

MINUTES
WOODSTOCK CITY COUNCIL
September 16, 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, September 16, 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 Ruth Schlossberg, Finance Director Paul Christensen, Director of Public Works Paul Ruscko, Economic Development Director Cort Carlson, Parks and Facility Superintendent Ernie Nelson, Parks Foreman John Mecklenburg, Street and Fleet Superintendent Mark Miller

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk Dianne Mitchell

A. FLOOR DISCUSSION: Introduction of Public Works Supervisors

Mayor Sager stated that we are pleased to introduce some of the new supervisors in the Public Works department. P. Ruscko stated that they had two individual leave the City after 30+ years so that experience, knowledge and dedication will not be forgotten and they are very large shoes to fill. He reported that they have found some equally qualified talent that will fill those roles.

P. Ruscko introduced Ernie Nelson, Parks and Facility Superintendent, and stated that he is replacing the position that Bob Hoadley held but they are also looking at consolidating facility operations. He stated that one of the skill sets the E. Wilson brings forth is from two school districts which is facility and grounds maintenance. He advised that between municipal maintenance with the Village of Hanover Park along with two community unit school districts experience, E. Wilson comes to the City with a tremendous amount of experience. He advised that they look forward to his new fresh ideas and different perspective.

P. Ruscko introduced Mark Miller, Street and Fleet Superintendent, and stated that he is filling the role of both Dale and Bill. He noted that they took this opportunity to reorganize the department and streamline operations. He reported that M. Miller comes with some private business experience along with over 16 years of experience with the Village of Des Plaines. He noted that he is a seasoned veteran with a different way of doing business and new fresh ideas.

Mayor Sager welcomed them and thanked them for choosing the City of Woodstock. He stated that the City prides itself with its professional, service-oriented staff and he believes they have joined a strong team. He stated that being on City Council since 1989 and Mayor since 2005, he is most proud of the fact that he receives very few complaints relative to the Public Works department because they consistently do an incredible job in terms of not just addressing the needs of the community but being intuitive enough to project what those needs are and crafting approaches that address them up front. He advised that they have high standards already established for them based upon the exceptional tenure of their predecessors and stated that he is incredibly confident of their capacity noting that in the large team leadership style fostered by Roscoe and Paul they will fit in well here.

Public Comments

No comments

Council Comments

M. Larson stated that she went to a new event in town, the Studio Art Tour, which was a really nice event. She stated that the Woodstock Professional & Business Woman are going to take it over and go forward with it in future years. She reported that there were ten different artist studios open to the public. She stated that there is a lot more going on in this town sometimes than we realize. She stated that it was a lovely event and noted that they are working hard to make it grow.

RB Thompson stated the Northwest Herald featured Woodstock resident, Dag Juhlin, who is of Poi Dog Pondering fame. He reported that he has lived in Woodstock for 12 years and he performed at Ravinia this past weekend. He stated that the group established an all-time attendance record at Ravinia back in the late 90's. He believes this is an opportunity to give Summer in the Park a big shot in the arm with a big time internationally known performer.

Mayor Sager reported that tomorrow evening there will be a tour hosted by the Recreation Department of the park and rec facilities for the Parks and Recreation Commission. He noted that Council members are welcome to attend.

Mayor Sager stated that the dedication of the Frisbee golf course at Raintree Park will be 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, September, 20th.

Mayor Sager reported that at 11 a.m. on Friday, September 19th there will be the reveal of veterans' private residence.

R. Stelford advised that the haunted house will start construction next week and noted that their idea is to be open by the beginning of October.

J. Starzynski reported that the Woodstock High School cross country team put on an event every year called the Burn Festival. He stated that they will have an open race after all the kids races are over so if you want to run the cross country course at Emricson Park, which is one of the more challenging courses, it is open to anybody. He stated that it is Saturday and the races start at 8:30 a.m.

Mayor Sager stated that on Saturday night will be the Friends of the Opera House Benefit to support the Opera House. He reported that they will have an auction that he will be conducting.

Mayor Sager stated that Ale Fest is scheduled for Saturday, October 4th.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by J. Dillon, second by M. Larson to concur with Consent Agenda Items B-E4, E6-E10.

- M. Turner removed Item E5
- Mayor Sager referenced E2 and stated that it is an opportunity to establish a new restaurant in the area called Tequilaville Cantina and Grill. He thanked the petitioners for being in attendance and supporting it.
- Mayor Sager thanked Cary Cook who is in attendance for the façade program and expressed appreciation for his fine work and interest in the program and the opportunities that it affords in terms of the downtown area improvements.

B. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

September 2, 2014 Regular Meeting

C. WARRANTS: 3631 3632**D. MINUTES AND REPORTS:**

Police Department Report – August 2014

Transportation Commission Minutes – June 18, 2014

Historic Preservation Commission Minutes – July 28, 2014

Library Board Minutes – August 7, 2014

Plan Commission Minutes – August 28, 2014

E. MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 31

1. **Appointment** – Approval of the appointment of John Puzzo to the Opera House Advisory Commission.
2. **Liquor Amendment** – Adoption of Ordinance 14-O-58 amending Title 3, Chapter 3, Section 3.3.6., Classifications of Licenses of the Woodstock City Code authorizing a Class A-2 Liquor License for B2Z d/b/a Tequilaville Cantina and Grill.
3. **Award of Contract – Leaf Disposal** – Approval of an award of contract for leaf disposal services for 2014, 2015 and 2016 to the low bidder, Gavers Excavating, Inc. for the bid unit price of \$2.60 per cubic yard.
4. **Award of Contract - Asphalt Pavement Patching** – Approval to waive competitive bid requirements and award of contract for asphalt paving patching to Gavers Asphalt Paving & Excavating for the proposed unit price of \$34.25 per square yard in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.
6. **Blower Replacement** –Approval of the following:
 - a.) Professional engineering services from HR Green, Inc. to provide design engineering and construction administration services for the Northwest Water Treatment Plant Aerobic Digester Blower Replacement for the lump sum fee of \$17,000.
 - b.) Approval to waive the requirement of competitive bids and approve the purchase of two Inovair 2200 High Efficiency Turbo Blowers from Gasvoda and Associates in the amount of \$99,227.
7. **Award of Contract – Well #12** – Approval to waive competitive bids and award of contract for annual well maintenance for Well#12 from Layne Christensen Company for a total estimated cost not to exceed \$32,835.
8. **SEDOM Lease Agreement**–Adoption of Ordinance 14-O-59 approving a new lease agreement with SEDOM at the former Fire Station located at 121 ½ South Street.
9. **Façade Improvement Request** – Approval of the following:
 - a.) Allocation of \$11,258. in Façade Improvement Funds for 107-109 Van Buren, 116-118 N. Benton and 112 Cass Street.

b.) Establish February 1, 2015 as the submittal deadline for the FY15/16 Façade Improvement Funding Program.

- 10. Purchase – Police SUV** – Approval of the purchase of one Ford Utility Interceptor Police SUV through the Northwest Municipal Conference Suburban Purchasing Cooperative for a total price not to exceed \$32,000.

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

Item E5 Crack Sealing Bid - Recommendation to reject all bids received for the 2014 Crack Sealing Program.

M. Turner stated that the item isn't widely over budget noting that it appears to be in part over budget because the City is late in the process of bidding it according to the Staff report. He stated that crack sealing is something that the City hasn't done noting that roads have been something that the City has been focused on strategically long term in addition to the short term stuff. He questioned if by not spending the \$63,000 will there be further deterioration. He questioned if the City should bite the bullet, even though it is a bit late and a little overpriced, to prevent and maintain the roads.

R. Stelford stated that long term the City needs to get money back into crack sealing. He stated that Staff is changed its tune recently because the City got its bid price for salt and it looks like they will have to accept it. He advised that it is going to be substantially over what they had talked about. He stated that they are becoming more fiscally conservative in anticipation of the fact that the City is going to be substantially over in salt.

P. Ruscko stated that the City wants to move forward with a holistic approach; looking at the pavement as a whole and not as independent programs. He advised that it is going to take time to switch from the philosophy and programs that are in place to tying them altogether. He noted that they should be doing the design and getting the documents done in the fall, getting the bids done in the winter and then when construction breaks that is when you are going to get your best price. He stated that from a budgetary standpoint it becomes a little more complex because you are splitting fiscal years. He stated that it's not impossible noting that it's done consistently in other municipalities and it's just getting on that cycle. He stated that the design should envision crack sealing and patching and noted that currently they have many of the right programs in place but they aren't integrated like they should be.

M. Turner stated that P. Ruscko's comments make sense and advised that if they want to plan it out for FY 15/16 it makes sense to him. He stated that if this puts the City further behind than it already is by not spending the \$63,000, he is wondering if it is being penny wise and pound foolish. He stated that in regards to crack sealing the City hasn't done it in awhile and it seems to make sense to do it because roads aren't in the best of shape and we want to make them better. He questioned if the City should do it now and then do the long term planning approach that P. Ruscko is talking about.

J. Dillon questioned how much over budget they anticipate the salt being and P. Ruscko advised that they estimated that salt bids that would have been \$60-\$70 are going to be about \$140 a ton. He stated that they are talking at least a couple \$100,000 over based on what the City is contractual obligated to purchase through the procurement process. M. Larson questioned if it will get the City through a winter like last year and P. Ruscko affirmed.

Mayor Sager stated that they received information about the fact that the City will be facing higher costs in salt and he is disappointed that it is that much higher but it wasn't unanticipated based on what has been happening over the last couple of winters. He is willing to accept the fiscal approach being suggested here tonight anticipating that. He appreciates P. Ruscko's comments in terms of a more holistic approach to the planning for street repairs and he agrees that they need to do that and get in front of that. He stated that it seems like the City gets started so late in the season and noted that if the City had the opportunity to get started earlier it would be in a better position. He is for taking a look at managing it in a way that will put the City ahead of the process.

RB Thompson questioned if there is a possibility of sealing some cracks using Staff. He stated that there that he has seen some that merit repair; it will fracture dramatically over the winter. He stated that in those cases the City should try to make an effort to get some type of prevention.

R. Stelford advised that they can research it and he thinks it is a good idea. He thinks Staff can go out and do the bids this winter and be prepared by May 1st to do crack sealing.

M. Turner stated that he isn't talking about next year, he is talking about now and he thinks RB Thompson has an excellent idea. He suggested a hybrid of Staff doing some work and partnering with the vendor to provide expertise, support or do a portion of it.

RB Thompson stated that there may be some municipality that has a crew that can come in and take care of it at a reduced rate.

Mayor Sager stated that the question on the table is whether to accept Staff's recommendation to reject the current bid. He stated that it sounds like Council is willing to look at some other potential opportunities such as in-house or an agreement effort with neighboring municipal governments. He questioned if there is time yet to do a little bit of that and both P. Ruscko and R. Stelford feel that there is enough time. He thinks Staff is hearing support of the holistic approach and support of seeing if there is anything we can do so we don't get too far behind this season or fiscal year. He stated that Council is turning it over to Staff to do some investigation and bring it forward to Council.

M. Turner asked if requiring them to bring it forward delays it too far to where it can't be done. He stated that he is trusting Staff to do something related to this with some level of the \$50,000 budget. He stated that he's fine if Staff wants to bring it to the first meeting in October, but if it sets the City behind he doesn't want to make it a requirement.

R. Stelford stated that they will take a look at it and see if there is anything they need Council approval on and if not they will move forward and inform them through other channels. The Council agreed with this approach.

Motion by M. Turner, second by J. Dillon to reject the bid from SKC Construction for the 2014 Crack Sealing Program and to provide Staff the latitude to proceed in investigations to see what they can do within the parameters of the current budget. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: J. Dillon, M. Larson, Mayor Sager, M. Saladin, J. Starzynski, RB Thompson, M. Turner. Nays: None. Absentees: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

11. Schedule City Council Workshop

Mayor Sager stated that Council is looking to talk more about the Old Courthouse, the efforts associated with a marketing plan and suggestions relative to prevailing wage.

RB Thompson stated that the Public House is already making significant improvements. He suggested that the City work during the restaurant's work time to remove the two-story addendum and work on the windows so that it is done before the restaurant is ready which will enable them to function much better. He asked if Council could meet quickly and give Staff direction.

Council decided to meet on Thursday, October 2 at 4:00 p.m. at Stage Left, if available.

12. Schedule Industrial/Manufacturing Forum

M. Larson asked if Staff has asked the manufacturers for dates that will work and C. Carlson advised that he reached out to them and was told that mid week would be best and the preference would be during the work day starting at 3 p.m. or 4 p.m.

M. Turner asked if they could do it from 4-6 p.m. on Tuesday, October 7 before the City Council meeting. M. Larson questioned if it is too early in the week and C. Carlson stated that the manufacturers advised that Mondays and Fridays are bad for them.

Mayor Sager stated that they will tentatively schedule it for 4 p.m. on Tuesday, October 7 at Stage Left. He asked C. Carlson to reach out and ask if that works for the manufacturers.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

J. Dillon asked if the Old Courthouse/City Hall option will be a discussion item; R. Stelford affirmed.

In response to J. Dillon, R. Stelford advised that they are going to give the new budget presentation to Staff ahead of time. P. Christensen reported that they have completed about 20% of the document and they are looking for ideas from Council on how to improve or change it.

Mayor Sager reported Dianne Mitchell has served as City Clerk for several years and advised that she has other priorities in her life associated with family and the night meetings associated with the job can be a little demanding. He stated that she has promised to be here through the first meeting of October. He asked everyone with any recommendations for the position to work with HR and he advised that the position has been announced and posted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by M. Turner, second by M. Saladin, to adjourn the regular meeting of the City Council to the October 2, 2014 City Council meeting. Ayes: J. Dillon, M. Larson, Mayor Sager, M. Saladin, J. Starzynski, RB Thompson, M. Turner. Nays: None. Absentees: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Mitchell - City Clerk