the video gaming income has already been designated to something else and R. Stelford advised that it has not. M. Larson asked if there are any ballparks for the costs and Mayor Sager stated that there has been some initial investigation but noted that they are waiting on responses from those investigations.

J. Starzynski questioned the use of the hotel/motel tax and Mayor Sager advised that he is hesitant because the hotel/motel tax has been a little stretched and there are obligations already associated with it. In response to M. Turner's inquiry about video gaming revenue, C. Smiley advised that the City is right now averaging \$2,500 a month with only three months reported. Mayor Sager stated that a number of vendors continue to come online. M. Turner stated that the City could possibly end up after twelve months running about \$40,000 and he noted that it sounds like a good use of gambling money. The Council conceded to move forward with the planning.

7. Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan – Transmittal of the five-year CIP for FY2014/2015 through FY2018/2019.

R. Stelford advised that there will be copies available at the library, the City Manager's Office and it will be on the web site, but noted that it is a large file. He reported that they have seen an expansion in the number of project requests and an expansion in the number of dollars. He thanked all the Department heads for their work and noted that it is a very valuable document which he refers to as the City's Christmas list. He advised that it recognizes and helps prioritize the things that need to be funded first and foremost.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by M. Saladin, second by M. Larson, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing:

Personnel (Open Meeting Act:5ILCS 120/2 (c)(1))

The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity.

A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: M. Larson, J. Dillon, M. Saladin, Mayor Sager, M. Turner, J. Starzynski. Nays: None. Absentees: RB Thompson. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

The Woodstock City Council adjourned to Executive Session at 7:47 PM.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The City Council returned to Open Session at 10:22PM.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Maureen Larson, Julie Dillon, Mark Saladin, Michael Turner, Mayor Brian Sager, Joseph Starzynski

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: RB Thompson

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Roscoe Stelford and City Attorney Rich Flood

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was the Consensus of the Council that Staff investigate the Woodstock Celebrates Program and bring it to the Council for discussion at a future date.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by M. Turner, Second by M. Larson, to adjourn the regular meeting of the City Council to the next Regular Meeting on February 4, 2014. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: M. Larson, J. Dillon, M. Saladin, Mayor Sager, M. Turner, J. Starzynski. Nays: None. Absentees: RB Thompson. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Mitchell - City Clerk