

**MINUTES**  
**WOODSTOCK CITY COUNCIL**  
April 1, 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, April 1, 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, Library Director Nick Weber, Police Chief Robert Lowen, Sergeant Tino Cipolla, Officer Dave Dempsey, Officer Sharon Freund, HR Director Deb Schober

**OTHERS PRESENT:** City Clerk Dianne Mitchell, Police & Fire Commission Chair Ron Giordano

**A. FLOOR DISCUSSION: Swearing in of Police Officer Christopher Naatz**

Mayor Sager stated that one of the greatest joys and highest investments made as a municipality is in the employment of full-time employees. He stated that they are thrilled to have the opportunity to swear in a new police officer. Police Chief Robert Lowen introduced Officer Christopher Naatz and provided background information on his education, military experience and past employment. He then introduced Officer Naatz's family and girlfriend who were in attendance. Police and Fire Commission Chairman Ron Giordano asked Officer Naatz to raise his right hand and to repeat the oath swearing him in as a new police officer. The Council members offered their congratulations.

Mayor Sager thanked Officer Naatz for his service in the armed forces and thanked him for choosing the City of Woodstock. He stated that it is important to have the swearing in ceremony during tonight's meeting because it is symbolic of the fact that in his service Officer Naatz is serving the residents of the community and is swearing to defend and protect the residents. He stated that Officer Naatz has chosen the City of Woodstock and its residents and the City of Woodstock has chosen him and in doing so have placed a tremendous amount of faith, trust and confidence in him. He commended Officer Naatz for that solemn responsibility and offered his congratulations.

**Public Comments**

No comments from the public.

**Council Comments**

Mayor Sager stated that the Memorial Day celebration is coming up on Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> and he advised that he has other obligations and cannot attend. He asked if another member of the Council is available to represent the City for the celebration.

Mayor Sager advised that Council will be determining a RFP Review Advisory Committee for the Old Courthouse at the next City Council meeting.

**B. PUBLIC HEARING: FY 2014/2015 Budget**

Mayor Sager opened the Public Hearing for the FY 2014/2015 Budget at 7:10 PM.

No comments from the public.

Motion by M. Saladin, second by M. Larson to close the public hearing at 7:11 PM. 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.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion by J. Dillon, second by RB Thompson to concur with Consent Agenda Items C-F3, F5.

- M. Turner removed Item F4
- In reference to Item F5, J. Starzynski referred to the map of revisions and questioned the location for new items. Nick Weber, Library Director, stated it was an oversight and advised that the location should be marked on the south wall running along the story and craft room wall. He advised that the area is to the right of the front entrance.

#### **C. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

March 18, 2014 Regular Meeting

#### **D. WARRANTS:           3609    3610**

#### **E. MINUTES AND REPORTS:**

Transportation Commission Minutes – February 19, 2014

Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes – March 11, 2014

#### **F. MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 20**

- 1. Electric Aggregate Consortium Extension-** Adoption of Resolution 14-R-08 authorizing the execution of an intergovernmental agreement to purchase contracts for future electric supply.
- 2. Disposal of Surplus Property-**Adoption of Ordinance 14-O-22 declaring as surplus certain items of Personal Property owned by the City of Woodstock to be turned over to MDC for proper disposal.
- 3. IDOT Letter of Understanding – ADA Compliance –** Approval of a Letter of Understanding and Plan Approval documents from the Illinois Department of Transportation for the construction of ADA compliant pedestrian ramps.
- 5. Transmittal of Library Update Report**

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 F4 Award of Contract - Mosquito Abatement - Approval to waive competitive bids and award of contract to Clarke Environmental for 2014 mosquito control.**

M. Turner stated that he is voting against this item. He stated that the purpose of doing it is laudable, the effectiveness is questionable and the period with which it has any impact is short. He reported that an esteemed leader in Public Works who is now retired told him privately that it is a waste of money and doesn't work. He stated that they are throwing noxious chemicals into the environment to try to control an animal that has been around since the beginning of time and it doesn't work. He

stated that it is business as usual and suggested taking the \$28,000 and giving it to an employee for doing something good, using it for the marketing proposal or for something else.

M. Turner advised that he doesn't like Council blindly voting for it just because it has always been done. He stated that if anybody votes yes they are doing it on their own conscience so it's not fair for him to frame it in that term. He asked them to think more critically about it based upon the Staff report that says it is only effective for an incredibly brief period of time. He advised that he gets the public outcry part of it but he doesn't believe they should be doing something if it has virtually no impact. He doesn't believe it is worth \$28,000 of the tax payers' money.

RB Thompson stated that the bites do affect the blood and the transmission of diseases occurs. He doesn't think that it is limited to the bites being a nuisance but there is the issue of health also. M. Turner stated that this doesn't change that though by its own admission. He stated that it can reduce the number of nuisance mosquitoes for a brief period of time, but they fill in so quickly because that is what they are born and bred to do and there is nothing man can do. He stated that this isn't about being anti-health or anti-disease, but it is an attempt that has very little effectiveness and he doesn't think it is a good use of money.

M. Larson stated that she believes it is the exponential nature and if we can reduce the number over a short period of time, we are in essence reducing a much larger number over a longer period of time.

J. Dillon stated that there is a point in time when it is super humid and the mosquitoes are nuts and it may help just for that short period of time to reduce the effects of it. She understands what M. Turner is saying but she believes at some point when things get humid and they are biting like crazy, you have to do something.

Mayor Sager stated that he understands and respects M. Turner's position and noted that it hasn't always been done. He advised that there were a number of years when the City did not spray for mosquitoes. He stated that as the West Nile virus became of concern then there was a lot of pressure on the City to be a part of the solution in people's minds. He advised that the City has done it for a number of years now after that call.

Mayor Sager stated that if you are out at Emricson Park for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration and the City didn't spray in preparation for that event; there would be a huge issue. M. Turner agreed that for an event with that number of people it makes sense. Mayor Sager stated that you control a certain portion of the population and if that population wasn't controlled it would grow exponentially. He suggested that people believe that mosquitoes are a huge nuisance and anything that the City can do to reduce the nuisance from the public's perspective is an important responsibility. He believes there is a public call for it and even though it isn't 100% and only lasts for a particular period time, he believes the City has to do what it can. He stated that it is an expensive proposition but in some respects it is a minimal investment to try to help control the nuisance concerns of the residents.

M. Larson asked if it is done blindly regardless of the conditions. R. Stelford stated that it is at City Manager's direction and in the past the Public Works Director has also provided input on when it is needed. He stated that it isn't something the City will do every week; it is something that will be done on an on needed basis. J. Starzynski questioned if the decision is based on rainfall and R. Stelford stated that if it is a very dry summer, the City might not have to do it at all. Mayor Sager advised that it is also associated with survival rates over winter and noted that there could possibly be a lower initial population because of the harsher winter. He stated that they need to look at the

cyclical nature of the summertime relative to environment and population which gives the benchmark for the application.

M. Saladin questioned what happens to the money if a couple of the applications aren't used. R. Stelford advised that the City saves it and noted that it goes into the fund.

Motion by J. Dillon, second by RB Thompson to waive the requirement for competitive bids to provide mosquito control services and award a contract for 2014 mosquito control services to Clarke Environmental for the quoted price of \$4,747 per each application of larva control products and \$4,312 per each application for adult mosquito spraying.

M. Saladin thinks it is a worthy topic to discuss at Council's upcoming budget workshop.

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

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Mayor Sager stated that they will be looking at dates for the summer workshop at the next meeting.

In response to Mayor Sager, M. Turner advised that he is available for the Memorial Day celebration.

Mayor Sager stated that on April 15<sup>th</sup> Council will be looking at the RFP Review Committee for the Old Courthouse. He advised that they will be suggesting a committee to look at initial proposals. He stated that they are looking at a committee of five individuals which includes two representatives from City Council. He advised that he is suggesting M. Larson and RB Thompson serve on the review committee with M. Larson as Chair. He stated that he is looking at representatives from Historic Preservation Commission, Economic Development Commission and Plan Commission.

M. Turner stated that anytime a commission or body that they appoint makes a recommendation to them it puts Council in a spot because they aren't obligated to agree but there is a practical reality that the individuals spent their time doing it. He stated that he wants to make sure that the ultimate decision and their ability to act independently remains.

Mayor Sager stated that City Council maintains authority which comes statutorily and by ordinance. He advised that all proposals will be considered by the Council, but there will be an initial microscopic review and a set of recommendations by three closely related commissions that should have some degree of opportunity and voice relative to the decision. He stated that his anticipation would be that they will have the microscopic opportunity to view and to evaluate the proposals. He advised that in addition to that he expects they will be making comments. M. Saladin thinks it is important to have that from the standpoint that even the details of the RFP talk a lot about the suggestions from HPC and he believes there is some benefit for their eyes to see it as well.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by M. Turner, second by RB Thompson, to adjourn the regular meeting of the City Council to the budget workshop on April 11, 2014 at 1:30 PM in Council Chambers. 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 7:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dianne Mitchell  
City Clerk