

CITY OF AMBOY
COUNCIL MEETING
April 21, 2014

Mayor Nauman called the Regular meeting of the Amboy City Council to order and the council and audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

WARD 1: Deanne Hoy
Brett Dewey

WARD 2: John Schamberger
Dennis Weidman

WARD 3: Daryl Stuckemeyer
Dave Shaw

MINUTE'S APPROVED-The minutes from the March regular city council meeting were presented. Alderman Hoy wanted the March minutes tabled until next month. Motion made by Alderman Hoy and Dewey. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED- City Treasurer Nancy Neal submitted the financial report. Making a motion to approve the reports as presented was made and seconded by Aldermen Hoy and Stuckemeyer. Carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS APPROVED- A list of outstanding bills, involving city accounts as prepared by the city clerk's office was submitted. Making a motion to approve the bills as presented was made and seconded by Aldermen Schamberger and Dewey. Carried. *A copy of the financial report is kept on file at the city hall and is available upon request.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMUNITY BUILDING-Alderman Dewey reported the building will be used by the school district for testing with also a Luau, drawdown and wedding for next month.

DEPOT MUSEUM-Alderman Shaw reported the Depot will have a meeting regarding the Depot work and the bids have been submitted. Carol Biester will be resigning.

E.S.D.A- Alderman Dewey –Alderman Dewey reported all the sirens are now working.

PARK-Alderman Schamberger reported annual park cleanup was held on April 6th. They had a great turnout and got it cleaned up for summer. The park cd interest rates are low and they will be asking the city in the future to help out with projects that they cannot afford. They have a quote from Miller Construction for roof replacements for Shapiro park shelter \$2,892.31 and Nauman Shelter \$3,607.66 for all material from Jones & Berry for steel roofing. The park will discontinue the mower maintenance account due to low rates and not making as much revenue from the trust fund. They have discussed giving the city \$3,000 payment to finish off the mower account; however alderman

Schamberger would like to see the city not take that donation and let the park board keep that for upcoming projects. The baseball shed is almost complete and only needs around \$6,000 for completion of the project. Alderman Hoy is concerned that the baseball building is technically a city building and we need to complete it so everyone can use it. The city must maintain all the structures in the city and the boards use their money to pay monthly bills instead of building repairs. Alderman Dewey reminded the alderman that the city has already donated the mowing fund \$6,000 before and has not purchased a mower in a few years. Alderman Chamberger explained the last \$6,000 is just for the electrical, lighting and heating. Volunteers will be doing the labor for the electrical and lighting. The school district is purchasing the batting equipment and machines for the building. The park board is confident they will have the building completed this summer.

LIBRARY-Alderman Weidman reported the library board met on April 8th with no new business. The new budget has been completed and the library workers have been approved for a raise of .25.

FINANCE COMMITTEE-Alderman Hoy reported the finance committee met and reviewed the 2014-2015 budget, discussed the appraisal/purchase of a lot on Josiah, and discussed the new maint. bldg. grant and construction plans. Alderman Weidman and Hoy discussed changing the finance meeting to more of a city committee meeting for everyone to attend and update the council members.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- No Report.

POLICE COMMISSION- No Report.

MAINT. DEPT /STREETS-Alderman Chamberger reported that he has gotten a bid to repair the rocker panels on two city maintenance trucks the bid for the replacement would be \$1,950.00. This can be discussed at next month's finance meeting. Al and alderman Chamberger have picked the summer mowing workers. For the 2014 mowing season is Rich Geiger and Wesley Pierce. They will be voted on at the May council meeting. The Jr. High has requested Park Street be closed and would like to see what the council members think and any options. Alderman Weidman felt there was a lot to decide and see what the neighborhood thinks when they use that road daily. He suggested maybe a gate being closed during school hours. Alderman Dewey also felt there would be some concerns from residents. Alderman Chamberger just wanted everyone aware and to see what the procedure was. Attorney Keegan explained some different options however the council needs to review some things before it can be done. Also some people living in the Nauman Estates would like to see a road completed. Attorney Keegan is also in contact with the estate attorney and he will be reviewing the Nauman subdivision agreement and see what standards were approved. Alderman Hoy wanted to add that in the minutes from March 17, 2003, Earl Nauman stated as soon as the frost was gone the road would be installed. Attorney Keegan explained that depending on the city code and subdivision ordinance that determines who is responsible for the road.

WATER/SEWER DEPT-Alderman Stuckemeyer reported that there were a few unexpected expenses lately. One was the pump at the Rockyford lift station that had a disposable wipe stuck and took out the bearings and seals. That repair is \$1,700.00 to fix the pump. The other expense was the chlorine scale and it went out and the repair for that replacement is \$1940.00. The maintenance crew is working to fix the torn up properties from any water main breaks from the cold winter.

CONCERNS FROM THE AUDIENCE-Hank Gerdes representing the car show wanted to let the community know about the new second prize for the car show 50/50 raffle. First prize will be the half of the ticket money sold. Second prize will be a 2013 Harley motorcycle. You do not have to be present to win. Tickets will be on sale in July. Randy Singleton would like to discuss the incident over the frozen line at Beef Hut. Alderman Hoy explained what had happened to her however Mayor Nauman never explained his side of the incident. Mayor Nauman felt that the incident was over with and he didn't want to go over it. Alderman Hoy strongly disagreed with his opinion and that it would never be okay to be hit by a man. Mayor Nauman stated that it is over with and that the state's attorney had called Mayor Nauman and told him personally that it was over and the charges had been dropped. Alderman Hoy said that it was not over and she has an appointment on Tuesday. Sue England asked if Mayor Nauman did in fact touch alderman Hoy. Mayor Nauman stated that per the state's attorney there were no charges and the case has been dropped. Randy Singleton doesn't know who the witnesses are but he wants to hear what Mayor Nauman has to say. Mayor Nauman commented people were tired of the issue and he was moving on. Alderman Hoy upset told him that people were not tired of hearing about it and that bullying is not okay. She questioned him about refusing to talk to the police about the investigation. Mayor Nauman was advised by his attorney to not comment on the situation. Nancy Kelly wanted everyone to do their job and make sure everyone is treated fairly. Each alderman should be able to give their opinion on city business and not be labeled a trouble maker. Alice McGraw believes everyone needs to take responsibility for their actions and if they did make a mistake apologize so everyone can make amends. Kelly Dicaro questioned if the city was going to issue credits for frozen water lines? Mayor Nauman told her to contact the alderman that is in charge of the water/sewer. Diane Carbonari spoke regarding the Shop Amboy program she has been working on. A new website is in the works and will be up and going soon. Vivid Tan has been changed to an Artisan Market/Tourism Center. Please give us current information for community events that we can be given to visitors. We will also have crafts and artisans in the center. New signage will be installed along with some other billboards in the surrounding area. Darlene Hinkle questioned the smell from the sewer ponds? Alderman Stuckemeyer explained that the wheat straw needs to be added to keep the smell down.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

UPDATE/DISCUSS 2014 MFT STREET PROJECTS-Mike Richetta was unable to get the streets measured so this will be updated next month.

NEW BUSINESS

MIKE MUDGE-ROCK RIVER ENGERGY-REVIEW ELECTRIC AGGREGATION RATES -Mike Mudge thanked everyone for taking time to have him back. Amboy is a great community with many things to be positive about. The car show is amazing, people advertising tourism and lots of camping in the summer. The former Mayor started the electric aggregation and it was put on the election ballet and passed. The contract was approved for two years and has saved the residents of Amboy around \$309,700. The city saved the residents many dollars. For the next council meeting Mike will have bids for the city council to choose a supplier and term. New letters will be mailed to everyone in Amboy to give them the choice of supplier. Diane Carbonari questioned if the person actually saves that much money when you see what ComEd is charging for delivery charges. The new capacity rates will be up about .02 however once the rate is picked it will be long term and will be cheaper than ComEd. The community rate is available at any time for new residents or anyone that wants to change. Mike will attend the May council meeting with the new rates for council approval.

APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO EXECUTE BERNARDI SECURITIES, INC. ENGAGEMENT LETTER (Bond Underwriter) Water Sewer Bonds.-Per Attorney Keegan these items need to be approved for the bonding process which engages the city for bond council, agency and approval of the bonds. Alderman Dewey questioned at what point the city could stop the bond process if they council changed the plan. Attorney Keegan explained the council has up until the actual approval June 16th and not issue the bonds. John Vezzetti explained the city would not incur Bernardi fees, no early payment for Chase Leasing if the bonds were not issued. If the rates would change and go higher the city is not obligated to purchase the bonds. Motion to Approve and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Bernardi Securities Engagement Letter made by Aldermen Weidman and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO EXECUTE BLANKET ISSUER LETTER OF REPRESENTATIONS–THE DEPOSITARY TRUST COMPANY (water and sewer bonds). –Attorney Keegan explained this approves bond council for the bonding process. Motion to Authorize Mayor to Execute Blanket Issuer Letter of Representations made by Aldermen Schamberger and Weidman. All Approved.

APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ICE MILLER, LLC ENGAGEMENT LETTER (Bond Counsel) - Water and Sewer Bond –This letter engages Ice Miller to do the bond drafting for the city bonding process. Ice Miller fees are \$9,000.00 bond insurance and taxes. Motion to Approve and Authorize Mayor to Execute Ice Miller LLC. Engagement Letter made by Aldermen Dewey and Schamberger. All Approved.

APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 4/21/14 –AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2014 of the City of Amboy, Lee County, Illinois, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,700,000 for the purpose of refunding an outstanding water plant capital lease, financing certain capital related projects of the City and paying for costs related thereto. -

This approval of the bond ordinance starts the process in the bonding for the water lease. These are alternate revenue source bonds which pledges the water/sewer revenues, sales tax revenues, also tax levy revenues. Which means these bonds will be paid first and you cannot finance anything else while these are pledged. You must have sufficient revenues to pledge the bonds and guarantee better pricing and rates. The city currently obligates its water/sewer revenues to pay the lease. There will be a notice for the hearing in the paper and the hearing will be held at the May 19th council meeting. Motion to Approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds made by Aldermen Stuckemeyer and Schamberger. All Approved.

APPROVE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME EMPLOYEES KAREN GAGICH AND JUANITA NOLAN –DEPOT MUSEUM.-The Depot Museum has Approved hiring of two part time employees-Motion to Approve the Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of Part Time Employees made by Aldermen Schamberger and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

DISCUSSION FIRE DEPT-EXTRICATION TRAINING TRAILER-JEFF BRYANT CHIEF- Jeff Bryant explained that the Amboy Fire Dept. has received a grant from DCEO and wants to use the funds to change a shipping container into a training unit. It will mirror the current storage building and be painted and a roof installed to look like an accessory building on the site. But this would give the department a place to train their current volunteers. It would be a great investment for our department. It has a permanent maze with smoke that matches being in a fire. It will not be used for storage only training purposes. Attorney Keegan will look over the city ordinances and contact Mr. Bryant.

Building Inspectors Report-3 Roofs, 2 fence permits, 1 deck.

Animal Report- See Report.

ATTORNEY CONCERNS-Nothing.

COUNCIL CONCERNS-

Alderman Stuckemeyer-Nothing.

Alderman Schamberger –Still some bad potholes in town so call city hall to report them. Maybe a change in the finance meeting is needed and can be done at the community building instead.

Alderman Hoy-The past month has been something she would have never expected as an elected official. Not sure how Mayor Nauman can hit a woman and it is now over with. This is crazy that standing up for a citizens rights and dealing with frozen water lines can be met with a hostile reaction from the mayor. He can sit here and say it's over however I will every month ask for the mayor's resignation. He has many reasons he should not be mayor such as not paying a water bill, reprimanding a water dept. employee for the billing issue, for bullying an alderman. We have not followed practices for hiring employees. If we did what is best for Amboy we would be doing everything legally. I will continue for the rest of my term to bring up issues and ask for the mayor to resign.

There is a problem when the mayor does what he wants to do and then asks the attorney to clean it up later.

Alderman Shaw-Thinks pertaining to the school letter to close Park Street that maybe more police patrol and changing the speed limit back to a 20 instead of 30mph.

Alderman Weidman- Would like to see the finance meeting changed to a committee meeting for each alderman to attend with updates and be change to the first Monday of the month instead. That way we have 2 weeks to put things in order and get facts done before the regular council meeting.

Alderman Dewey-The planning/finance meeting would be a great way to connect for the aldermen; however we do not need any more pay for another meeting. The attorney explained that the ordinance for city meetings could be changed to reflect the new date and time. If the items are on the agenda for approval they can be voted on however if no voting matters you still need an agenda to follow.

MAYOR CONCERNS-Mayor Nauman thought it will be busy with lots of items to finish in the next few months. Mike Richetta will be here next month for the MFT street project. The new maintenance building location will need to be determined also a building design and size per grant standards.

With no further business to come before the council the meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m. There were 26 people present in the audience.

Submitted by

Melissa Eisenberg, RMC
City Clerk-City of Amboy