

MINUTES
WOODSTOCK CITY COUNCIL
March 18, 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, March 18, 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, RB Thompson, Michael Turner

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Roscoe Stelford, City Attorney TJ Clifton, Finance Director Paul Christensen, Economic Development Director Cort Carlson, Director of Public Works Paul Ruscko, Deputy City Clerk Cindy Smiley, City Planner Nancy Baker

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk Dianne Mitchell

A. FLOOR DISCUSSION: Purple Heart Resolution - Adoption of Resolution 14-R-05 designating the City of Woodstock a Purple Heart City.

Mayor Sager stated that Council has the opportunity to consider a Resolution designating the City of Woodstock a Purple Heart City. He asked, without objection, for approval of the Resolution from the Council and they conceded. Mayor Sager invited Rich and Monica Young, who were there representing the veterans of the community, to the podium where he read the proclamation recognizing the City of Woodstock as a Purple Heart City.

R. Young thanked everyone and stated that in three years Woodstock is the first city to be able to do this. M. Young stated that McHenry County on March 4th became the first county out of 102 counties in Illinois to become designated as a Purple Heart County. She reported that they are in the process of raising funds to have a monument installed on August 7th Purple Heart Day.

M. Young reported that the County did a proclamation on March 4th designating themselves as a Purple Heart County and on that day R. Young presented them with a flag given by the Military Order of the Purple Heart. She stated that it is a real honor and advised that no one can fly the flag without the designation and written proclamation. She stated that tonight R. Young has a flag for the City. She advised that once a municipality is designated as a Purple Heart City, they give them a flag that they can fly and then display with the proclamation. She advised that they have a plaque ordered that the City can use to display with the flag and proclamation.

R. Young stated that this is honoring 1.7 million veterans. M. Young stated that the saying is that the worst casualty of war is being forgotten and this is something really great. They presented the flag to Mayor Sager who expressed gratefulness for them being at the meeting and for the incredible work that they do in promoting veterans and Purple Heart veterans and the service they provided in support of our country. He stated that it is an honor to be the first community in Illinois to recognize a Purple Heart Day and are equally pleased to have the Purple Heart monument in the Square. He expressed gratefulness for the opportunity to be an official Purple Heart City and to be able to fly the flag noting that it is an honor to the City but nothing compared to the honor owed to our veterans. He stated that Woodstock will fly the flag proudly and will display the plaque in a location of honor.

Public Comments

No comments from the public.

Council Comments

RB Thompson stated that a new book came out this week that was written by former Woodstock resident Bill Tammeus. He stated that Bill Tammeus was a Pulitzer Prize winning columnist for 26 years at Kansas City Star. He reported that B. Tammeus wanted to write something about the Midwest and realized all of his examples were primarily out of Woodstock so he titled the book *Woodstock: A Story of Middle Americans*. He read a quote on Page 7 of the book that talks about the Square and advised that the book can be purchased at the local book store.

Mayor Sager stated that this week Woodstock was recognized in Chicago Magazine as one of twelve Chicago neighborhoods and suburban towns as the best places to live.

M. Larson reported that a couple of weeks ago she went down to Springfield. She stated that City Manager R. Stelford, Mayor Sager, herself and our legislators met with Speaker of the House Michael Madigan, Republican House Minority Leader Jim Durkin and Senate Minority Leader Christine Radogno. She stated that they were able to pitch their two main things which are Rt. 14 and Rt. 47. She thinks that our legislators hammer that all the time, but she thinks it helps to have another voice come from home. She said that it is clear that our legislators are working hard on our behalf.

M. Larson stated that they had one joint meeting with MCCG and Senate President John Cullerton. She stated that it was a bigger meeting but the group agreed to pitch Rt. 14 and Rt. 47. She reported that they met with IDOT. She stated that she wasn't sure how typical it is to get meetings with Speaker Madigan and she felt that he gave them his full attention and listened. She stated that she knows that meeting with them is not a guarantee of anything going forward but she thinks that not meeting them would certainly be a guarantee that nothing will happen. She stated that if every community is pushing for their road to be funded there is no way for it to work except to be the squeaky wheel and be vocal. Mayor Sager stated that he thinks it would be good for all of Council to have the chance to go down to try to promote the needs of the community in terms of transportation.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by J. Dillon, second by RB Thompson to concur with Consent Agenda Items B-E3, E5-E7.

- M. Saladin removed Item E4
- In reference to Items E5, E6 and E7, Mayor Sager stated that those items are waiving bids. He asked legal counsel to affirm that it is appropriate at times for the City to waive bids either because there are limited purveyors of a given item or because the City has been working with a particular contractor for a number of years and they have provided consistent and appropriate, professional services or have special expertise; T.J. Clifton affirmed.
- In reference to Item E1, RB Thomson stated that he has personally and professionally interacted with Jason Osborn who is the Director of Transportation for McHenry County. He noted that he met with J. Osborn frequently when he was participating in the writing of the 2040 Land Use Plan for McHenry County. He stated that J. Osborn is a resident of Woodstock and he has been with the County for about fifteen years. Mayor Sager advised that J. Osborn is not the director but is on staff. He stated that J. Osborn is a fine addition and noted that Chairman Celentano is anxious to have him as a voting member.

B. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

March 4, 2014 Regular Meeting

March 4, 2014 Executive Session

C. WARRANTS: 3607 3608

D. MINUTES AND REPORTS:

Police Department Report – February 2014

Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes – November 12, 2013

E. MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 19

1. **Board and Commission Appointment – Transportation Commission**– Approval of the nomination of Jason Osborn to the Transportation Commission.
2. **Sign Variation – 126 N. Benton Street** – Adoption of Ordinance 14-O-21 authorizing a variance of the City of Woodstock Unified Development Ordinance to allow the installation of a project sign utilizing existing brackets.
3. **Safe Routes to School Agreements** –Approval of the following:
 - a.) A Local Agency Agreement for Federal participation for the Safe Routes to Schools Project.
 - b.) A Construction Engineering Services Agreement for the construction of a sidewalk on the west side of Dean Street.
5. **Change Order #4 - Old Courthouse Dome and Roof Restoration** – Adoption of Resolution 14-R-06 authorizing Change Order #4 for the Old Courthouse Dome and Roof Restoration.
6. **Award of Contract – Installation of Lightning Protection on the Old Courthouse** – Approval to waive competitive bids and award of contract to Renaissance Restoration for the installation of lightning protection on the Old Courthouse for a total price of \$19,464.
7. **Award of Contract – Well #11** – Approval to waive competitive bids and award of contract to Layne Christensen for the rehabilitation of Well #11 for a total estimated cost not to exceed \$54,971.

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

Item E4 Change Order #1-#3 -Old Courthouse Dome and Roof Restoration – Adoption of a Resolution authorizing Change Orders #1, #2, and #3 for the Old Courthouse Dome and Roof Restoration.

M. Saladin stated that he doesn't have an issue with the item but he thinks it is important to get a status check and more details. C. Carlson stated that the weather this winter has played a part in some of the delays and noted that they weren't able to get some of the work done. He stated that with any old structure the more work that is done, the more problems that are found. He advised that the changes are to address those unknowns and surprises as the contractor removes some of the paint and wood from the dome. He stated that they are finding more problems with the dome due to weather and water damage; things keep cropping up as we move forward with the project.

Mayor Sager advised that it is nothing that is truly detrimental to the overall integrity of the structure. He stated that things need to be repaired to ensure its longevity. He reiterated that the structure isn't caving in and referred to C. Carlson's comment that as you get into a project you realize that if you are going to do a complete and thorough job you want to make sure you are doing everything you can which prompted the change orders. R. Stelford stated that some of the wood is in Community Development which shows how rotted it is and he reiterated that it isn't going to fall down.

Motion by M. Saladin, second by J. Starzynski to adopt Resolution 14-R-07 authorizing Change Orders #1, #2, and #3 for the Old Courthouse Dome and Roof Restoration. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: J. Dillon, M. Larson, M. Saladin, Mayor Sager, J. Starzynski, RB Thompson, M. Turner. Nays: None. Absentees: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

8. Transmittal of FY14/15 Budget

Mayor Sager stated that R. Stelford, P. Christensen and Staff have listened to Council in terms of their comments at workshop sessions and they have looked at the current status of the budget for this fiscal year. He stated that they are planning for the next fiscal year to weave in some of the additional priorities and to continue to provide the quality of services to residents of the City of Woodstock as well as responsibly utilize the people's resources.

R. Stelford thanked the Department Directors and Staff who did a tremendous job pulling the document together as it is a challenging especially with having a lot of new faces on Staff. He believes that it meets the priorities that were established by the Council. He advised that they will find a lot of new and different things that were included in the document based on the comments they received.

R. Stelford stated that it is balanced and there is around \$37,000 of available funding that will be going to fund balance so if Council has some ideas that money could potentially be used for it. He stated that the budget was developed using conservative projections where they shoot for expenditures that should come in below the projected numbers and the revenues should come in above the projected numbers. He stated that they are projecting for FY 13/14 that there will be additional funding available in the general fund that they are recommending transferring over to the general CIP fund.

In reference to RB Thompson's question about the allowed cost of living increase, Mayor Sager stated that it has to do with the extension of the property tax and noted that this Council has elected not to extend the cost of living increase to property tax except for new properties that might be developed. R. Stelford stated that for the last two years City Administration by direction of City Council has put together a very conservative levy and in both years the levies have actually gone down in total. They feel that they will be in a similar situation coming into this fiscal year and he advised that the budget has been crafted to not rely on needing those property tax dollars in order to balance it. He stated that they haven't in the last two years had to conduct a special meeting because the actual property tax levy is coming under what the City levied the prior year.

Mayor Sager stated that there will be a public hearing for the budget on April 1, 2014. City Council will have a budget workshop on Friday, April 11, 2014 at 1:30 pm.

9. Community Celebration Event

Mayor Sager reported that they have been looking at the development of a community celebration event for a long time and advised that this year it seems to be coming to fruition. He stated that it is centered around Gavers Barndance and will take place on July 18, 19 and 20. He stated that Cindy Smiley, the Community Events Coordinator, has been working with a lot of people to provide framework for the event.

C. Smiley stated that they have made significant progress and noted that it isn't a lot of time to plan a three day event but fortunately the City has a lot of Staff with expertise in the different facets of an event this large. She stated that using that expertise, Staff members are chairing each of the committees with the exception of fundraising noting that they are still searching for a chairman who would help raise funds to offset some of the costs. She stated that one of the primary goals is to keep everything very inexpensive so a family can come, have a good time and not spend a lot of money. She reported that they have budgeted some City funds and noted that Council approved conceptually using some of the video gaming funds.

C. Smiley stated that the event will be the 18th – 20th. She stated that the 18th will be concert night and advised that Steve Gavers found a great band, Chasin' Mason, which has a modern county sound and they think it is a good fit for the event. She stated that it will be Friday night from 7 p.m. – 11 p.m. and noted that they are looking for an opening act. She advised that Gavers will operate the beer garden and they are hoping to have some food vendors open.

C. Smiley reported that on Saturday, due to logistics with the Barndance, the Mayor came up with having a water carnival inside the aquatic center. She stated that the name of the event is Woodstock Celebrates Summer in the Park. She advised on that day the event celebrates fun in the water and fun at the pool; an all American day. She advised that they are working on activities, entertainment and food all ending at 4 p.m. when the aquatic center closes to make way for the Gavers event.

C. Smiley stated that Sunday will be a big family event and advised that they think of it as an old-fashioned fair and community picnic. She reported that they are purchasing red and white striped carnival tents that will hopefully last a long time and provide service year to year. She stated that there will be old-fashioned games as well as bouncy houses and slides. She advised that they are hoping to get the community involved and are inviting not-for-profits and businesses to have booths to provide information about their entities and provide some kind of game or hand-out. She advised that Recreation is planning the physical games like a long ball hitting contest.

C. Smiley stated that they will have a food court with hopefully a wide variety of local vendors but noted that if they don't get a turn-out from local restaurants they might open it up to others. She advised that there will be entertainment throughout the day and a bingo tent. She stated that the event will end with Movies in the Park and it will be under the tent. She reported that Gavers will operate the beer garden throughout the day and noted that the funds raised will go to pediatric cancer. She stated that the evening should end around 10 p.m. She advised that the goal is to keep everything affordable and noted that they are not charging the food vendors a booth fee and are requiring them to have one meal type item for around \$2.50.

In response to M. Larson's question regarding advertising, C. Smiley reported that she reserved the community sign for two weeks and wrote an article for the City Scene which comes out in April. She stated that they are hoping the papers will pick it up and do articles and she advised that they will place advertising in the papers as we get closer. She discussed

the possibility of placemats and t-shirts to be used in local restaurants. She discussed the possibility of banners that can go on the light posts and noted that one of the one of the fundraising ideas is having sponsors on the banner. She stated that there will be large banners put various places on the South Street fence at Emricson Park and in front of City Hall.

Mayor Sager stated that are also planning on working cooperatively with Barndance to partner with their publicity. J. Starzynski suggested announcing it at the Wednesday night summer city concerts. C. Smiley advised that they will announce it and have flyers at each band concert. She stated that they will also utilize the Recreation Department's email blast program. J. Starzynski stated that they need to tell people the dates as soon as possible. C. Smiley advised that the City Scene article is a general overview of each day and it also promotes how to get involved or volunteer.

RB Thompson stated that it is a tentative title for the event and he thinks Summer in the Park sounds bland. He referenced the Woodstock book and stated that one of the chapters is about All-America City status. He referenced other materials he has regarding All-America City status and Woodstock. He reviewed the eight points the City used to promote Woodstock and then suggested calling the event Woodstock Celebrates All-America Family Fun Fest. He said the event is promoting family fun and the use of All-America with it describes the goal they are trying to achieve.

Mayor Sager stated that all suggestions are welcome and noted that one of the hardest things is to come up with an appropriate name. He stated that the thing they are looking at is Woodstock Celebrates and they wanted a nice completion of that phrase. They wanted a catchy title that everybody could easily latch onto and would have a degree of longevity. He referenced the names of surrounding community's events and stated that Summer in the Park seemed to be a kind of celebration associated with the park itself and a summer celebration.

RB Thompson stated that Woodstock has achieved the status of All-America and he noted that everybody has a park. He stated that he was looking for the uniqueness and stated that Woodstock Celebrates, Inc. was looking at doing a Woodstock Celebrates All-America City. Mayor Sager stated that he thinks that would be a great event to have as well. RB Thompson stated that they missed it as the 50th anniversary was last year and that is why he would like to perpetuate it. J. Dillon suggested that the tone can be tied into some kind of design.

C. Smiley stated that if we are going to start advertising it, then we need to have a name. Mayor Sager stated that it has already been put out there. He expressed his gratefulness for the support from Gavers Barndance and their leadership.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Sager advised that there will be a presentation on Woodstock Celebrates soon.

RB Thompson stated that Council usually has their retreats after an election year every two years and noted that they have basically met everything and the economy is changing. He questioned if Council should have another retreat this coming summer. Mayor Sager stated that they are looking at planning a workshop for June or July and advised that M. Turner has commented that perhaps this is something Council should look at on an annual basis rather than associated with elections and newly seated Council members. The Council conceded to move forward on a workshop in June or July.

RB Thompson stated that he forgot to mention during comments that a week ago Sunday was the 65th Anniversary of ACTS, which is Adult and Child Therapy Services. He reported that Mayor Sager was given the first annual Chester Gould Citizen of the Year award. Mayor Sager stated that he was very honored and humbled to receive it.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by M. Turner, second by M. Larson, to adjourn the regular meeting of the City Council to the next Regular Meeting on April 1, 2014. Ayes: J. Dillon, M. Larson, M. Saladin, Mayor Sager, J. Starzynski, RB Thompson, M. Turner. Nays: None. Absentees: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Mitchell
City Clerk